Session 1aID

Interdisciplinary: Plenary Lecture: Studying the Sea With Sound

N. Ross Chapman, Chair
School Earth and Ocean Sci., Univ. of Victoria, P.O. Box 3065, Victoria, BC V8P 5C2, Canada

Chair’s Introduction—7:55

Invited Paper

8:00

1aID1. Studying the sea with sound. Stan E. Dosso and Jan Dettmer (School of Earth & Ocean Sci., Univ. of Victoria, P.O. Box 1700, Victoria, BC V8W 3P6, Canada, sdosso@uvic.ca)

Because electromagnetic radiation is strongly attenuated in seawater while sound propagates efficiently to long (even global) ranges, scientists and engineers have devised many ingenious methods to use acoustics in the ocean in place of light, radio, and microwaves. Myriad underwater acoustic applications include remote sensing, remote control, communications, navigation, and source detection/localization. This talk will present a semi-historical overview of the use of sound to study the sea (including the seabed), from philosophical musings of Aristotle, through the Renaissance, two world wars, and into the modern era of advanced measurement technologies and computer analysis. A final emphasis involves on-going research to estimate seabed geophysical properties and quantify their uncertainty and variability using a variety of ocean acoustic measurements and probabilistic inversion theory.

Session 1aAAA


Boaz Rafaely, Cochair
Dept. of Elec. and Comput. Eng., Ben-Gurion Univ. of the Negev, Beer Sheva 84105, Israel

Samuel Clapp, Cochair
Grad. Program in Architectural Acoust., Rensselaer Polytechnic Inst., 110 8th St., Greene Bldg., Troy, NY 12180

Michael Vorländer, Cochair
ITA, RWTH Aachen Univ., Neustr. 50, Aachen 52066, Germany

Chair’s Introduction—8:55

Invited Papers

9:00

1aAAA1. An objective measure for the sensitivity of the room impulse response. Rok Prislan (Faculty of Mathematics and Phys., Univ. of Ljubljana, Jadranska 19, Ljubljana 1000, Slovenia, rok.prislan@gmail.com), Jonas Brunskog, Finn Jacobsen, and Cheol-Ho Jeong (Acoust. Technol., Dept. of Elec. Eng., Tech. Univ. of Denmark, Lyngby, Denmark)

This study is relevant for a number of important acoustic measurements in reverberation rooms such as measurement of sound transmission and measurement of sound power levels of noise sources. From a pair of impulse responses measured in a room differing only in the position of the sound source, it might be possible to quantify the sensitivity of the room due to changes in initial conditions. Such changes are linked to mixing. The proposed measure is the maximum of the absolute value of the cross-correlation between the time windowed sections of the two impulse responses. By integrating this quantity normalized by the energy of the impulse response of the room, a single number rating is obtained. The proposed measure is examined experimentally, and the results are discussed. The results indicate that the number of absorbers and diffusers in the room influences the proposed measures systematically.
A transition time is defined based on the temporal overlap of reflected pulses in room impulse responses. Assuming specular reflections only, the temporal distance between adjacent reflections, which is proportional to the volume of a room, is compared with the characteristic width of a pulse at time $t$, which is mainly controlled by the absorption characteristics of the boundary surfaces of the room. Scattering, diffuse reflections, and diffraction, which facilitate the overlapping process, have not been taken into account. Measured impulse responses show that the transition occurs earlier in a room with nonuniform absorption and furniture than in a room that satisfies the underlying assumptions.

Human hearing did not evolve to detect reflections and reverberation. It is the ability to detect the direct component of a sound field that allows us to separate simultaneous signals, determine their direction, their timbre, their distance, and their importance for our attention. “Clarity” is perceived when we can separately detect direct sound. But ISO3382 measures concentrate on reflections, and are either blind to the direct component of a sound field or misinterpret its significance. They fail to predict sound quality in individual seats. We will demonstrate the vital importance of clarity through demonstrations of “clear” and “muddy” in speech and music. We will then present three physiologically based methods that measure the degree of clarity in a particular acoustic environment. The first, LOC, uses a simple nerve firing model to analyze an impulse response for the build-up of reflected energy at the onsets of sounds. The second method measures the degree of phase randomization above 1000 Hz caused by a particular impulse response. The third measure—based on a computer model of human hearing—measures clarity directly from binaurally recorded speech. All three measures predict perceived clarity with useful accuracy.

In this study, binaural room impulse responses (BRIRs) were manipulated to determine the just noticeable differences in the interaural time delay (ITD), interaural level difference (ILD), and interaural cross-correlation (ICC) in reverberant settings. The BRIR were split in two sections, the first 75–150 ms of the BRIR was found to be direction dependent, and for this first part either an extra ITD or ILD was applied. These manipulations were expected to change the perceived direction of the sound source. Changes in the ICC were applied to the remaining part of the BRIR, which was expected to change the overall spatial impression, but not the perceived location. Each of these three differently manipulated BRIRs was convolved with an anechoic musical instrument, and the just noticeable change in ITD, ILD, or ICC was determined in a listening experiment. Due to the convolution with a temporally varying musical instrument stimulus, a complex spectrotemporal pattern of binaural cues is created. An analysis of these cues will be presented and it will be compared to the listening test results. This analysis will be based on a model of human auditory processing, which predicts perceptual cues related to room acoustic perception.
11:20

IaAAa7. The influence of noise on monaural room acoustic parameters utilizing different evaluation methods. Martin Guski and Michael Vorländer (Inst. of Tech. Acoust., RWTH Aachen Univ., Neustraße 50, Aachen 52066, Germany, mgu@akustik.rwth-aachen.de)

Besides clarity and definition, the reverberation time is the most common room acoustic parameter. The latter is also an essential quantity for acoustic measuring techniques (i.e., sound insulation, scattering, or diffuse absorption). The unavoidable occurring noise in every measurement is the most significant factor that causes incorrect evaluated parameters. Therefore, it is important to respond to the effects caused by noise. In this study, different noise compensation methods are compared theoretically and based on measurements. At first all methods are investigated theoretically utilizing a simple parametric model impulse response. As a second step, long-term measurements have been conducted in an auditorium to analyze the performance of the different techniques under realistic conditions. Therefore, the excitation signal has been varied in volume to obtain measurements with different noise levels, and the evaluated room acoustic parameters are examined as a function of peak-signal to noise ratio. Theoretical and measured results coincide with each other for each analyzed method. The performances of the examined evaluation methods differ clearly. In particular, the three methods defined by ISO 3382 show different behaviors. The advantages and the limitations of each noise compensation method are presented.

11:40

IaAAa8. Including directivity patterns in room acoustical measurements. Martin Pollow, Johannes Klein, Pascal Dietrich, and Michael Vorländer (Inst. of Tech. Acoust., RWTH Aachen Univ., Neustraße 50, Aachen 52056, Germany, mpo@akustik.rwth-aachen.de)

Room acoustical measurements according to ISO 3382 require source and receiver to be of omnidirectional sensitivity. Therefore, radiation patterns of natural sources and receivers (although audible) are not accounted for when using the obtained room impulse responses (RIRs) for room acoustic analysis or even auralization. In order to include this spatial information in the RIR, it is necessary to measure the RIR for each pair of radiation patterns of source and receiver. This could be done by electronic beamforming during the measurement using array systems or by mechanical modification of the transducer (as, e.g., a dummy-head with its corpus). In this contribution, an alternative approach is shown, using the superposition of a set of sequential measurements done with a spherical sound source. At the cost of longer measurement times, the obtained data can be used universally to synthesize RIRs of arbitrary directivity up to a certain maximal spatial resolution, as long as the room is considered as a linear and time-invariant system during the measurement. The measurement device, obtained results, and a study of the validity of the superposition approach are presented in this talk. Based on this representation of the RIR, more advanced spatial room acoustic analysis accounting for arbitrary sets of source and receiver directivity becomes possible.
because of the belief that acoustic comfort could be achieved while simultaneously meeting other LEED requirements (e.g., design, products and materials, construction methods, and operations). Recently, acoustical requirements have been adopted into various LEED rating systems because occupant acoustic comfort in many LEED-certified buildings has been poor. The organization responsible for LEED, the US Green Building Council, is taking steps to more comprehensively adopt acoustical standards throughout their portfolio.

By using the LEED Innovation in Design (ID) Pilot Credit Library, projects can attempt to achieve a wider range of potential credits. One of those credits, Pilot Credit 24, addresses acoustic comfort, including sound isolation, speech privacy, background noise, and reverberation time. The project is one of the first to achieve Pilot Credit 24 requirements. This paper will discuss the project design objectives, Pilot Credit 24 requirements, and how the project achieved those requirements.

Contributed Papers

9:40

IaAAb3. Straw bale sound insulation: Blowing away the chaff. Stephen Dance and Paul Herwin (Urban Eng., London South Bank Univ., Borough Rd., London SE1 0AA, United Kingdom, dances@lboro.ac.uk)

Popular opinion states that straw bale walls are good at isolating sound. Cheap load bearing straw bale houses could contribute substantially to low carbon sustainable construction. However, literature on the subject was found to be highly anecdotal. The paper presents a summary of nine laboratory and field sound insulation test reports and two especially commissioned tests. Data were compared to European party wall sound insulation criteria, and it was found that straw walls could perform as well as, but sometimes worse than, conventional constructions, due to poor performance at low frequencies. Better performance could help to promote the use of straw bales in multi-unit housing. It was found that by adding a plasterboard layer on studs to just one side of a plastered straw bale wall would allow the construction to pass all of the criteria reviewed.

10:00–10:20 Break

10:20

IaAAb4. From felt to fungus: New materials and applications—Focus on sustainability. Dawn Schuette and Scott Pfeiffer (Threshold Acoust., LLC, 53 W Jackson Blvd, Ste. 815, Chicago, IL 60604, spfeiffer@thresholdacoustics.com)

A two-part presentation of new materials for use in architectural acoustics. This presentation emphasizes new materials or new applications of standard products that provide acoustic benefit in a highly sustainable context. The companion session is presented in “New Materials for Architectural Acoustics.” Current trends in architecture are bringing more organic approaches to the use of natural materials. Exploiting these trends with approaches that have definable acoustic behavior leads to more flexibility in architectural design and yields acoustical application of materials that are not traditionally part of the acoustical treatment vocabulary. Case studies will be presented featuring new materials and/or methods being employed for sustainable acoustic solutions.

10:40

IaAAb5. Development of an ecological, smooth, unperforated sound absorptive material. Seda Karabulut (R&D, MEZZO Studio LTD., METU,R&D, MEZZO Studio LTD, Ankara, Turkey, sedakarabulut@gmail.com) and Mehmet Çalışkan (Mech. Eng., Middle East Tech. Univ., Ankara, Turkey)

Material selection for acoustically comfortable environments is a very important issue especially for rooms for speech and music as well as for large volumes like shopping centers and foyers. Energy efficient and sustainable materials are devised in construction industry for healthy environments; hence, ecological sound absorbing materials for acoustically sensitive environments are being preferred to get credits for international certification procedures like LEED and BREAM. Nevertheless, most of the acoustic materials in construction industry are perforated with mineral wool based absorption materials behind and have great effects on design of the building environments. Architects usually prefer seamless unperforated materials to avoid changes in the appearance of design environments for acoustical requirements. This article is about development of an ecological unperforated acoustic material, which is made of reed and pumice stone. Different layers of pumice stone and reed glued with an ecological binder are evaluated according to frequency range they are effective, and an optimization is done to create an acoustic material that is effective especially in medium frequencies. Acoustical performance of the material is justified with measurements of sound absorption coefficient in Kundt Tube.

11:00


It is a common practice to install doors that have openings in them to improve cross airflow through horizontal ventilation. However, excessive outdoor noise and poor noise privacy are known associated issues. Grilles are often installed in these door openings to address this issue. While they may reduce the noise level slightly, they have proven not to be very effective. Effective silencers would be too thick to be installed in doors. This work investigates the design and development of a novel door silencer that reduces the sound transmission to acceptable limits without compromising the airflow. A model of the silencer has been designed and tested—using the Acoustics module of the COMSOL Finite Element software—in a diffuse field environment, and validated with STC ratings. The airflow was modeled using the COMSOL CFD module. The dimensions of the ventilation opening and its position in the door have also been optimized. A real prototype of the model has then been built and its performance tested. Various design guidelines have then been proposed for the design of these doors.

11:20

IaAAb7. The furniture industry needs a new evaluation standard for evaluation of sound absorption. Klas G. Hagberg (Acoust., WSP, Box 13033, Göteborg 41526, Sweden, klas.hagberg@wspgroup.se) and Delphine Bard (Acoust., dBA R&D, Neuchâtel, Switzerland)

Since decades the standard ISO 11654 are prevailing for evaluating sound absorption of products. The standard is developed and fully adapted to ceiling manufacturer, in particular mineral wool ceiling manufacturer. However, the standard is used independently of which interior product it is applied to, casings a lot of “misuse” and confusion amongst many manufacturer. In particular, when it comes to evaluation of various types of office screens, the ISO 11654 becomes a problem. There is no need, and probably not even possible, to calculate absorption factor for an office screen correctly. Therefore, Sweden decided to develop a new standard, SS 25269—“Acoustics—Evaluation of sound absorption of single objects.” Hence office screens should be treated as single objects to cover a wide range of variety. The standard specifies an evaluation method of the sound absorption using only sound absorption area for each object tested. It will simplify the evaluation and minimize risk for errors since there is no need to state the product area in order calculate absorption coefficient. Furthermore, the area does not have to be stated yet again when performing calculation of room characteristics when using the same products in the finished room.

11:40

IaAAb8. Audio and acoustic design of the University of Sydney’s Indoor Environmental Quality Laboratory. Densil Cabrera, Robert Crow, Luis Miranda, and Richard de Dear (Faculty of Architecture, Design & Planning, The Univ. of Sydney, G04, Sydney, NSW 2006, Australia, densil.cabrera@sydney.edu.au)

The quality of indoor environments such as commercial offices is affected by many factors, including temperature, humidity, air movement,
illuminating, ambient sound, and room acoustics. In 2012, a new laboratory was established at the University of Sydney to examine how such factors affect human occupants. In terms of sound, the design of the laboratory has three components: the acoustic design of the testing rooms; the audio system design (for introducing artificial soundscapes); and the design of generic soundscapes to support experimental work in the laboratory. Acoustic design considerations of the laboratory allow for the testing rooms to be configured as high grade office environments. The laboratory has a 24-channel audio system for introducing realistic and potentially complex sound fields in to the testing rooms, both from within and outside the rooms. Parametrically controlled soundscapes have been developed for interior sources (such as building services noise) and exterior sources (such as transport noise). This paper describes how the combination of the laboratory’s acoustics, audio systems, and soundscapes can be used for scientific studies of indoor environmental quality.

MONDAY MORNING, 3 JUNE 2013
510D, 8:55 A.M. TO 12:00 NOON

Session 1aAO

Acoustical Oceanography: Estuarine Acoustics

Andone C. Lavery, Cochair

David R. Barclay, Cochair
Memorial Univ. of Newfoundland, P.O. Box 4200, St John’s, NF A1C 5S7, Canada

Chair’s Introduction—8:55

Invited Paper

9:00

1aAO1. The impact of acoustic oceanographic methods on estuarine dynamics research. W. Rockwell Geyer, Peter Traykovski, and Andone Lavery (Woods Hole Oceanogr. Inst., 98 Water St., MS-12, Woods Hole, MA 02543, rgeyer@whoi.edu)

Estuaries present unique challenges for observational oceanographers, due to their intense spatial gradients and unrelenting temporal variability. The influence of spatial and temporal variation of estuarine structure and flow on the time-averaged regime is the most important research problem in estuarine physical oceanography. Acoustic methods have played an essential role in revealing this spatial and temporal variability, and new advances in acoustic methods are continuing to provide the most important advances in observations of estuarine processes. The measurement of acoustic backscatter has been a mainstay of estuarine physical oceanography, first for providing qualitative images of the density structure, then for quantifying suspended sediment distributions, and most recently for quantifying the intensity of stratified turbulence. Improved resolution of new systems is revealing the internal structure of shear instability and the mechanics of the transition to turbulence. Acoustic Doppler techniques are so routine now as to be taken for granted, but their impact on the field cannot be overstated, and the new advances in pulse-coherent velocity profiling are continuing this revolution in acoustical oceanography. Acoustic propagation in estuaries has not yet received much attention, but its importance to the operation of autonomous vehicles and long-term monitoring should bring this challenging acoustics problem to the forefront.

Contributed Papers

9:20

1aAO2. The spatial properties of breaking wave generated and bedload transport generated noise in the sediment layer of a shallow water wave guide. David R. Barclay, Len Zedel (Phys. and Physical Oceanogr., Memorial Univ. of Newfoundland, P.O. Box 4200, St John’s, NF A1C 5S7, Canada, db Barcl@gmail.com), Alex E. Hay, and Matthew G. Hatcher (Oceanogr., Dalhousie Univ., Halifax, NB, Canada)

In May of 2012, three weeks of ambient noise measurements from a hydrophone buried 30 cm deep in the sediment were recorded at Advocate Beach, a 1:10 sloped beach at the head of the Bay of Fundy, Nova Scotia. While tides varied the mean water depth between 0 and 4 m, 0.8 m surface waves passed overhead, driving sediment bedload transport and creating an ambient noise field in the sediment consisting of two primary components: noise generated by bubbles formed in breaking waves at the surface and noise generated by the collisions of sand, gravel, and cobbles in the bedload transport along the seabed. Both of these noise sources are stochastic and can be described by their second order statistics: power spectral density, spatial coherence, and directional density. In an effort to distinguish these two noise sources, the spatial properties of three full wave models of the noise field in the sediment are compared, using an infinite sheet of sources placed near the surface of a Pekeris waveguide to model breaking wave noise, near the fluid–fluid interface of a Pekeris waveguide to model bedload transport noise, or near the fluid–fluid interface of two infinite half-spaces to model bedload transport noise. Using integral transforms to solve the wave equation, each noise model is shown to be spatially inhomogeneous with a unique depth dependent intensity and coherence.

9:40

1aAO3. Acoustic measurements of the spatial distribution of suspended sediment at three sites on the Lower Mekong River. Stephanie A. Moore (Civil Eng., Univ. of Ottawa, 161 Louis Pasteur St, Ottawa, ON K1N6N5, Canada, moore@uottawa.ca), Guillaume Dramais (UR HILLY Hydrology Hydraulics, Irstea Lyon, Lyon, France), Philippe Dussouillez (Ctr. Européen de Recherche et d’Enseignement des Géosciences de l’Environnement, Aix-en-Provence, France), Jerome Le Coz (UR HILLY Hydrology Hydraulics, Irstea Lyon, Lyon, France), Colin Rennie (Civil Eng., Univ. of Ottawa, Ottawa, ON, Canada), and Benoit Camenen (UR HILLY Hydrology Hydraulics, Irstea Lyon, Lyon, France)

The Mekong River spans thousands of kilometers, flows through six countries, and its basin is one of the world’s richest in terms of biodiversity.
However, land-use changes, dredging of the river bed, and the construction of dams are changing its sediment dynamics and morphology. The resultant increases in bank erosion and reduction in sediment supply to floodplains may have adverse effects on the economical and biological productivity of the region. In order to monitor these changes, the current conditions must be well understood. Comprehensive measurements of the spatial distribution of sediment (both suspended and bed load) were made at three locations in different physiographic regions of the Lower Mekong at the end of the 2012 rainy season. Acoustic Doppler Current Profilers and a multifrequency acoustic backscatter system, the AQUAscat, were used in combination with water sampling to provide high resolution measurements of concentration and grain size. The AQUAscat consisted of four monostatic transducers operating at 0.5, 1, 2.5, and 4 MHz. At each site, it was deployed horizontally at five across-stream positions and 5–10 depths per vertical; a 10 m profile was recorded at each point. The spatial distribution of particle size and concentration were determined using multifrequency inversions of (1) backscattered intensity and (2) attenuation calculated from the intensity profiles. This data set provides a baseline to which to compare future measurements at these sites.

10:00–10:20 Break

10:20

Invited Paper

11:00

1A06. Acoustics and estuarine ecology: Using active and passive methods to survey the physical environment, vegetation, and animals in North Carolina’s coastal estuaries. Joseph J. Luczkovich (Inst. for Coastal Sci. and Policy, East Carolina Univ., M. S. 169, Greenville, NC 27838, luczkovitch@ecu.edu), Mark W. Sprague (Physics, East Carolina Univ., Greenville, NC), Cecilia S. Kraihorst (Coastal Resources Management, East Carolina Univ., Greenville, NC), John P. Walsh (Geological Sci., East Carolina Univ., kitty Hawk, NC), Audrey J. Pleva (Biology, East Carolina Univ., Greenville, NC), and Dean E. Carpenter (Albemarle-Pamlico National Estuarine Partnership, Raleigh, NC)

Estuarine systems have complex interactions of physical and biological processes. Regular observations are needed in order to understand their dynamics. Acoustic observation systems (echosounders, acoustic Doppler current profilers (ADCPs), and passive acoustic dataloggers) can provide observations on a wide spectrum of processes in estuaries. We have used echosounders to monitor changes in bathymetry, submerged aquatic vegetation, fishes, and invertebrates over time. In addition, sediment changes, resuspension events, turbidity, and waves are monitored using ADCPs. The higher trophic level species of fishes and marine mammals that are soniferous have been monitored by passive acoustic methods. We provide examples of each acoustic method used to study the dynamics of seagrasses, fishes, and the physical environment of the Albemarle, Pamlico, Currituck, and Core Sounds in North Carolina. While it is possible to combine methods to use acoustics to measure the dynamics of estuarine systems (estuarine observing systems), the challenge we face is to ground-truth these acoustic metrics using traditional sampling methods (e.g., quadrats for plants, trawls for fishes, and water samples for sediments) and integrate each of these measures. We could then examine the effect of storms, waves, and resuspension events on estuarine plant and animal distributions and abundances using acoustics metrics.
Contributed Paper

11:20

1aAO7. Investigation of low-frequency acoustic tissue properties of seagrass. Gregory R. Enenstein, Craig N. Dolder, Preston S. Wilson (Mech. Eng. Dept. and Appl. Res. Labs., The Univ. of Texas at Austin, 4700 W Guadalupe St #A-437, Austin, TX 78751, g Massenstein@gmail.com), and Jean-Pierre Hermand (Acoust. & Env. Hydroacoustics Lab, Université Libre de Bruxelles (ULB), Brussels, Belgium)

Understanding the acoustic properties of seagrass is important for applications in mine hunting, shallow water sonar performance, and acoustic remote sensing for ecological surveys. Previous laboratory and field investigations have shown that the plant biomass and tissue structure of seagrass, rather than just the overall gas content, play a determinant role in its acoustic behavior. Hence, effective medium models of propagation through seagrass meadows have been ruled out, and a complete description of both tissue structure and tissue elastic properties is required to describe the acoustic response of seagrass meadows. To begin to address these deficiencies, a resonance tube experiment was set up to determine the low-frequency acoustic response of multiple species of seagrass in relation to leaf biomass and tissue acoustic compliance independent of tissue structure. Responses to frequency-modulated signals in the range from 0.5 to 10 kHz were obtained for Thalassia testudinum (turtle grass) and Halodule wrightii (shoal grass), two species with well-differentiated morphological features. An elastic waveguide model was used to account for the minor effect of the tube walls on the resonance characteristics. Initial measurements of tissue compliance will be presented. [Work supported by ONR and ARL:UT.]

11:40–12:00 Panel Discussion

MONDAY MORNING, 3 JUNE 2013

519A, 9:00 A.M. TO 11:40 A.M.

Session 1aBA

Biomedical Acoustics: Ultrasound Tomography

Yun Jing, Chair

Mech. Eng., North Carolina State Univ., 911 Oval Dr., EB III, Campus Box 7910, Raleigh, NC 27695

Invited Papers

9:00

1aBA1. Three-dimensional nonlinear inverse scattering: Quantitative transmission algorithms, refraction corrected reflection, scanner design, and clinical results. James Wiskin (Bioengineering, Univ. of Utah, 3216 Highland Dr., Ste. 100, Salt Lake City, UT 84106, jwiskin.cvus@gmail.com), David Borup (CVUS, LLC., Salt Lake City, UT), Michael Andre (Radiology, Univ. of California VA Medical Ctr., San Diego, CA), Steven Johnson (CVUS, LLC., Salt Lake City, UT), James Greenleaf (Physiol. and Biomedical Eng., Mayo Clinic, Rochester, MN), Yuri Parisky (Radiology, Mammoth Hospital, Mammoth Lakes, CA), and John Klock (CVUS, LLC., Salt Lake City, UT)

Research in quantitative whole breast ultrasound imaging has been developing rapidly. Recently, we published results from 2D transmission inverse scattering algorithms, based on optimization, incorporating diffraction, refraction, and limited multiple scattering effects, using data collected from an early prototype, which showed the feasibility of high resolution quantitative imaging of the breast tissue speed and attenuation, and concomitant refraction corrected reflection imaging. However, artifact problems in speed and attenuation result from the 2D algorithms and the data characteristics. The reflection algorithm uses the speed map to model refractive effects of rays, so these artifacts are unacceptable. The 3D inverse scattering algorithm presented here, using data from a new prototype, overcomes most of these artifacts. We then use a 3D refraction corrected 360° compounded reflection imaging algorithm for high resolution speckle free reflection images. We discuss the transmission and reflection algorithms and the advanced scanner used to collect the data, as well as initial clinical results from the Mayo Clinic, Breast Cancer Imaging Center, Orange County, and the University California, San Diego. We show examples of cysts, fibroadenomas, calcifications, cancers, and DCIS, in dense, fatty, and average breast tissue, and compare these with hand-held ultrasound, MRI, and mammography, where available.

9:20

1aBA2. Quantitative ultrasound tomography. Koen W.A. v. Dongen and Neslihan Ozmen-Eryilmaz (Lab. of Acoust. Wavefield Imaging, Delft Univ. of Technol., P.O. Box 5046, Delft 2600 GA, Netherlands, k.w.a.vandongen@tudelft.nl)

Whole breast ultrasound is gaining interest as a possible alternative to mammography, as it is cost effective, patient friendly, and avoids the usage of ionizing radiation. Due to the similarity in both measurement setups, scientists have investigated if tomographic reconstruction algorithms originally developed for x-ray tomography, such as inverse radon transforms, are also applicable to ultrasound tomography. However, the multiple scattering of an acoustic wave field inside the breast as well as diffraction and refraction effects results in a severe blurring of the obtained images. In order to overcome these limitations, people are developing imaging algorithms, which are based on the acoustic wave equations. To show the limitations and potentials of the various imaging algorithms, we computed synthetic data for a cancerous breast model using a full wave solution method. Next, we tested and compared different imaging algorithms varying from a ray based inverse radon transform up to a full-wave nonlinear inversion technique. The latter one has the advantage that, as we will show, it allows for accurate speed of sound profile reconstructions at the cost of a severe computational load.
Contributed Papers

9:40
1aBA3. A contrast source inversion method for breast cancer detection. N. Ozmen-Eryilmaz and K. van Dongen (Lab. of Acoust. Wavefield Imaging, Delft Univ. of Technol., Lorentzweg 1, Delft 2628 CJ, Netherlands, n.ozmen-eryilmaz@tudelft.nl)

Tomographic ultrasound imaging is gaining popularity in breast cancer detection. Reconstructing the acoustic properties of a breast from the ultrasound sound measurements is stated as a nonlinear inverse problem, which is usually solved by linearized methods because of computational efficiency. However, linearization of the problem reduces the quality of the reconstruction. To improve the accuracy, we developed and tested a three-dimensional nonlinear inversion method that allows for three-dimensional reconstruction of the breast in terms of speed of sound. The method, referred to as contrast source inversion (CSI), uses an integral equation formulation to describe the inverse acoustic scattering problem. The resulting integral equation is solved to reconstruct the unknown contrast (speed-of-sound profile of the breast). The contrast and contrast sources (the product of the contrast with the total field) are iteratively updated by minimizing a cost functional using conjugate gradient directions. In this study, we tested the CSI method on synthetic data retrieved form full-wave simulations for a realistic three-dimensional cancerous breast model. Results show that the CSI method outer performs other conventional methods as it yields speed-of-sound reconstructions that are akin to the model. This shows that the approach offers a contribution to the detection of breast cancer.

10:00
1aBA4. Approximation error method for full-wave tomography. Janne Koponen, Tomi Huttunen, Tanja Tarvainen (Appl. Phy., Univ. of Eastern Finland, Yliopistonranta 1, PL 1627, Kuopio 70211, Finland, janne.koponen@uef.fi), and Jari Kaipio (Mathematics, Univ. of Auckland, Auckland, Finland)

In ultrasound tomography (UT), the speed of sound (SOS) is reconstructed based on ultrasound measurements made on the surface of the object. As a part of the reconstruction process, which includes the solution of the inverse problem, propagation of acoustic signals in the medium is simulated using a forward model. Consequently, modeling errors can generate artifacts into reconstructed SOS. Accurate full-wave models can be computationally heavy and thus impractical in many real applications. On the other hand, approximate models typically lead to less accurate reconstructions. In this study, measurement noise and modeling errors of UT are modeled in Bayesian framework, and a numerical method that takes both errors into account is developed. The performance of the method is investigated by numerical simulations in which artifacts generated by a fast but less accurate forward model and approximate boundary conditions are compensated.

10:20
1aBA5. Flawed transducer detection using random sample consensus for ultrasound tomography. Tianren Wang and Yun Jing (Dept. of Mech. and Aerosp. Eng., North Carolina State Univ., 911 Oval Dr., Eng. Bldg. 3, 3141, Raleigh, NC 27695, twang10@ncsu.edu)

In this paper, we present a random sample consensus (RANSAC) based ultrasound travel-time tomography method. Conventionally, all the time-of-flight (TOF) data between each two transducers are used to estimate the sound speed distribution. However, failing to identify the inaccurate TOF data (outliers) due to flawed transducers would reduce the accuracy of the estimated sound speed distribution. In our proposed approach, a small subset of TOF data were first randomly selected from the original TOF data, and then applied to the tomography algorithm to estimate a rough sound speed distribution. The rest of the TOFs data was applied to the rough distribution, and the goodness of fit was calculated. If most of the data fitted well in the estimated distribution, then all the well-fitted data (including the subset) was used to estimate a final sound speed distribution. Otherwise, there were outliers expected in the subset, and a new subset of the TOFs data would be randomly selected again. This repeated until most of the data fitted well in the estimated distribution. Simulation results showed that our method could effectively detect and eliminate outliers and increase the accuracy of estimating sound speed distribution.

10:40
1aBA6. Expressiveness of temperature-induced changes in backscattered energy in conventional B-mode images. Cesar A. Teixeira (CISUC, Univ. of Coimbra, Porto II, Pinhal de Marrocos, Coimbra 3030-290, Portugal, cteixeira@dei.uc.pt), Marco von Krugser (Biomedical Eng. Program, COPPE—Federal Univ. of Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil), André V. Alvarenga (Lab. of Ultrasound-Directory of Scientific and Industrial Metrol. (Dimci), INMETRO, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil), and Wagner C. Pereira (Biomedical Eng. Program, COPPE—Federal Univ. of Rio de Janeiro, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil)

Changes on conventional B-mode images have been correlated with temperature, aiming to develop a reliable method for noninvasive temperature estimation. The assumption is that temperature variations induce wave propagation changes that modify the backscattered ultrasound signal and these changes have an expression in ultrasonographic images. One of the main effects is the change on the image intensity that is mainly caused by temperature-related changes in backscattered energy (CBE) from tissue inhomogeneities. It is reported that CBE is dependent on medium speed-of-sound and density, behaving in different ways for lipid or aqueous scatterers. In this paper, we demonstrate that CBE has an expression on B-mode images recorded from conventional ultrasound scanners. We observed that different regions have positive, negative, or undefined correlations with temperature, and that this behavior is due to the dependence of CBE with scatterers type. This differentiated behavior enables the segmentation of different structures inside the same tissue. Our experimental setup consisted in the temperature elevation from 36 to 44 °C (hyperthermia range) of ex-vivo tissue samples. We considered bovine muscle and porcine muscle and fat. For both samples, we observed coherent segmentations of the different structures, pointing for a potential clinical application of the proposed analysis.

11:00
1aBA7. Electromagnetic hydrophone for high-intensity focused ultrasound measurement. Pol Grasland-Mongrain (Université de Lyon, 151 Cours Albert Thomas, Lyon 69424, France, pol.grasland-mongrain@inserrn.fr), Jean-Martial Mari, Bruno Gilles, and Cyril Lafon (LabTAU, INSERM U1032, Lyon, France)

An ultrasonic hydrophone based on the Lorentz force is introduced. When a metallic wire is moved by ultrasound while submitted to a magnetic field, the Lorentz force induces an electrical current proportional to the integral of pressure along the wire. 2D pressure field mapping is achieved by performing a tomography through wire translations and rotations in the imaging plane. Performances of this hydrophone are assessed in this study. Signal is linear over pressure from 10 kPa to at least 10 MPa with a determination coefficient R² above 0.997. Excellent resistance to cavitation has been observed. Frequency bandwidth was measured against three different wire diameters: 70 μm, 100 μm, and 210 μm. Results showed that upper cut-off frequency decreases with increasing wire diameter. Additional measurements showed that wire tension has no visible effect on the signal. Such characteristics are potentially of great interest for high-intensity focused ultrasound and shockwave transducers calibration.

11:20
1aBA8. Ultrasonic projection imaging of biological media. Krzysztof J. Opieinski and Tadeusz Gudra (Electron., Wrocław Univ. of Technol., Wybrzeże Wyspianskiego 27, Wrocław, Low Silesia 50-370, Poland, krzysztofj.opieinski@pwr.wroc.pl)

The study presents the method of ultrasonic projection imaging of biological media, using single ultrasonic probes and 2-D piezoelectric transducer arrays. Dedicated research stands were set up and used to perform ultrasonic projection scanning of various biological media (and phantoms of the media) that were submerged in water. Based on such measurements, images of the heterogeneous internal structure of the studied objects were
obtained, which show two-dimensional distributions of the projection values of acoustic parameters. Those parameters were derived from recorded pulses of ultrasonic wave transmitted sequentially through a fixed projection surface. The obtained projection images were analyzed with respect to the method and quality of representation of the studied structures. Additionally, contrast resolution of ultrasonic projection images of the heterogeneous structure of a biological medium was estimated in relation to the size of the heterogeneity and with respect to scanning resolution and longitudinal resolution. Ultrasonic projection imaging can be applied in medicine for diagnostic examination of women’s breast.

MONDAY MORNING, 3 JUNE 2013

Session 1aEA

Engineering Acoustics: Thermoacoustics I

Roger T. Richards, Chair

NUWC, Newport, RI 02841

Contributed Papers

1aEA1. Heat transfer enhancement through thermoacoustically driven streaming, Randall A. Ali and Steven L. Garrett (Grad. Prog. in Acoust., Penn State, Grad. Prog. in Acoust., P.O. Box 30, State College, PA 16804-0030; randallali@gmail.com)

We recently reported on a simple standing-wave thermoacoustic engine that was intended for use as a self-powered monitor of temperature within a resonator that was similar to a nuclear fuel rod [J. Acoust. Soc. Am. 132(3), Pt. 2, 1993–1994 (2012)]. An additional potential benefit of such a device is the enhanced heat transfer between the heat source and the surrounding coolant produced by the acoustic streaming generated by the high-amplitude acoustic standing wave within the resonator. By adding a remotely operated linear actuator that can depress a valve at the ambient-temperature end of the resonator, we are able to squelch the acoustic resonance by modification of that boundary condition without changing any other operating parameters (e.g., heater power). We will report heat transfer measurements made in a calorimeter at several input thermal power levels, with and without the presence of the thermoacoustic oscillations. [Work supported by the U.S. Department of Energy.]

9:20

1aEA2. Finite element simulation of a two-dimensional standing wave thermoacoustic engine, Jan A. de Jong, Ysbrand H. Wijnant, and André de Boer (Eng. Technol., Univ. of Twente, P.O. Box 217, Enschede, Overijssel 7500AE, Netherlands, j.a.dejong@utwente.nl)

A finite element analysis has been performed on a theoretical two-dimensional standing wave thermoacoustic engine using the linearized thermoacoustic equations in the frequency domain. This analysis is used to obtain the stability curve of the thermoacoustic engine, which in turn is used to calculate the oscillation onset temperature difference across the stack. The results are compared with existing theory including the long-pore approximation, as originally derived by Rott et al. In addition, the time-averaged effects of the acoustic wave are obtained using weakly nonlinear thermoacoustic theory. This includes the second order time-averaged equations for energy, momentum, and continuity. The saturation amplitude of the acoustic pressure oscillation and the required heat input to sustain the oscillation is obtained. The theory allows for calculation of acoustic streaming patterns. The particle path calculations provide insight to the minor loss mechanism occurring at the interface between the stack and the free tube for low acoustic velocity amplitudes (laminar flow).

9:40

1aEA3. Calculation of thermoacoustic functions with computational fluid dynamics, Simon Bühler (Thermal Eng., Univ. of Twente, P.O. Box 217, Enschede 7500AE, Netherlands, s.buhler@utwente.nl), Douglas Wilcox (Chart Inc., Troy, NY), Joris P. Oosterhuis, and Theo H. van der Meer (Thermal Eng., Univ. of Twente, Enschede, Netherlands)

Thermoacoustic functions are important parameters of one-dimensional codes used for the design of thermoacoustic engines. The thermal and viscous thermoacoustic functions allow the inclusion of three dimensional effects in one-dimensional codes. These functions are especially important in the regenerator of a thermoacoustic engine, where the thermoacoustic heat pumping occurs. Even though analytical solutions were derived for uniform pores, the thermoacoustic functions for complex geometries such as stacked screen or random fiber regenerators cannot be calculated analytically. In order to gain more insight into the geometry induced complex flow fields, the procedure of Udea et al. (2009) to estimate the thermoacoustic functions was applied in computational fluid-dynamic simulations. By using two measurement locations outside of the regenerator and modeling the regenerator as an array of uniform pores, it is possible to estimate the thermoacoustic functions for complex geometries. Furthermore, a correction method is proposed to quantify the entrance effects at the beginning and end of a regular pore. The simulations are first validated for a uniform cylindrical pore with the help of the analytical solution. Then the correction method is successfully applied to a cylindrical pore with the results closely matching the analytical solution. Finally, the method is applied to the model of a staggered, stacked screen regenerator.

10:00

1aEA4. Acoustic characteristics of a flexible sound generator based on thermoacoustic effect, Takehiro Sugimoto and Yoshiki Nakajima (NHK Sci. & Technol. Res. Lab., 1-10-11 Kinuta, Setagaya-ku, Tokyo 1578510, Japan, sugimoto.t-fg@nhk.or.jp)

A flexible sound generator based on the thermoacoustic effect was proposed for use with thin and flexible devices. The sound generator was composed of three thin films made of aluminum, polyimide, and graphite. The aluminum functions as an electrode for heat radiation, the polyimide as a heat insulator, and the graphite as a heat sink. Thickness of each layer is 50 nm, 75 μm, and 40 μm, respectively. The area of the electrode is 100 mm × 4 mm. The proposed sound generator was modeled considering several boundary conditions and using the heat conduction equation. Then, radiated...
sound was analytically described as a function of the input signal’s frequency. Experimental measurement was carried out and the frequency response calculated by the model agreed with the measurement result. An experimental study was conducted on the relationship between the fundamental response and the harmonic distortion. Surface vibration was observed with the laser Doppler velocimeter. The observation revealed that the proposed device is a vibration-free sound generator. Detailed comparison between the calculation and the measurement will be discussed in the presentation.

10:20–10:40 Break

10:40

1aEA5. Study on thermoacoustic system to drive by low temperature—Effects of loop-tube thermoacoustic system connected with parallel double stacks on the onset temperature ratio. Yosuke Nakano (Doshisha Univ., 1-3 Tataramiyakodani, Kyotanabe, Kyoto 610-0321, Japan, dmm0331@mail4.doshisha.ac.jp), Shin-ichi Sakamoto (Univ. of Shiga Professor, Hirone, Shiga, Japan), and Yoshiaki Watanabe (Doshisha Univ., Kyotanabe, Kyoto, Japan)

As the temperature ratio of the both ends of the stack increases gradually and reaches a critical value, sound waves begin to oscillate in the thermoacoustic system. This temperature ratio is called the onset temperature ratio. It is necessary to decrease the onset temperature ratio for practical use of the thermoacoustic system. Therefore, it is important to improve the cooling capacity of the system. A previous study, thermoacoustic system with series connected a number of prime movers was designed. This system can drive by lower onset temperature ratio than thermoacoustic system with a prime mover. However, in these systems, the heat loss increases when the heat is carried to a number of high heat exchangers. Therefore, loop-tube thermoacoustic system connected with parallel double stacks (parallel loop system) was proposed. This system can drive two prime movers by a heat input part because it is connected prime movers in parallel. In this report, the onset temperature ratio of this system was compared with that of normal loop-tube system with a prime mover. As a result, we confirmed that parallel loop system can drive by lower onset temperature ratio than normal loop-tube system.

11:00

1aEA6. The effect of resonance mode control by expanding of cross-section area on cooling capacity in a loop-tube type thermoacoustic cooling system. Manabu Inoue (Doshisha Univ., 1-3 Tataramiyakodani, Kyotanabe 610-0321, Japan, dmm1011@mail4.doshisha.ac.jp), Shin-ichi Sakamoto (Univ. of Shiga Professor, Hirone, Shiga, Japan), and Yoshiaki Watanabe (Doshisha Univ., Kyotanabe, Kyoto, Japan)

One of assignments for practical realization of a loop-tube type thermoacoustic system is improvement of cooling capacity. It is known that cooling capacity of the system is improved by setting phase adjuster (PA), which reduces cross-section of the system locally. This is considered that because setting PA enables to control resonance mode and setting PA controls to one wavelength. However, there is much dissipation of energy in PA because of reducing cross-section. More cooling capacity of the system is expected by control resonance mode at less dissipation of energy. Therefore, expanding phase adjuster (EPA) as a devise, which expands cross-section locally, is proposed to reduce dissipation of energy. If setting EPA enables to control resonance mode, cooling capacity is expected to improve. At first, we make sure that setting EPA enables to control resonance mode. Next, we make a comparison between the system set EPA and PA. As a result, cooling capacity of the system with PA is higher than with EPA. However, more cooling capacity is expected by shift the condition of EPA because energy used on cooling in the system with EPA is more than with PA.

11:20

1aEA7. On discontinuity waves and vibrations in thermo-piezo-electric bodies. Adriano Montanaro (Dept. of Mathematics, Univ. of Padua, via Trieste, 63, Padova 35121, Italy, montanar@math.unipd.it)

With regard to a body composed of a linear thermo-piezo-electric medium, referred to a natural configuration, we consider processes for it constituted by small displacements, thermal deviations, and small electric fields superposed to the natural state. We show that any discontinuity surface of order $r$ greater than 1 for the above processes is characteristic for the linear thermo-piezo-electric partial differential equations. We show that discontinuity surfaces of order 0 generally are not characteristic; hence, the conditions are written, which characterize the discontinuity surfaces of order 0 that are characteristic. We find the ordinary differential equations of propagation for plane progressive waves and standing waves. Then we characterize the ones whose wavefronts are characteristic.

11:40

1aEA8. Computational fluid dynamics simulation of Rayleigh streaming in a vibrating resonator. Joris P. Oosterhuis, Simon Buhlér (Thermal Eng., Univ. of Twente, Enschede, Netherlands), H. van der Meer (Thermal Eng., Univ. of Twente, Enschede, Netherlands)

Rayleigh streaming consists in a time-averaged flow that can exist in the thermal buffer tubes of thermoacoustic prime movers and refrigerators and is driven by the viscous stresses close to the solid boundaries. This mean flow leads to mean convective heat transport, which can have large impact on the performance of thermoacoustic devices. Rayleigh streaming in a standing wave resonator is simulated using a commercially available computational fluid dynamics (CFD) code and is compared to existing analytical models of Hamilton et al. (2003). A test case is developed, and a standing wave is generated by applying a harmonic volume force to the domain. Both the inner and outer streaming vortices are well described for a range of radii from $d/2 = 20$ and the magnitude of the streaming velocity matches analytical values. This paper shows the possibility of using available as-is CFD software for the simulation of streaming in a standing wave resonator. The presented results pave the way for the simulation of more complex geometries and studies to reduce the negative effects Rayleigh streaming can have on thermo-acoustic prime mover and refrigerator efficiency.
Session 1aMU

Musical Acoustics: String Instrument Measurements

Agnieszka Roginska, Cochair
New York Univ., 35 West 4th St., Rm. 1077, New York, NY 10012

Chris Waltham, Cochair
Phys. & Astronomy, UBC, 6224 Agricultural Rd., Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z1, Canada

Contributed Papers

9:00 1aMU1. Eigenvalue shapes compared to forced oscillation patterns of guitars. Malte Muenster, Jan Richter, and Rolf Bader (Systematic Musicology, Univ. of Hamburg, Pilatuspool, 19, Hamburg, Hamburg 20355, Germany, m.muenster@arcor.de)

Thirty-two guitars are measured geometrically and acoustically. The geometries of the top plate with its bracing as well as its thickness, the back plate with all bracing, the ribs, and rims are transferred to a CAD model. The top plate and the back plate of these guitars are measured using a 121-microphone array, back-propagating the sound field onto the top and back plates. Therefore, the guitars are once driven by impulses at the guitar bridge, once by plucking all notes on all strings up to the 12th fret to reconstruct the forced-oscillation patterns. Large differences are found with respect to the basic modes between the different guitars in terms of frequency and shape of their eigenmodes. Comparing the measured and calculated eigenvalues with the forced-oscillation modes driven by the strings, it appears that the eigenmode shapes often differ from the forced-oscillation patterns considerably.

9:20 1aMU2. Calculating guitar sound radiation by forward-propagating measured forced-oscillation patterns. Jan Richter, Malte Münster, and Rolf Bader (Univ. of Hamburg, Gefionstrasse 11, Hamburg 22769, Germany, janrichter81@gmx.de)

The radiation patterns of 32 guitars are investigated. Therefore, the top and back plates are measured using a 121-microphone array, back-propagating the recorded sound field onto the guitar top and back plates. Both, the eigenvalues and the forced oscillation patterns are measured, the latter by plucking the guitar strings for all possible notes. For each note, the forced-oscillation radiation pattern is calculated for 20 partials up to 4 kHz. These radiation patterns are then forward-propagated into the surrounding space around the guitar. Considerable differences appear between the different guitars within the same frequency region in terms of shape and intensity. Also, for similar frequencies, different patterns may appear, depending on the string and note played.

9:40 1aMU3. Measuring the haptic behavior of an acoustic guitar as perceived by the player by means of a vibrating actuator. Marcello Gior-dano and Marcello M. Wanderley (Input Devices and Music Interaction Lab., CIRMMT, McGill Univ., 555, Sherbrooke St. West, Montreal, QC H3A 1E3, Canada, marcello.giodano@mail.mcgill.ca)

Two sets of recordings of the vibration produced by plucking the fifth and the second string of an acoustic guitar were acquired using an accelerometer secured to the neck of the instrument. Vibrations from both sets could be reproduced using a recoild-type vibrating actuator attached at the neck of the guitar. In one of the sets, salient spectral features of the original recordings were altered. We performed a preliminary study involving nine volunteer participants, blindfolded and artificially deafened using earplugs and loud white noise played through headphones. They were asked to discriminate, by holding the neck of the instrument with their left hand, between “fake” (i.e., actuator-produced) or real vibrations, produced by the experimenter plucking either string two or five. Our aim was to assess if any of the spectral features altered in the second set of recordings increased the recognition rate of actuator-produced vibrations as being “fake.” These features, if present, would then be likely to carry crucial information and should be therefore modeled with extreme care in the simulation of the haptic behavior of the instrument. Results show that, at least for string five, we were capable of identifying one feature (a peak in the vibration spectrum located at 548 Hz), which, if altered, made the recognition rate as “fake” rise, statistically significantly, from 55% to 89%.

10:00 1aMU4. Acoustic imaging of string instrument soundboxes. Chris Waltham, Evert Koster, Nils Smit-Anseeuw, and Aaron Zimmer (Phys. & Astronomy, UBC, 6224 Agricultural Rd., Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z1, Canada, cew@phas.ubc.ca)

A circular 30-microphone array of 90 cm radius has been used to produce acoustic images of several string instruments. The soundboxes were excited by an automated impact hammer, and the instruments were suspended inside the array in such a manner that both the soundboard and hammer mechanism could be rotated in the horizontal plane. By normalizing all microphone signals to the hammer signal, data could be assembled as if from an array of many times 30 microphones. Images were formed using the inverse frequency response function method. The array and data analysis code were tested with a rectangular plate set in a large plywood baffle, a system that was straightforward to simulate numerically. Due to the limited spatial resolution set by the array geometry and frequency range—typically 200–1000 Hz—instruments with long soundboxes were chosen for initial testing: a gothic harp, a guzheng, and a gusquin.

10:20–10:40 Break

10:40 1aMU5. Characterization of bridge motions on the violin using polymer sensor technology. Gunnar Gidion and Reimund Gerhard (Phys. and Astronomy, Univ. of Potsdam, Geschwister-Scholl-Str. 75, Potsdam, Brandenburg 14471, Germany, gunnargidion@web.de)

Recent developments in minimally invasive polymer-film sensors permit the in situ detection of mechanical vibrations in musical instruments without significantly disturbing the acoustics of the instrument. As an example, we present measurements of vibrations of a violin between the feet of the bridge and the top plate. To this end, calibrated fluoropolymer-film sensors were matched to the geometry of the bridge feet. The forces exerted on the top plate by either bridge foot can be measured separately during excitation of a
string with the bow. The differences in amplitude and phase between bass and treble foot vibrations exhibit the distinctly asymmetrical nature of bridge motions, which of course also depend on the string and the note that are being played, respectively. In comparison with the simultaneously detected string vibrations and the radiated sound, the filter characteristics of the bridge are clearly identified in the spectral representation. As the bridge is also the main agent for the coupling from the body to the string, it is suggested that the observed variations in bridge motion are closely connected to the fact that the playability of a violin changes sometimes quite drastically from note to note.

11:00

1aMU6. High resolution radiation pattern measurements of a grand piano—The effect of attack velocity. Agnieszka Roginska, Justin Mathew, Jim Anderson (New York Univ., 35 West 4th St., Rm. 1077, New York, NY 10012, rogiinska@nyu.edu), and Alex U. Case (Univ. of Massachusetts Lowell, Lowell, MA)

The sound radiation pattern of a grand piano is highly complex and depends on the shape of the soundboard, construction of the frame, reflections from the lid, and other parts of the instrument’s structure. The spectral energy generated by and emitted from the instrument is further complicated by the sound production mechanism (hammers, strings), the attack velocity, and results in independently complex behaviors depending on the register of the piano. This paper presents the acoustic measurements of the radiation pattern of a grand piano using a high spatial resolution measurement technique. Measurements of a Yamaha Disklavier were taken using a 32-channel microphone array with a 2-in. spacing between capsules. The complex radiation patterns and overtone structure is analyzed for middle-C at three attack velocities—pianissimo, mezzo forte, and forte. Comparisons of the effect of attack strength on frequency response and radiation pattern are presented.

11:20

1aMU7. Properties of violin glides in the performance of cadential and noncadential sequences in solo works by Bach. Jiaxi Liu (Faculty of Music, Univ. of Cambridge, Darwin College, Silver St., Cambridge CB3 9EU, United Kingdom, jiaxi.liu1@gmail.com)

This study examines the articulatory changes (“glides”) between the leading tone and tonic of cadential vs noncadential semitone sequences in solo violin performance. It was predicted that though these glides would have similar slopes, they would differ in duration and in semitone intonation, and that these latter properties could characterize the expression of cadential finality and the structural insignificance of noncadential sequences. Cadential (46) and noncadential (58) targets from 17 recordings by 13 professional violinists were analyzed using narrow-band spectrograms. Glide durations comprised 16% of the overall duration of semitone sequence irrespective of structure function. However, cadential glides comprised 28% of the duration of the leading tone compared with 11% for noncadential glides. As predicted, the leading tone tended to be sharp in both contexts, but the mean cadential interval was nonsignificantly larger by 18 cents, mainly because the tonic tended to be tuned more accurately in cadential sequences. Finally, the glide direction was linear and followed the natural vibrato trajectory in both contexts as expected. These data confirm that articulatory modifications play a prominent role in the performance of intended musical structure and suggest that such distinctions will influence structural expectancies.
9:20

1aNS2. “Calibrating” the insertion depth of roll-down foam earplugs. Elliott H. Berger (Occupational Health & Env. Safety Div., 3M, 7911, Zionsville Rd., Indianapolis, IN 46268-1650, elliott.berger@mmm.com)

Since introduction in 1972, roll-down slow-recovery foam earplugs have become nearly ubiquitous. They are used widely in industries and by consumers around the world. Their performance has been reported in numerous journal articles and they are often part of laboratory experiments, either as the object of the study or as a reference device that is used as a control or to assure exclusion of noise from the ear to facilitate data acquisition. As such it is important to be able to describe their performance since although they generally provide high levels of protection, the amount of protection and its spectral dependence is a function of insertion depth. Real-ear attenuation results will be presented for a range of insertions from that which caps the earcanal to full earcanal insertion past the second bend. The results will be compared to published data to demonstrate how they can be used to estimate the quality of fit that was likely achieved vs that which was reported. These data will be useful to researchers who wish to “calibrate” the quality of insertion they are achieving in their own studies going forward. [The author is an employee of 3M and the research was funded by 3M.]

9:40

1aNS3. Attenuation characteristics of fit-compromised earmuffs and various non-standard hearing protectors. Laurie Wells, Elliott H. Berger, and Ron W. Keiper (Occupational Health & Env. Safety Div., 3M, 3M Ctr., 235-2W-75, St. Paul, MN 55144-1000, Laurie.Wells@mmm.com)

Excessive noise exposure can be successfully mitigated by proper use of legitimate hearing protection devices. However, real-life circumstances sometimes drive people to use compromised or alternative means of protection. This paper reports attenuation data measured in the 3M E+A+CAL facility over several years, in conformance with ANSI real-ear attenuation at threshold test standards (S3.19-1974, S12.6-1984, and S12.6-2008 Method A) and also provides, for comparison, one dataset from the open literature (fingers/palms). The loss of attenuation was measured for various earmuffs worn in less than ideal conditions, including earmuffs worn in conjunction with various safety glasses, hairnets, head covers, hoods, earmuff cushion covers, and ball caps. Data were also obtained for non-standard means of blocking sound, including long hair, cotton balls, and even use of palms and/or fingers to block the ears. Results demonstrated that the effects on earmuff attenuation varied from none at all (suitable cushion cover) to as much as 12 dB (hooded sweatshirt). Realizing that people adapt hearing protectors to meet their needs is one step toward optimizing hearing protection selection and use; knowing the significance of these adaptations is the next step. [The authors are employees of 3M and the research was funded by 3M.]

10:00

1aNS4. Comparison of subjective and objective methods for the measurements of hearing protector devices attenuation and occlusion effect. Hugues Nélisse (Service de la recherche, IRSST, 505 Blvd De Maisonneuve Ouest, Montreal, QC H3A 3C2, Canada, hugues.nelisse@irsst.qc.ca), Cécile Le Coq (Département de génie mécanique, École de Technologie Supérieure, Montréal, QC, Canada), Jérôme Boutin (Service de la recherche, IRSST, Montréal, QC, Canada), Jérémie Voix, and Frédéric Laville (Département de génie mécanique, École de Technologie Supérieure, Montréal, QC, Canada)

With the increase popularity of individual fit testing and miniaturization of electronic components, the field-microphone-in-real-ear approach (F-MIRE) is becoming more appealing and well suited for estimating hearing protection devices (HPD) attenuation both in laboratory and in “real world” occupational conditions. The approach utilizes two miniature microphones to simultaneously measure the sound pressure levels in the ear canal under the hearing protector, as well as outside of the protector. In this study, experiments on several human subjects were carried out in order to examine the various factors relating the subjective and objective attenuation values. The subjects were first instrumented on both ears with miniature microphones outside and underneath the protector. They were then asked to go through a series of subjective hearing threshold measurements followed by objective microphone recordings using high level diffuse field broadband noises. Earmuffs, earplugs, and double-protection were tested for each subject, and attenuation values were compared. Additionally, an objective scheme to measure the occlusion effect was developed and tested using subjects’ voice as the excitation and the same microphone setup. Results obtained for the attenuation values as well as the occlusion effect levels are presented and discussed.

10:20—10:40 Break

Contributed Papers

10:40

1aNS5. Implementation of a simplified, artificial external ear test fixture for measurement of the earplug induced auditory occlusion effect. Martin Brummund (Dept. of Mech. Eng., École de technologie supérieure, 1100, rue Notre-Dame Ouest, Montréal, QC H3C 1K3, Canada, martin.brummund.1@ens.etsmtl.ca), Franck Sgard (Service de la recherche, IRSST, Montréal, QC, Canada), Yvan Petit, Frédéric Laville (Dept. of Mech. Eng., École de technologie supérieure, Montréal, QC, Canada), and Jérôme Boutin (Service de la recherche, IRSST, Montréal, QC, Canada)

Earplugs remain a frequently used short-term solution for occupational hearing conservation. Due to comfort limitations, as induced by, e.g., the occlusion effect, workers often only wear earplugs for limited amounts of time and are likely to develop professional hearing loss. The occlusion effect expresses itself in the low frequencies through an altered perception of the wearer’s own voice and the amplification of physiological noises that occur upon earplug insertion. While many studies examined the occlusion effect experimentally, no study was found that attempted to implement an artificial external ear model dedicated to the measurement of the objective occlusion effect. A simplified external ear test fixture can help to better assess and design earplugs, because it allows standardized experimental testing. This work describes the implementation of a cylindrical artificial test fixture of the human outer ear that comprises the auditory canal as well as the bony, cartilaginous, and skin tissues that are made up of rigid polyurethane foam and two different types of silicone, respectively. Obtained measurement results are compared to literature findings.
11:00

IaNS6. Impact noise attenuation by earplugs measured with the use of an acoustical test fixture and with the participation of subjects. Rafal Mlynski and Pawel Gorski (Wibroacoustic Hazards, Central Inst. for Labour Protection – National Res. Inst., Warszawa, Poland, pawel@ciop.pl)

The effectiveness of impact noise attenuation by hearing protector devices is most often determined collecting the data from measurements. In impact noise conditions with high peak sound pressure level, it is necessary to replace a subject in a measurement with an acoustical test fixture. The use of the acoustical test fixture is important because of the potential risk of hearing damage occurring during impact noise tests, performed with the participation of subjects. The impact noise attenuation by earplugs determined from measurements carried out using acoustical test fixture was compared with attenuation determined with the participation of subjects (MIRE technique). The acoustical test fixture complied with the acoustic and mechanical requirements described in Standard No. ISO 4869-3 and was equipped with a chamber representing the external ear canal and a 2 cm³ chamber reflecting the acoustic properties of the middle ear. The results of measurements carried out with two different methods were comparable.

11:20

IaNS7. Influence of the external ear tissue domains on the sound attenuation of an earplug predicted by a finite element model. Guilhem Viallet (Mech. Eng., Ecole de technologie supérieure, 1100, rue Notre-Dame ouest, Montreal, QC H3C 1K3, Canada, guilhem.viallet.l@ens.etsmtl.ca), Franck Sgard (Noise and Vib., Institut de Recherche de Robert Sauvè en santé et en sécurité du travail, Montreal, QC, Canada), and Frédéric Laville (Mech. Eng., Ecole de technologie supérieure, Montreal, QC, Canada)

Earplugs are a widespread solution to prevent the problem of hearing loss in the workplace environment, but they do not always perform as desired. Using a model of the ear canal occluded by an earplug could be helpful to perform sensitivity analyses (geometry and materials of the earplug) and to better understand the role of the earplug. The human external ear is a complex system made up of different tissues with a 3D geometry. In practice, it is reduced to a 2D cylindrical geometry for the acoustical tests fixtures. The purpose of this study is to compare the insertion loss predicted by a 3D complex finite element model of the ear canal surrounded by different tissue domains (skin, soft tissue, and bone) and occluded by a silicon earplug versus a 2D axisymmetric model of the same system. In both models, some investigations are made in order to verify if the models could be simplified by replacing the tissue domains by mechanical impedances. These investigations are made to reduce the complexity of the models and to discuss the relevance of whether or not including external ear tissue domains in a sound attenuation model of an earplug.

MONDAY MORNING, 3 JUNE 2013

Session IaPAa

519B, 8:55 A.M. TO 11:20 A.M.

Physical Acoustics and Biomedical Acoustics: Acoustics in Microfluidics and for Particle Separation I: Standing Waves, Streaming, and Radiation Forces

Lawrence A. Crum, Cochair

*Appl. Phys. Lab., Univ. of Washington, Ctr. for Industrial and Medical Ultrasound, Seattle, WA 98105*

Michel Versluis, Cochair

*Phys. of Fluids Group, Univ. of Twente, P.O. Box 217, Enschede 7500 AE, Netherlands*

Chair’s Introduction—8:55

Invited Papers

9:00

IaPAa1. First-principle simulation of the acoustic radiation force on microparticles in ultrasonic standing waves. Mads Jakob Herring Jensen (COMSOL A/S, Diplomvej 373, Lyngby 2800, Denmark, mads@comsol.dk) and Henrik Bruus (Dept. of Phys., Techn. Univ. of Denmark, Lyngby, Denmark)

The recent development in the field of microparticle acoustophoresis in microsystems has led to an increased need for more accurate theoretical predictions for the acoustic radiation force on a single microparticle in an ultrasonic standing wave. Increasingly detailed analytical solutions of this specific problem can be found in the literature [Settnes and Bruus, *Phys. Rev. E* 85, 016327 (2012), and references therein], but none have included the complete contribution from thermoviscous effects. Here, we solve this problem numerically by...
applying a finite-element method to solve directly the mass (continuity), momentum (Navier-Stokes), and energy conservation equations using perturbation theory to second order in the imposed time-harmonic ultrasound field. In a two-stage calculation, we first solve the first-order equations resolving the thermoviscous boundary layer surrounding the microparticle and with a perfectly matched layer as a non-reflecting boundary condition for the scattered waves. These first-order solutions are then used as source-terms for solving the time-averaged second-order equations [Muller et al., Lab Chip 12, 4617 (2012)] and in particular to determine the second-order time-averaged hydrodynamic stress on the particle surface. From this, we deduce the radiation force and compare it as a function of the physical parameters to existing analytical results.

9:20

1aPAa2. Acoustic standing wave based microsystem for low-concentration oil detection and separation. Han Wang (Dept. of Elect. and Comput. Eng., Texas A&M Univ., College Station, TX), Zhongzheng Liu (Dept. of Mech. Eng., Texas A&M Univ., College Station, TX), Chiwan Koo (Dept. of Biomed. Eng., Texas A&M Univ., College Station, TX), Sungman Kim (Dept. of Elect. and Comput. Eng., Texas A&M Univ., College Station, TX), Younghak Cho (Dept. of Mech. Syst. Design Eng., Seoul National Univ. of Sci. and Technol., Seoul, Republic of Korea), Yong-Joe Kim (Dept. of Mech. Eng., Texas A&M Univ., College Station, TX), and Arum Han (Dept. of Elect. and Comput. Eng., Texas A&M Univ., 309C WERC, TAMU 3128, College Station, TX 77843-3128, arum.han@ece.tamu.edu)

Detection and quantification of extremely small amount of oil on site and at low cost has broad applications in environmental monitoring, both in oil spills as well as in routine marine/coastal ecosystem monitoring. For example, dispersed oil, generated through the use of chemical dispersants in oil spills to break up oil slick into small droplets so that they can be rapidly diluted in 3D space, are the greatest concern and pose the most challenges in detection. Fluorometry is the current standard method, however is bulky and expensive, limiting its wide deployment in the field. Here we demonstrate for the first time the development of an acoustic standing wave based microfluidic platform capable of processing large amount of liquid samples from which dispersed oil can be concentrated and separated to a detectable level by acoustophoretic force. The microfluidic platform consists of a recirculation channel structure into which dispersed oil droplets can be continuously separated from the main sample flow stream. A piezoelectric transducer attached at the bottom of the silicon-glass microfluidic channel creates the acoustic standing wave that exerts acoustophoretic force to droplets. An optical detector measures the presence of concentrated oil droplets by their distinct fluorescent signatures.

Contributed Papers

9:40

1aPAa3. Large volume flow rate acoustophoretic phase separator for oil water emulsion splitting. Jason P. Dionne (FloDesign Sonics Inc., 380 Main St., Wilbraham, MA 01095, j.dionne@fodsonics.com), Brian McCarthy, Ben Ross-Johnsrud (Mech. Eng., Western New England Univ., Springfield, MA), Louis Masi (FloDesign Sonics Inc., Wilbraham, MA), and Bart Lipkens (Mech. Eng., Western New England Univ., Springfield, MA)

Efficient separation technologies for multi-component liquid streams that eliminate waste and reduce energy consumption are needed. Current technologies suffer from high cost of energy, use of consumables, fouling, and limited separation efficiency of micron-sized particles. We propose a novel platform technology consisting of a large volume flow rate acoustophoretic phase separator based on ultrasonic standing waves. The acoustic resonator is designed to create a high intensity three dimensional ultrasonic standing wave resulting in an acoustic radiation force that is larger than the combined effects of fluid drag and buoyancy, and is therefore able to trap, i.e., hold stationary, the suspended phase. The action of the acoustic forces on the trapped particles results in concentration, agglomeration, and/or coalescence of particles and droplets. Heavier than water particles are separated through enhanced gravitational settling, and lighter particles through enhanced buoyancy. A first prototype consists of a 2 in. by 1 in. flow chamber driven by a single 1 in. by 1 in. transducer at 2 MHz, with flow rates of 30 L/h, and measured oil separation efficiencies in excess of 95%. A second prototype is designed to further scale the flow rate to 150 L/h.

10:00

1aPAa4. Acoustic radiation force on a sphere without restriction to axisymmetric fields. Yurii A. Ilinskii, Evgenia A. Zabolotskaya, and Mark F. Hamilton (Appl. Res. Lab., The Univ. of Texas at Austin, 10,000 Burnet Rd., Austin, TX 78758, hamilton@mail.utexas.edu)

The analysis presented at the previous ASA meeting related to investigation of the acoustic radiation force on a sphere embedded in a soft elastic medium with shear modulus that is several orders of magnitude smaller than its bulk modulus. The acoustic field was assumed to be axisymmetric and the spherical scatterer to be located on the axis of the acoustic beam. When one of these conditions is violated, the problem loses its symmetry. In this talk, the acoustic radiation force is considered in the more general case of nonaxisymmetric fields. The calculation is performed in Lagrangian coordinates. All acoustic fields, incident as well as scattered, depend on all three spherical coordinates. The incident and scattered waves, which include both potential and solenoidal parts, are expanded with respect to spherical harmonics. An analytical expression for the acoustic radiation force derived in this investigation may contain as many spherical harmonics as needed. In limiting cases when the scatterer is in liquid and only two modes, monopole and dipole, remain in the scattered fields, the solution for the acoustic radiation force recovers the results reported by Gor’kov [Sov. Phys. Doklady 6, 773 (1962)]. [Work supported by NIH DK070618 and EB011603.]

10:20

1aPAa5. Viscous contributions to low-frequency scattering, power absorption, radiation force, and radiation torque for spheres in acoustic fields. Philip L. Marston (Phys. and Astron. Dept., Washington State Univ., Pullman, WA 99164-2814, marston@wsu.edu)

An analysis of the dipole response of solid spheres illuminated by plane acoustic traveling waves [Settines and Bruus, Phys. Rev. E 85, 016327 (2012)] has implications for estimating the magnitude of viscous corrections to quantities of broader interest. Their results may be recast to give the viscous correction to the dipole scattering s-function for solid spheres. For the present discussion, it may be assumed that the Stokes layer is thin relative to the sphere’s radius, giving a simple reduction in magnitude of the dipole s-function (which is unimodular in the lossless case). The power absorption for plane waves and Bessel beams follow immediately from a prior formulation [Zhang and Marston, Phys. Rev. E 84, 035601 (2011)] as does the axial radiation force. The plane-wave force agrees after correcting a minor error in Settines and Bruus. A condition G = 0 previously noted for low-ka negative radiation forces on spheres in Bessel beams [Marston, J. Acoust. Soc. Am. 120, 3518–3524 (2006)] still gives negative forces for sufficiently large spheres. The torque caused by first-order vortex beams may also be estimated [Zhang and Marston, Phys. Rev. E 84, 065601 (2011)]. [Work supported by ONR.]

One important factor in the efficiency of thermoacoustic engines is acoustic streaming, which causes convective heat transfer between high and low temperature reservoirs. Most experimental and numerical studies performed so far have focused on Rayleigh streaming. Less work has been done on acoustic streaming due to the stack. Most numerical studies of Rayleigh streaming were performed using Navier-Stokes based numerical methods. In this study, large eddy numerical simulations were performed using schemes based on the lattice Boltzmann method (LBM). The model considered a simplified thermoacoustic refrigerator made of a rectangular standing wave resonator with a flat plate spoiler. Low-amplitude results obtained for Rayleigh streaming magnitude were compared with linear acoustic theory for verification. High amplitude recirculated streaming flow structures around the edges of the flat plate spoiler were identified. These are likely to contribute to heat transfer much more than Rayleigh streaming. Parametric studies were performed to investigate the effects of Strouhal number and spoiler edge shape. The results confirm that vertical edge streaming flows play a significant role in thermoacoustic heat transport.

IaPAa7. Three-dimensional analysis of the acoustic radiation pressure: Application to single-beam acoustical tweezers. Diego Baresch, Régis Marchiano (Institut Jean le Rond d’Alembert, UMR CNRS 7190, UPMC-CNRS, 4, Place Jussieu, Paris 75005, France, diego.baresch@upmc.fr), and Jean-Louis Thomas (Institut des NanoSciences de Paris, UMR CNRS 7588, UPMC-CNRS, Paris, France)

Recent studies on the acoustic radiation forces exerted by sound impinging spherical objects suggest the use of structured wavefronts for particle entrapment and controlled manipulation. In the scope of understanding why it is made possible to trap and manipulate small particles with sound, we present a general model for the acoustic radiation forces in three dimensions. A first generalization comes from the extension of well-known results for the radiation pressure of plane waves to incident wavefields having arbitrary wavefronts. Second, the elastic spherical target of any dimension is allowed to be arbitrarily located within the wavefield. Introducing a new class of “single-beam” acoustical tweezers, we discuss the capabilities of different acoustical beams to achieve particle trapping and manipulation tasks. In addition, using an efficient experimental setup, we report the propagation of a peculiar beam carrying orbital angular momentum, namely an acoustical vortex, which is our selected candidate to achieve the first three-dimensional acoustic trap for elastic particles.

MONDAY MORNING, 3 JUNE 2013

Session IaPAab

Physical Acoustics and Biomedical Acoustics: Acoustics in Microfluidics and for Particle Separation Iia: Bubbles and Drops

Yong-Jae Kim, Cochair

Mech Eng., Texas A&M Univ., College Station, Texas 77843

Martin Wiklund, Cochair

Appl. Phys., Royal Inst. of Technol., KTH-Albanova, Stockholm 10691, Sweden

Invited Papers

11:20

IaPAb1. Perturbation analysis of flow about spherically pulsating bubble at the velocity node of a standing wave. Mohammad AlHamli (Aerosp. & Mech. Eng., Univ. of Southern California, Olin Hall OHE 430 (MC-1453), Los Angeles, CA 90089-1453, mohammadli@gmail.com), Alexey Y. Rednikov (TIPIs-Fluid Phys., Université Libre de Bruxelles, Brussels, Belgium), and Satwinder S. Sadhal (Aerosp. & Mech. Eng., Univ. of Southern California, Los Angeles, CA)

An analysis using the singular perturbation method for a radially pulsating gas bubble at the velocity node of a standing wave was conducted with ε = U_0/(aω)<1 as a small parameter and aω<2/ε as a large parameter. Here, a, U_0, ω, and υ are length scale, velocity scale, frequency, and kinematic viscosity, respectively. While the mean oscillatory flow around the gas bubble has not net time-averaged flow component, viscous steady streaming arises due to the nonlinearity of the flow dynamics. However, with bubble surface being considered shear-free, the vorticity generation in the system is quite weak compared with what would result from a solid boundary. Not surprisingly, the steady streaming is also weak. As already known, the steady streaming would not arise with purely radial pulsations of a bubble in an otherwise quiescent liquid. For the case of a non-pulsating bubble at the velocity node, streaming is seen at O(ε^2). However, as seen with the case of a radially pulsating bubble at the velocity antinode, interaction of two oscillatory fields creates streaming at lower order. The phase difference between radial and lateral oscillations was found to play a significant role in both the streaming direction and intensity.

11:40

IaPAb2. Acoustic bubble sorting of ultrasound contrast agents. Michel Versluis (Phys. of Fluids Group, Univ. of Twente, P.O. Box 217, Enschede 7500 AE, Netherlands, m.versluis@utwente.nl)

Ultrasound contrast agents are coated microbubbles with radii ranging from 1 to 10 μm. Medical transducers typically operate at a single frequency; therefore, only a small selection of bubbles will contribute to the nonlinear contrast through resonance. Thus, the sensitivity of contrast-enhanced ultrasound can be improved by narrowing down the size distribution. Monodisperse bubble can be formed in a flow-focusing geometry. However, it requires extensive skills in microfluidics technology and in surface chemistry. Here, we present a simple lab-on-a-
chip technique to sort microbubbles on-line in a traveling ultrasound wave. A broad range of the parameter space of bubble size and frequency has been characterized to provide physical input parameters for a simple force balance model. We find good agreement for the modeled displacement as a function of the bubble radius for a range of sizes in the unbounded fluid. Within the confinement of the sorting chip, we find good agreement for the resonance behavior and overall with a smaller displacement than predicted as a result of bubble–wall interactions. This novel sorting strategy may lead to an overall improvement of the sensitivity of contrast echo of at least one order of magnitude.

MONDAY MORNING, 3 JUNE 2013
514ABC, 8:55 A.M. TO 12:00 NOON

Session 1aPP

Psychological and Physiological Acoustics: In Memory of Bertram Scharf: Five Decades of Contributions to Auditory Perception

Mary Florentine, Cochair
SLPA & ECE, Northeastern Univ., 106-A FR, 360 Huntington Ave., Boston, MA 02115

Huanping Dai, Cochair
Speech Lang. and Hearing Sci., Univ. of Arizona, P.O. Box 21071, 1131 E. 22nd St., Tucson, AZ 85721-0071

Chair’s Introduction—8:55

Invited Papers

9:00
1aPP1. Bertram Scharf and his critical contributions to the field. Harry Levitt (Adv. Hearing Concepts, P.O. Box 610, Bodega Bay, CA 94923, harrylevitt@earthlink.net)

Jerry Tobias introduced me to Bert Scharf via his book Foundations of Modern Auditory Theory. Our research in the 1970s was on the prediction of speech intelligibility from acoustic measurements; the similarity between Fletcher’s 20 frequency bands of equal contributions to intelligibility and psychoacoustic measurements of critical bands was of great interest. Bert’s chapter on critical bands provided an insightful, comprehensive, concise, and critical review of the state of the art in critical-band research. Our mutual research interests brought us together when he asked me to review a draft of a paper he was preparing. My review was highly critical and after submitting it to him I felt I had been too unforgiving in my review (reviewers can be wrong). I called him to explain that I had been overly critical of a fine paper. His response was the opposite of what I expected. He said it was the best review he had received and that he was extremely grateful for my input. I realized then that he—not only set high standards for others—but for himself as well. By adhering consistently to his high standards, his many contributions to the field have been long-lasting and critical.

9:20
1aPP2. An overview of Bertram Scharf’s research in France on loudness adaptation. Sabine Meunier (LMA-CNRS-UPR 7051, Aix-Marseille Univ, Centrale Marseille, 31 chemin Joseph-Aiguier, Marseille 13402, France, meunier@lma.cnrs-mrs.fr)

Since 1978, Professor Bertram Scharf divided his time between the United States and France. He was a Visiting Scientist at the Laboratoire de Mécanique et d’Acoustique in Marseille until the mid-1990s and collaborated with the University of Marseille (Faculté de Médecine) until his death. One of Bertram Scharf’s major contributions to the field of psychoacoustics is in the area of loudness. He first studied spectral loudness summation, when he started working at Harvard University. In France, his work on loudness focused mainly on loudness adaptation. He wrote, “Loudness resembles pain in that it decreases as a function of time only under special stimulus conditions.” Bertram Scharf’s work with his French colleagues defined aspects of loudness adaptation in its direct (simple loudness adaptation) and indirect (induced loudness adaptation) forms. They studied how the auditory system recovers from loudness adaptation and examined a possible physiological basis for loudness adaptation.

9:40
1aPP3. Spectral loudness summation: From the 1960s to the present. Jesko L. Verhey and Jan Hots (Dept. of Exp. Audiol., Otto von Guericke Univ. Magdeburg, Leipziger Str. 44, Magdeburg 39120, Germany. jesko.verhey@med.ovgu.de)

In general, the loudness level of a broader sound is higher than that of a narrower sound centered at the same frequency, an effect commonly referred to as spectral loudness summation. From the late 1950s onwards, Scharf published several articles on this topic investigating how stimulus parameters such as the level, number, and spectral separation of components of a complex tone and the spectrum shape affects the magnitude of spectral loudness summation, and how spectral loudness summation is altered in hearing-impaired listeners and under masking. In a contribution to the proceedings of the first international symposium on hearing, Scharf also provided important information of the effect of duration on spectral loudness summation, stimulating our own research in this field. This talk will provide an overview of Scharf’s work on spectral loudness summation and how the view on this topic has changed over time. It will be shown that even today there are aspects of this effect that are not completely understood in the light of current loudness models.

10:00–10:20 Break

Bertram Scharf made contributions to numerous topics in the loudness literature. In particular, he brought a great deal of insight into the current understanding of contextual effects in loudness. Some of the contextual effects that he studied include: (1) loudness adaptation, the decline in loudness of the latter portion of a continuous sound, (2) induced loudness reduction, the phenomenon by which a preceding stronger tone reduces the loudness of a weaker tone, (3) temporary loudness shift, a decline in the loudness of weaker sounds due to a physical fatigue of the cochlear amplifier, and (4) loudness enhancement, in which a brief sound is made louder when it follows a stronger sound within a short duration. Context effects serve as complex reminders of the necessity of careful design of any psychoacoustical experiment in which level varies. These effects also result in the breakdown of all loudness models, as virtually all calculations of loudness are performed for sounds without regard for previous stimuli. [Work supported by NIH-NIDCD.]

LaPP5. Connecting cues to signals in auditory attention. Ervin Hafter (Psychology, Univ. of California, 1854 San Lorenzo Ave., Berkeley, CA 94707, hafter@berkeley.edu)

Among his many fields of study, Bert Scharf played a major role in our understanding the role of auditory attention, especially at the level of basic psychophysics. Of special importance to this talk is the profound influence that he had on research in our lab (myself, Bert Schlauch, Joyce Tang, Kourosh Saberi, and Poppy Crum) through his work on signal uncertainty in masking and its alleviation by specific informational cues. Scharf’s resurrection of the probe-signal method led us to examine the effects of uncertainty on both the means and variances of effective bandwidths used by listeners in a detection task. Also shown will be cases where we used different kinds of cues to study detection at various levels of processing including judgments based on: specific spectral components, complex pitches derived from sets of harmonics and locations in frequency reliant on mentally tracking an FM stimulus through a period of occlusion.

LaPP6. Neural correlates of auditory attention. Barbara Shinn-Cunningham (Ctr. for Computational Neurosci. and Neural Technol., Boston Univ., 677 Beacon St., Boston, MA 02215-3201, shinn@bu.edu)

Bert Scharf’s seminal studies on selective auditory attention were, in many ways, ahead of the times. Twenty years ago, many psychoacousticians viewed any consideration of “cognitive” factors or any effects driven by the intent of the listener, rather than the acoustics of the input, as outside of their realm of interest. However, today, a plethora of laboratories are exploring questions about what acoustic features enable listeners to focus attention, how bottom-up stimulus attributes interact with top-down control signals to determine what source a listener attends in a mixture of sources, and what neural mechanisms realize such selective auditory attention. This talk reviews recent work exploring selective auditory attention using a combination of behavioral studies and neuro-imaging techniques, all of which suggest that (1) listeners can focus attention on one, and only one, auditory object or stream at a time, and (2) executive control regions of the brain are engaged during attention to reduce across-object interference in the representation of whatever object is in the attentional foreground. These studies underscore the importance of auditory attention in allowing us to communicate in everyday settings containing multiple sound sources, and thus the foresight of Bert in tackling this problem when most others did not.

LaPP7. Tuning in the time domain revealed through detection of auditory signals of unexpected duration or presentation time. Beverly Wright (Commun. Sci. and Disord., Northwestern Univ., 2240 Campus Dr., Evanston, IL 60202, b-wright@northwestern.edu) and Huanping Dai (Speech. Lang., and Hearing Sci., Univ. of Arizona, Tucson, AZ)

Bert Scharf was interested in how expectation affects auditory performance. He explored this question using the probe-signal method of Greenberg and Larkin, in which the listener is led to expect a particular stimulus but is occasionally presented with an unexpected but equally detectable one. The detectability of unexpected stimuli provides insight into the listener’s template for the expected stimulus. Bert’s expectation research, which focused on the frequency domain, inspired us to extend the inquiry to the time domain. We have seen that signal detection can be quite poor for signals of unexpected duration as well as for signals presented at unexpected times, indicating that listeners attend selectively to these two temporal aspects of sound. However, this temporal tuning is much broader for starting time than for signal duration (can be <25 ms). Thus, it appears that listeners can select the template for signal detection with considerable accuracy, but do not apply the selected template strictly to the expected starting time of the signal. We are grateful to Bert for his mentorship and keen interest in this topic. [Work supported by NIH-NIDCD.]

LaPP8. Inspiration from Bertram Scharf’s work. Fan-Gang Zeng (Ctr. for Hearing Res., Depts. of Anatomy and Neurobiology, Biomedical Eng., Cognit. Sci. and Otologyngol.– Head and Neck Surgery, Univ. of California, 110 Med Sci E, Irvine, CA 92697, fzeng@uci.edu)

In 1990, Bertram Scharf and I discussed about me doing a post doc in his laboratory. The opportunity to work with Bertram did not materialize, but his work in loudness, efferents, and attention has been a continuing inspiration not only for my own research but also for auditory perception, physiology, and audio engineering in general. For example, a Google Scholar search of “Bertram Scharf” on November 8, 2012, produced 1517 citations for his top 10 papers, with 6 on loudness and critical bands, 2 on efferents, and 2 on attention. Here I highlight two recent projects that have been inspired by Scharf’s work. The first project showed significant loudness adaptation in patients with auditory neuropathy, particularly those with otoferlin deficits. This result directly supports Scharf’s proposition that simple loudness adaptation is due to a sensory process, which in this case can be pinned down to transmitter release and replenishment in the hair cell and nerve synapse. The second project extended Scharf’s theoretical work in efferents and attention to improving feedback control in cochlear implant users and tinnitus sufferers. This line of work could improve cochlear implant speech perception in noise and reduce internal gain to alleviate tinnitus.
Chair’s Introduction—8:55

Invited Papers

9:00

1aSA1. Tunneling effect on the sound transmission loss of a flat structure coupled with a porous material. Franck C. Sgard (Direction Scientifique, IRSST, 505 Boulvd de Maisonneuve O, Montreal, QC H3A3C2, Canada, frasga@irsst.qc.ca), Noureddine Atalla, Mohammad Gholami (GAUS, Univ. of Sherbrooke, Montreal, QC, Canada), and Hugues Nelisse (Direction Scientifique, IRSST, Montreal, QC, Canada)

It is well known that when measuring sound transmission loss (STL) in a laboratory, among all test conditions, the location of a specimen in an aperture affects the results, due to the tunneling effect. Previous studies have considered this effect for flat single panels and double walls but the case of a panel with attached sound package seems to have received very little attention. This paper deals with the application of a modal approach to study the STL of a rectangular plate coupled with a porous material located inside a tunnel. The sound absorbing material is supposed to be described by a transfer matrix calculated using a Transfer Matrix Method, which relates interstitial pressure and total normal stress on both sides of the material. The model is validated by comparison with finite element/boundary element computations. Numerical results are shown to illustrate the validity of the proposed hybrid modal-TMM methodology and its use to investigate the niche effect in the presence of a sound absorbing material.

9:20

1aSA2. A hybrid modeling approach for vibroacoustic systems with attached sound packages. Luca Alimonti, Noureddine Atalla, Alain Berry (Mech. Eng., Université de Sherbrooke, 1747 Rue Marcil, Sherbrooke, QC J1J 2H7, Canada, luca.alimonti@usherbrooke.ca), and Franck Sgard (IRSST, Montreal, QC, Canada)

Modeling complex vibroacoustic systems including poroelastic materials using finite element (FE) based methods can be computationally expensive. Several attempts have been made to alleviate this drawback, such as high order hierarchical basis and substructuring approaches. Still, these methods remain computationally expensive or limited to simple configurations. On the other hand, analytical approaches, such as the Transfer Matrix Method (TMM), are often used, thanks to the lower computational burden. However, since the geometrical flexibility of the FE method is always needed in the low/mid-frequency range, attempts have been made to couple the FE model of the master system with a TM model of the sound package. Although these hybrid approaches seem promising, the open literature is not comprehensive. The aim of this work is to present a hybrid FE-TMM approach based on a Green’s function formulation. The idea is to account for the sound package by approximating the effects over the treated surface using fundamental solutions (i.e., Green’s functions) obtained by the TMM. A benchmark representative of typical applications is used to illustrate the capabilities of the presented methodology in terms of efficiency and accuracy in comparison to other classical methods.

9:40

1aSA3. A finite element solution strategy based on Padé approximants for fast multiple frequency sweeps of coupled elastic, poroelastic, and internal acoustic problems. Romain Rumpler and Peter Göransson (Aeronautical and Vehicle Eng., KTH Royal Inst. of Technol., Teknikringen 8, Stockholm 10044, Sweden, rumpler@kth.se)

Analyses involving structural-acoustic finite element models including three-dimensional modeling of porous media are, in general, computationally costly. While being the most commonly used predictive tool in the context of noise and vibrations reduction, efficient solution strategies enabling the handling of large-size multiphysics industrial problems are still lacking, particularly in the context where multiple frequency response estimations are required, e.g., for topology optimization, multiple load cases analysis, etc. In this work, an original solution strategy is presented for the solution of multi-frequency structural-acoustic problems including poroelastic damping. Based on the use of Padé approximants, very accurate interpolations of multiple frequency sweeps are performed, allowing for substantial improvements in terms of computational resources, i.e., time and memory allocation. The method is validated and demonstrated for its potential on 3D applications involving coupled elastic, poroelastic, and internal acoustic domains.
LaSA4. Discontinuous Galerkin Methods for poroelastic materials. Olivier Daize (LAUM UMR CNRS 6613, University Le Mans, Avenue Olivier Messiaen, Le Mans Cedex F-72085, France, olivier.dazel@univ-lemans.fr) and Gwenael Gabard (ISVR, Univ. of Southampton, Southampton, United Kingdom)

In this work, we are interested in the development of a Discontinuous Galerkin Method (DGM) for sound absorbing materials. These materials are commonly used for noise and vibration control. The objective of this method is to discretize the structure and to represent in each element the field as a superposition of local solutions such as plane waves. This type of methods have shown their efficiency by requiring much smaller numbers of degrees of freedom compared to standard polynomial interpolations (i.e., FEM) especially when the frequency is increased. For poroelastic materials, the solutions are expressed in terms of Biot waves (two of them associated to compression waves and one corresponding to shear waves). The poroelastic problem is expressed as a first order model and the formulation of numerical flux at interfaces between elements is derived and implemented. Compared to classical DGM methods for standard acoustics, this method is applied here to a dissipative medium and to a two-displacement field involving shear and compression waves. Several two-dimensional cases will be presented in order to validate the method and to compare against analytical and finite-element solutions (in displacement and mixed formulation). Results will be discussed in terms of accuracy of the method, errors, and conditioning of the linear systems.

LaSA5. Numerical simulation of acoustic waves in air and poroelastic media using the partition of unity finite element method. Jean-Daniel Chazot (Roberval UMR7337, Universite de Technologie de Compiègne, Rue Personne de Roberval, Compiègne 60200, France, jean-daniel.chazot@utc.fr), Benoit Nennis (LISMA, SUPMECA Paris, Saint-Ouen, France), and Emmanuel Perrey-Debain (Roberval UMR7337, Universite de Technologie de Compiègne, Compiègne, France)

Foams and fibrous materials are used in a large range of applications such as automotive or building acoustics. Their properties can be described with either a poroelastic model or an equivalent fluid model. These models, also used in geophysics, are now widely spread and are also available in some commercial finite element software applications. However, the discretization level required to achieve reasonable accuracy is not always acceptable in the mid-frequency range. In such case, the Partition of Unity Finite Element Method (PUFEM) using plane wave functions seems appropriate to avoid this limitation. The PUFEM has been recently applied to rigid frame materials with and without coupling in an acoustic cavity. It has also been applied efficiently to poroelastic materials. The present work focuses on the coupling between a poroelastic material, i.e., described with Biot’s equations, and an air cavity. Some practical examples are tested to demonstrate the efficiency of the PUFEM for solving noise control problems at medium frequency, but also to underline the precautions that must be taken when dealing with an air-porous interface.


In vehicle applications, absorbing materials are often used to attenuate sound. In, for example, exhaust systems and on noise encapsulations, the absorber is exposed to flow. This creates a boundary layer above the absorber, which affects the impedance of the surface, and hence alters the absorption properties. In addition to this effect, the flow itself may enter the absorber material due to high pressure and forced flow paths. An investigation of the effects that internal flow in the absorber imposes on the acoustic properties is presented. One way to describe the effect is by a change in flow resistivity. The effect is investigated for typical absorbers used in noise encapsulation for trucks. The Transfer Matrix Method is applied to calculate the resulting absorption and reflection coefficient for absorbers with changed flow resistivity in layers at the surface. The possibility to model the changed properties of the absorber with internal mean flow by means of Biot theory is also explored, together with a discussion on suitable experimental methods to verify and further investigate the effects.

LaSA7. Investigating the transmission loss effect via optimizing the insulator package on vehicle’s firewall. Sajjad Beigmoradi (Automotive Eng. Dept., Iran Univ. of Sci. & Technol., No. 13, Emmami Alley, Golzarand Alley, Saidsari St. Navab Safavi St, Tehran, Iran, s.beigmorady@gmail.com), Kambiz Jahani, and Hassan Hajarbolollahi (Mech. Eng. Dept., Iran Univ.of Sci. & Technol., Tehran, Islamic Republic of Iran)

Nowadays, noise and vibration of attributes of motor vehicles have a dominant effect on customers’ judgment about the cars, and hence, car manufacturers and OEM suppliers have dedicated remarkable time, budget, and concern to the investigations in this field. From NVH perspective, firewall is the foremost structural member in vehicle body design, since it is the main path for transferring the engine induced noise to the passenger cabin. In this research, effect of the insulator package is studied through different configurations considering the radiated noise level and the optimized design is proposed using an optimization procedure. Indeed, it is concluded that adding the optimized insulator package can significantly refine the noise transmissibility while avoiding structural modifications in the firewall.

LaSA8. A method for measuring the acoustic properties of a porous sample mounted in a rigid ring in acoustic tubes. Thomas Dupont, Philippe Leclaire (Drive, ISAT, Université de Bourgogne, BP 31 - 49 rue Mlle Bourgeois, Nevers 58027, France, thomas.dupont@u-bourgogne.fr), Raymond Panneton, Kévin Verdière (Gaus, Université de Sherbrooke, Sherbrooke, QC, Canada), and Saïd Elkoun (Gaus, Université de Sherbrooke, Sherbrooke, Alberta, Canada)

This study presents a method to measure the acoustic properties of a homogeneous porous material with a support or a reduction element in an acoustic tube. Some materials tested have a lateral size much smaller than the tube’s diameter, as they cannot be produced in the correct dimensions without corrupting the material; this also permits the testing of the same samples in a large frequency bandwidth...
by using different section tubes. Moreover, the acoustic leaks on the material boundaries can significantly change the transmission loss measured in tubes. To rectify these problems, rings can be placed on each material surface. The presence of these rings can influence the acoustic indicator measurement; while this effect is negligible for tubes with a large cross section, it is not for tubes with a small cross section. To correct, or remove, the influence of the rings, we propose to use an application of the parallel assembly process of the transfer matrix method, which has recently been proposed by Panneton et al. [Proceeding Internoise, New York (2012)]. Measurements on classical porous materials with and without reductions are proposed and compared to simulated results. The ring’s effects and the proposed corrections are discussed for different materials.

11:40

LaSA9. Acoustic characterization of graded porous materials under the rigid frame approximation. Jean-Philippe Groby, Olivier Dazel (Laboratoire d’Acoustique de l’Université, Le Mans, France), Laurent De Ryck (LMS Int., Leuven, Belgium), Amir Khan, and Kirill Horoshenkov (School of Eng., Univ. of Bradford, Great Horton Rd., Bradford BD7 1DP, United Kingdom, a.khan117@bradford.ac.uk)

Graded porous materials are of growing interest because of their ability to improve the impedance matching between air and material itself. Theoretical models have been developed to predict the acoustical properties of these media. Traditionally, graded materials have been manufactured by stacking a discrete number of homogeneous porous layers with different pore microstructure. More recently, a novel foaming process for the manufacturing of porous materials with continuous pore stratification has been developed. This paper reports on the application of the numerical procedure proposed by De Ryck to invert the parameters of the pore size distribution from the impedance tube measurements for materials with continuously stratified pore microstructure. Specifically, this reconstruction procedure has been successfully applied to retrieve the flow resistivity and tortuosity profiles of graded porous materials manufactured with the method proposed by Mahasaranon et al. In this work, the porosity and standard deviation in pore size are assumed constant and measured using methods, which are applied routinely for homogeneous materials characterization. The numerical method is based on the wave splitting together with the transmission Green’s functions approach, yielding an analytical expression of the objective function in the least-square sense. The objective function is constructed to minimize the discrepancy between the predicted and measured reflection coefficient spectra.

MONDAY MORNING, 3 JUNE 2013

Session 1aSCa

Speech Communication: Distinguishing Between Science and Pseudoscience in Forensic Acoustics I

Geoffrey Stewart Morrison, Cochair
Forensic Voice Comparison Lab., School of Elec. Eng. & Telecommunications, Univ. of New South Wales, NSW 2052, Australia

James Harnsberger, Cochair
Univ. of Florida, 402 NW 24th St., Gainesville, FL 32607

Chair’s Introduction—8:55

Invited Papers

9:00

1aSCa1. Distinguishing between science and pseudoscience in forensic acoustics. Geoffrey Stewart Morrison (Forensic Voice Comparison Lab., School of Elec. Eng. & Telecommunications, Univ. of New South Wales, NSW 2052, Australia, geoff-morrison@forensic-voice-comparison.net)

In this presentation, I argue that one should not attempt to directly assess whether a forensic analysis technique is scientifically acceptable. Rather one should first specify what one considers to be appropriate scientific principles governing acceptable practice, then consider any particular approach in light of those principles. I focus on one principle: The validity and reliability of an approach should be empirically tested under conditions reflecting those of the case under investigation using test data taken from the relevant population. Versions of this principle have been key elements in several reports on forensic science, including forensic voice comparison, published over the last four-and-a-half decades. I consider the aural-spectrographic approach to forensic voice comparison (also known as “voiceprint” or “voicegram” examination) in light of this principle, and also the currently widely practiced auditory-acoustic-phonetic approach (these two approaches do not appear to be mutually exclusive). Finally, I challenge the audience members to consider what each of them thinks constitutes the relevant scientific principles regarding acceptable practice, and then consider their own approach to forensic-acoustic analysis in light of those principles.

9:20

1aSCa2. A Canadian perspective on forensic science versus pseudoscience. Brent Ostrum (Sci. and Eng. Directorate, Canada Border Services Agency, 14 Colonnade Rd., Ste. 280, Ottawa, ON K2E 7M6, Canada, brent.ostrum@CBSA-asfc.gc.ca)

This presentation will provide my personal observations regarding forensic science versus pseudoscience in the Canadian legal system. I am neither a lawyer nor a judge; rather, I am a forensic scientist with over 25 years of experience in the Canadian system. My presentation focuses on relevant criteria for expert evidence considered in Canadian courts. The key ruling in R. v. Mohan (1994) provides
the start of the discussion with subsequent court rulings adding various elements. In Canada, we have had several judicial inquiries, such as the Kaufmann Commission, that can serve to guide experts. Select aspects of the 2009 NAS report “Strengthening Forensic Science in the United States: A Path Forward” will also be referenced. There are some common “criteria” often used by courts in different jurisdictions to assess expert evidence, including forensic acoustics. In other words, some basic expectations for all forms of expert evidence can be identified. I will attempt to show how select “sciences” have tried to fulfill those expectations. This will involve some commentary on issues of individual examiner competency, oversight at a system level (e.g., accreditation), and the need for proper and adequate method validation.

9:40–10:00 Break

10:00

IaSCa3. Voice stress analyses: Science and pseudoscience. Francisco Lacerda (Dept. of Linguist., Stockholm Univ., Universitetsvägen 10 C, Stockholm SE-106 91, Sweden, frasse@ling.su.se)

Voice stress analyses could be relevant tools to detect deception in many forensic and security contexts. However, today’s commercial voice-based lie-detectors are not supported by convincing scientific evidence. In addition to the scientific implausibility of their working principles, the experimental evidence invoked by the sellers is either anecdotal or drawn from methodologically flawed experiments. Nevertheless, criminal investigators, authorities, and even some academics appear to be persuaded by the ungrounded claims of the aggressive propaganda from sellers of voice stress analysis gadgets, perhaps further enhanced by the portrayals of “cutting-edge voice-analysis technology” in the entertainment industry. Clearly, because there is a serious threat to public justice and security if authorities adopt a naïve “open-minded” attitude toward sham lie-detection devices, this presentation will attempt to draw attention to plausibility and validity issues in connection with the claimed working principles of two commercial voice stress analyzers. The working principles will be discussed from a phonetics and speech analysis perspective and the processes that may lead naïve observers into interpreting as meaningful the spurious results generated by such commercial devices will be examined. Finally, the scope and limitations of using scientific phonetic analyses of voice to detect deception for forensic purposes will be discussed.

10:20

IaSCa4. Assessing acoustic features in the speech of asylum seekers. Judith K. Rosenhouse (Linguist. Unit, SWANTECH Ltd., 89 Hagalil St., Haifa 32684, Israel, swantech@013.net)

One of the areas of forensic linguistics concerns asylum seekers who speak languages which are foreign to the official language of the country where they apply for asylum. Identifying and verifying their real national background may be difficult if their speech manner reveals non-typical properties of their (real or alleged) native languages. Governments submit such asylum seekers’ speech samples for linguistic analysis on various levels, including phonetic acoustics. This aspect of forensic linguistics raises questions about the scientific merit of such an analysis. Our aim is to examine some of the questions which relate to segmental and supra-segmental features that are analyzed acoustically based on recorded samples of asylum seekers’ (alleged) native language and compared with the same features as known from the literature. We demonstrate such issues by examples from the speech of Arabic-speaking asylum seekers whose native tongue is (supposed to be) some local dialect but the recording includes various foreign features reflecting different dialects or languages. These questions involve sociolinguistic factors that affect individual speakers’ speech production due to a complex and unstable life-history. We suggest that the acoustic methods currently used in speech analysis in this context could be considered pseudo-science in many cases.

10:40


Expert testimony for forensic musicology addresses a broad spectrum of legal issues, including the authentication and differentiation of published compositions and musical recordings, performance rights, and legal determinations regarding copyright infringement. While legal cases involving music and performance infringement date back as far as the 19th century, the field of forensic musicology has no stated methodology by which an objective forensic determination can be made. Expert opinions based merely on subjective impression or resulting from the “golden ear” syndrome are pseudo-scientific and not objectively based. This paper proposes scientific methods and recommendations for analysis based on stated criteria, with the goal of controlling examiner bias. Considerations include analyses of composition, performance, and acoustical features, and factors such as melody, harmony, rhythm, and orchestration; pitch, tone, vibrato, and embellishment; metadata analysis; recording technologies; and digital signal processing, including “effects.” By engaging in a series of structured categorizations, the forensic expert can establish a consistent, replicable, and objectively verifiable means of determining whether or not a recorded piece of music has been misappropriated.

11:00–11:40 Panel Discussion
Session 1aSCb

Speech Communication: Digital Speech Processing (Poster Session)

Mark VanDam, Chair
Washington State Univ., P.O. Box 1495, Spokane, WA 99202

Contributed Papers

All posters will be on display from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. To allow contributors an opportunity to see other posters, contributors of odd-numbered papers will be at their posters from 9:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. and contributors of even-numbered papers will be at their posters from 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon.

1aSCb1. Precision and error of automatic speech recognition. Mark VanDam (Speech and Hearing Sci., Washington State Univ., P.O. BOX 1495, Spokane, WA 99202, mark.vandam@wsu.edu) and Noah H. Silbert (Ctr. for the Adv. Study of Lang., Univ. of Maryland, College Park, MD)

Automatic speech recognition (ASR) software developed by the LENA Research Foundation (Boulder, CO) is an increasingly important tool in psycholinguistics. Naturalistic day-long recordings are segmented and assigned talker labels including those for KEY CHILD, ADULT MALE, and ADULT FEMALE. Performance of the system is a serious concern for ASR in general, not just the LENA system. Additional evidence of the software’s performance is necessary to better interpret and understand accumulating research using this tool. Here we analyze the correspondence between computer and human segment labels corresponding to children, mothers, and fathers. Segments machine-labeled as ADULT MALE, ADULT FEMALE, and KEY CHILD were played to judges who identified each segment as Mother, Father, Child, or Other. Judges’ responses were analyzed in terms of agreement, precision, and error. Overall agreement between machine and human coding was in the 70% range with Cohen’s κ > .55. Machine coding appears to be better at coding KEY CHILD segments than the ADULT segments, and agreements for ADULT MALE labels were better than for ADULT FEMALE labels. The ASR system performed similarly when assigning segment labels for children and fathers, but less well for mothers. Overall error rates were generally very low. [Work support from NIH-NIDCD R01DC009560.]

1aSCb2. Unsupervised machine learning for the accurate classification of the discourse marker like in code-switching utterances. Page E. Piccinni (Linguistics, Univ. of California, San Diego, 9500 Gilman Dr., La Jolla, CA 92039-0108, piccinni@ucsd.edu) and Eric R. Kramer (Medical Scientist Training Program, Univ. of California, San Diego, La Jolla, CA)

Spanish-English bilinguals use the discourse marker like in English, Spanish, and code-switching utterances. An acoustic analysis found that the [l] and diphthong in like is produced differently depending on the type of utterance in which it occurs. To investigate the possible perceptual relevance of these differences, we built a logistic-polynomial regression model to classify like tokens based on acoustic data. The model first projects F1 and F2 values onto a space of time-dependent polynomials. We then apply a logistic-polynomial regression model to the words of the diphthong, and the midpoint of the [l] of the diphthong (DeLong’s test, p < 0.004), or two data points: the midpoint of the [a] of the diphthong, and the midpoint of the [l] of the diphthong (DeLong’s test, p < 0.04). The similarity of the polynomial model suggests that the time-dependent progression of F1 and F2 values, rather than absolute formant values, is important for predicting an imminence code-switch. We hypothesize that listeners leverage these time-dependent changes in F1 and F2 to anticipate code-switches.

1aSCb3. Using a computational model for the auditory midbrain to explore the neural representation of vowels. Laurel H. Carney, Jiashu Li, Tianhao Li (Biomedical Eng. and Neurobiol. & Anatomy, Univ. of Rochester, 601 Elmwood Ave., Box 603, Rochester, NY 14642, Laurel.Carney@rochester.edu), and Joyce M. McDonough (Linguistics, Univ. of Rochester, Rochester, NY)

A formant-based approach to representing vowel quality is anchored in acoustic theory and is well documented in perception studies and in auditory modeling. This ongoing study investigates the representation of vowels in the responses of auditory models at the level of the midbrain (inferior colliculus). Previous modeling and physiological results have shown that formant structure is conveyed by changes in neural rates of midbrain cells that are tuned to amplitude modulations near voice pitch frequency. The current study examined model population responses to 20 speakers (10 males, 10 females) reciting 12 English vowel contrasts from the Hillenbrand et al. database [J. Acoust. Soc. Am. 97, 3099 (1995)]. Pairwise correlations across model population responses for each vowel were used to evaluate variability in the neural representations. Results show that the acoustical variability associated with the vowel contrasts is maintained in these neural representations. Thus, variability in the acoustic vowel space is maintained after the nonlinear responses of realistic auditory-nerve models and midbrain models for amplitude modulation tuning. Our goal is to extend our knowledge of the neural representation of the vowel space using a computational model for the responses of auditory neurons to ensembles of speech tokens.


We propose a generative acoustic model training method for robust speech recognition with blind sound source separation as a front-end. Multiple microphone systems are often used for the separation. In such situation, separated speech is severely distorted and thus the recognition rate significantly drops. If we can measure transmission characteristics from the sound sources with various directions to the microphones, we can simulate to receive various mixed speech made by multiple speakers speaking with overlaps to each other. Then we separate the simulated overlapped speech using a blind source separation method such as frequency domain independent component analysis (FDICA) and use the separated speech to train HMM acoustic models to recognize such separated speech. Our method can generate such distorted speech enormously without recording the real speech spoken to the microphone system. We evaluate the models in the continuous Japanese speech recognition and show the effectiveness.


The performance of speaker identification process degrades in reverberant environments, as reverberation leads to clear physical effects on the perceived signals. This paper investigates the effect of room reverberation on
the identification rate. However, various reverberant environments are simulated, and the impulse response is convolved with dry speech signals. The reverberant speech database is used by the identification engine within the train and the test phases. Then, statistical identification technique using the Gaussian Mixture Model (GMM) is implemented. Three types of features, Mel-Frequency Cepstrum Coefficients (MFCC), Perceptual Linear Predictive Cepstrum Coefficients (PLPCC), and Relative Spectral Perceptual Linear Predictive Cepstrum Coefficients (RASTA-PLPCC) are extracted. Various types of features are integrated and used for the classification problem. Finally, the performance of the recognition process is evaluated while varying the duration of the train and the test signals, the features used for the classification problem, and the room reverberation. A series of physical measures that correlate with various attributes of the sound perceived in rooms, such as the reverberation time T60, the clarity index C80, the definition D, are calculated. Then, their effect on the identification rate is investigated.

**LaSCb6. Experimental study of shout detection with the rahmonic structure.** Naoto Kakino, Takahiro Fukumori, Masato Nakayama, and Takanori Nishiura (Grad. School of Information Sci. and Eng., Ritsumeikan Univ., 1-1-1 Nojihigashi, Kusatsu 525-8577, Japan, iso1208@ed.ritsumei.ac.jp)

The surveillance systems with microphones have been developed to achieve a secure society. These systems can detect hazardous situations with observed speech but are generally very expensive. This is because the conventional systems manually detect hazardous situations by security officers. Thus, we focus on the automatic shout detection method, which can estimate hazardous situations. The acoustic model based on the Gaussian mixture model has been proposed as the conventional method to identify shouted and natural speeches. However, these methods have a problem that it is necessary to prepare huge training samples to accurately detect shouted speech. In the present paper, we focus on the rahmonic structure, which shows a subharmonic of fundamental frequency in the cepstrum domain because the rahmonic structure tends to arise in the shouted speech. In the present paper, we therefore propose the detection method of the shouted speech based on rahmonic structure. More specifically, we investigate rahmonic structure in the shouted speeches, and detect the shouted speech by utilizing rahmonic structure model. We conducted evaluation experiments to confirm the effectiveness of the proposed method. As a result of evaluation experiments, we confirmed the effectiveness of the proposed method.

**LaSCb7. Suppression of clipping noise in observed speech based on spectral compensation with Gaussian mixture models and reference of clean speech.** Makoto Hayakawa, Takahiro Fukumori, Masato Nakayama, and Takanobu Nishiura (Grad. School of Information Sci. and Eng., Ritsumeikan Univ., 1-1-1 Nojihigashi, Kusatsu 525-8577, Japan, iso3308@ed.ritsumei.ac.jp)

In recent years, the development of communication system allows people to easily record and distribute their speech. However, in the speech recording, clipping noise degrades sound quality when the level of input signal is excessive for the maximum range of amplifier. In this case, it is necessary to suppress clipping noise in the observed speech for improving its sound quality. Although a linear prediction method has been conventionally proposed for suppressing clipping noise, it has a problem with degradation of the restoration performance by cumulating error when the speech includes a large amount of clipping noise. This paper describes a method for suppression of clipping noise in observed speech based on spectral compensation. In this method, the power spectral envelope of speech on each frame in the lower frequency band is noise suppressed to by using Gaussian Mixture Models (GMM), and the one in the higher frequency band is restored by referring to the clean speech. We carried out evaluation experiments with a speech quality, and confirmed the effectiveness of the proposed method toward the speech, which includes a large amount of clipping noise.

**LaSCb8. Detection for Lombard speech with second-order mel-frequency cepstral coefficient and spectral envelope in beginning of talking-speech.** Takayuki Furoh, Takahiro Fukumori, Masato Nakayama, and Takanobu Nishiura (Grad. School of Information Sci. and Eng., Ritsumeikan Univ., 1-1-1 Nojihigashi, Kusatsu 525-8577, Japan, iso3308@ed.ritsumei.ac.jp)

In noisy environments, the recorded speech is distorted by the additional noise and the Lombard effect. Thus, the automatic speech recognition (ASR) performance is degraded in noisy environments. To solve this problem, noise reduction methods have been proposed as the conventional study. However, in the conventional study, the improvement of ASR performance for the Lombard effect was not discussed well enough. In the present paper, we focus on the robustly detection for Lombard effect speech (Lombard speech). This is because the ASR system can employ a suitable acoustic model by detecting the Lombard speech. We previously proposed the detection for Lombard speech based on second-order MFCC and fundamental frequency. The previously proposed method however requires longer utterances to detect Lombard speech. We therefore newly propose the detection method for Lombard speech with second-order MFCC and spectral envelope in beginning of talking-speech. To detect the Lombard speech at a short time, the proposed method employs variable weights corresponding to elapsed time for second-order MFCC and spectral envelope. As a result of evaluation experiments, we confirmed that the detection time was reduced from the conventional method.

**LaSCb9. The detection of the sleepiness from the sounds obtained inside of the body.** Masanoti Akita, Hiroyuki Kaminohara, Tomohiko Yoshida, Syogo Kanemitsu, and Yoichi Midorikawa (Faculty of Eng., Dept. of Elec. and Electron. Eng., Oita Univ., 700 Dannoharu, Oita 870192, Japan, makita@oita-u.ac.jp)

This paper shows that the detecting method of the sleep-in sleep state or sleepiness from the sound signals in the human body. In former report, we showed that the detection of the sleepiness concerns with the piezoelectric sensors attached on car seat. Our preliminary examination showed that the spectrum of signals from the piezoelectric sensor have the tendency that the shapes of the spectral envelopes are flattened. And the sounds in human body are considered to have similar features. In this experiment, the signals of the piezoelectric sensor on the seat and the sounds in the human body are measured at the same time and the relation between the sounds and sleepiness are examined. The sounds inside the body are measured using NAM microphone system. The spectral envelopes of the signals from the left side and the right side of breath are calculated. The spectral envelopes from the seat are calculated at the same time. Twenty-two measurements by four examinees are done, and 8 sleeping data are measured. Flatness of the envelopes is defined using the lower order of cepstral coefficients, and the increase of the flattened spectrum is observed by the sounds from the sleeping data of three quarters.

**LaSCb10. Modeling occurrence tendency of adventitious sounds and noises for detection of abnormal lung sounds.** Takano O. Kubo, Masaru Yamashita, Katsuya Yamauchi, and Shiochi Matsunaga (Engineering, Nagasaki Univ., 1-14, Bukyo-machi, Nagasaki 852-8521, Japan, matt@cis.nagasaki-u.ac.jp)

Diagnosis of pulmonary emphysema by using a stethoscope is based on the common knowledge that abnormal respiratory (adventitious) sounds usually appear in patients with pulmonary emphysema. However, the spectral similarity between adventitious sounds and noises at auscultation makes highly accurate automatic detection of adventitious sounds difficult. In this paper, we have proposed a novel method for distinguishing between normal lung sounds in healthy subjects and abnormal sounds, including adventitious sounds in patients, taking into account the occurrence tendency of adventitious sounds and noises. According to our investigation results, adventitious sounds occur repeatedly in successive inspiratory/expiratory phases of patients. On the other hand, noise sounds mix at random in lung sounds of both patients and healthy subjects. In our method, the occurrence tendency of these sounds is described using Gaussian distribution of a random variable obtained by subtracting the acoustic likelihood for abnormal respiration from the likelihood for normal respiration. The spectral likelihood calculated using hidden Markov models and the validity score of the occurrence tendency of the adventitious/noise sounds are combined to derive the classification result. Our method achieved a higher classification rate of 94.1% between normal and abnormal lung sounds than that achieved using the conventional method (87.4%).

**LaSCb11. Audio quality evaluation by experienced and inexperienced listeners.** Nadja Schinkel-Bielefeld (Audio Dept., Fraunhofer Inst. IIS, Am Wolfsman- tel 33, Erlangen 91058, Germany, nadja.schinkel-bielefeld@iis.fhg.de), Netaya Lotze (Deutsches Seminar, Leibniz Universit ät Hannover, Hannover, Germany), and Frederik Nagel (Audio Dept., Fraunhofer Inst. IIS, Erlangen, Germany)

Basic audio quality of coded audio material is commonly evaluated using ITU-R BS-1534 Multi Stimulus with Hidden Reference and Anchors (MUSHRA) listening test. MUSHRA guidelines call for experienced listeners.
listeners. However, the majority of consumers using the final product are no expert-listeners. Also the degree of expertise in a listening test may vary among listeners in the same laboratory. It would be useful to know how the audio quality evaluation differs between trained and untrained listeners and how training and actual tests should be designed in order to be as reliable as possible. To investigate the rating differences between experts and non-experts, we performed MUSHRA listening tests with 13 experienced and 11 inexperienced listeners using 5 speech and audio codecs delivering a wide range of basic audio quality. Except for the hidden reference, absolute ratings of non-experts were consistently at least 10% higher than those of experts. However, they could be mapped to each other by a z-transform. For lower quality values, confidence intervals were significantly larger for non-experts than for experts. Experienced listeners set more than twice as many loops as non-experts, compared more often between codecs and listened to high quality codecs for a longer duration than non-experts.

LaSCb12. Influence of amplification scheme and number of channels on aided speech-intelligibility performance. Amyn M. Amlani (Dept. of Speech and Hearing Sci., Univ. of North Texas, 907 W Sycamore St., P.O. Box 305010, Denton, TX 76203, amlaniam@unt.edu), Sneha V. Bharadwaj (Dept. of Commun. Sci. and Disorders, Texas Woman’s Univ., Denton, TX), and Shirin J. Jivani (Dept. of Speech and Hearing Sci., Univ. of North Texas, Denton, TX)

Modern hearing aids offer a wide range of channels (i.e., filters) and amplification schemes. Our previous work revealed that increasing the number of channels in conjunction with a fast-fast amplification scheme, results in (a) the spectral flattening of the vowels /i, u, A/ (Amlani et al., 2011), and (b) reduced consonant- and vowel-identification accuracy in impaired listeners (Amlani et al., 2012). In the present study, we assess the performance of impaired listeners and their normal-hearing controls on the perception of everyday speech using the Connected Speech Test (Cos et al., 1987, 1988). The stimuli were processed through a simulated hearing aid with varying amplification schemes (linear, compression [fast-fast, slow-slow, fast-slow]) and number of channels (2, 8, 16). Findings revealed that while speech-intelligibility performance improved markedly with everyday speech compared to /CVC/ words for both groups, normal-hearing listeners identified the target words significantly better than impaired listeners did. Speech-intelligibility performance was similar across number of channels for normal-hearing listeners, but decreased significantly with a fast-fast amplification scheme. For impaired listeners, performance declined for channels greater than 2 and with the inclusion of the fast-fast amplification scheme. We discuss the implication of these findings relative to clinical application and hearing aid design.

LaSCb13. Relationship between subjective and objective evaluation of noise-reduced speech with various widths of temporal windows. Mitsunori Mizumachi (Dept. of Elec. Eng. and Electron., Kyushu Inst. of Technol., 1-1 Sensui-cho, Tobata-ku, Kitakyushu, 805-8440, Japan, mizumachi@ecs.kyutech.ac.jp)

It is necessary to enhance adverse speech signals for building useful speech interfaces. Speech enhancement is essential under noisy and reverberant acoustic environments. Therefore, quality assessment of the enhanced speech signals should be an important issue in noise reduction and dereverberation. Subjective evaluation is given by carrying out listening tests, and objective evaluation is provided by speech distortion measures. However, there is the discrepancy between subjective and objective evaluation of speech distortion. The author has investigated the relationship between subjective and objective evaluation of noise-reduced speech signals. The objective measure of speech distortion was calculated in each short-term frame, of which length was fixed, and the statistical characteristics of the short-term speech distortion were investigated using higher-order statistics such as skewness and kurtosis. The preliminary result suggested that skewness of the short-term speech distortion could give an explanation for the discrepancy between subjective and objective evaluation. Further investigation of the relationship between subjective and objective evaluation of noise-reduced speech signals is carried out with a variety of temporal window widths. [Work supported by NEDO, Japan.]


This paper describes results of an experiment to conduct text independent speaker identification of large number of speakers (about 100) using a standard vocabulary of about 23 NATO words—such as Alpha, Bravo, etc. These words in isolation were spoken in a sound treated room by Hindi natives having very good education in English (both males and females) and recorded by a three channel data recording system—the cardioid microphone, electret condenser microphone, and a NOKIA mobile telephone. The pre-processed digitized database of isolated words was further processed to determine 39 MFCC’s and their derivatives and used to build an HMM model for each speaker based on all the words. The HMM model was trained using an HTK tool kit to generate the model parameters and tested using Viterbi algorithm. The identification of speakers was done in a closed set manner, based on comparison of each NATO word in the model. In addition to correct identification, false acceptance and false rejection scores were also found. The results show varying performance due to variations in channels, male/female speakers. The overall identification scores vary between 60% and 70%. The paper gives detailed analysis of results.

LaSCb15. A time-synchronous histogram equalization for noise robust speech recognition. Fumiki Takahashi, Masaharu Kato, and Tetsuo Kosaka (Grad. School of Sci. and Eng., Yamagata Univ., 4-3-16 Jonan, Yonezawa, Yamagata 992-8510, Japan, tari1506@st.yamagata-u.ac.jp)

The histogram equation (HEQ) technique is commonly adopted for feature space normalization in speech recognition systems. In this technique, a transform function is calculated directly from the histograms of both training and test data, and the nonlinear effects of additive noise are compensated. In order to estimate the transform function accurately, a certain amount of data are required. However, this is not suitable for real-time application because at least several seconds of evaluation data need to be accumulated before the transform function can be calculated. This means that the system cannot start the recognition process until the end of utterance. In this research, we aim to develop a new speech recognition method based on the HEQ technique for real-time processing. This method is called “time-synchronous frame-weighted HEQ (ts-FHEQ).” In the time-synchronous decoding, lack of data for estimating the histogram becomes a major problem. To resolve this problem, we introduce a frame weighting approach, where the degree of transform is controlled according to the number of data frames. Our speech recognition experiments verified that the proposed technique shows good performance and achieves substantial reduction of calculation time.

LaSCb16. An investigation of vowel substitution rules in the automatic evaluation system of English pronunciation. Kei Sato, Masaharu Kato, and Tetsuo Kosaka (Grad. School of Sci. and Eng., Yamagata Univ., 4-3-16 Jonan, Yonezawa, Yamagata 992-8510, Japan, tna1014@st.yamagata-u.ac.jp)

We investigate the performance improvement of an automatic evaluation system of the English pronunciation of Japanese learners. In this system, Japanese and English acoustic models are used to detect mispronunciation at a phoneme level. Hidden Markov models (HMMs) are used as acoustic models. Mispronunciation is detected by comparing the output likelihoods of the two models. In order to improve the performance of this system, we investigate certain mispronunciation rules, which represent common mispronunciations among Japanese learners. We use four mispronunciation rules: vowel insertion (at the end of a word), vowel substitution, vowel insertion (between consonants), and consonant substitution. In this system, the accuracy of the mispronunciation rules is particularly important. The rules are determined on the basis of the knowledge of phonetics in our previous system. However, the effectiveness of the rules has not been analyzed quantitatively, and we do so in this work. A knockout procedure is used to select effective rules. By selecting effective rules, we found that the correlation coefficient between the subjective evaluation value and the system performance improved from 0.757 to 0.858.
A method to estimate a temporally stable spectral envelope for periodic signals. Masanori Morise and Yoichi Yamashita (Ritsumeikan Univ., 1-1-1 Nohiigashiki, Kusatsu, Shiga 525-8577, Japan, masanori.morise@gmail.com)

Vocoder-based speech synthesis system requires fundamental frequency (F0) and spectral envelope. Since the sound quality of synthesized speech depends on the estimation performance, methods that can accurately estimate two parameters are crucial to synthesize natural speech. In particular, spectral envelope estimation is more difficult than F0 estimation. One of the problems in spectral envelope estimation is that the result depends on the windowing time, type of window function, and its length. Conventional methods such as LPC or Cepstrum cannot remove the temporal variation. TANDEM-STRAIGHT can estimate a temporally stable spectral envelope, whereas the processing that consists of averaging two power spectra, smoothing and post-processing is complex. To simplify the processing, we propose a method based on pitch synchronous analysis and spectral smoothing. The proposed method can estimate a temporally stable spectral envelope from only one power spectrum processed by a specialized window function. The window function and its length are determined to remove the temporal variation. The objective evaluation was conducted to verify the temporal variance and the estimation performance. The result suggested that the proposed method can estimate the temporally stable power spectrum as well as TANDEM-STRAIGHT.

Processing time improvement for speech enhancement based on local projection using dynamic parameters. Phongphan Phienphanich, Chaturong Tantibundhit (Elec. and Comput. Eng., Thammasat Univ., 99 Moo 18 Phaholyothin Rd., Amphur Khlongluang, Pathumthani 12120, Thailand, 5410030067@student.tu.ac.th), and Chutamane Onsuwan (Linguistics, Thammasat Univ., Khlongluang, Pathumthani, Thailand)

Local projection (LP) has been widely used to enhance speech by transforming noisy speech into two orthogonal subspaces: noise (S1) and signal plus small amount of noise (S2) subspace. S1 is removed and S2 is transformed into time domain resulting in the enhanced speech. Satisfactory results with significantly improved speech quality have been reported by several works although the processing time was not taken into account. Four parameters to be considered are embedding dimension (d), time delay (τ), numbers of iteration, and minimal embedding dimension. Speech quality is increased by the increase of d-parameter, resulting in decrease of τ-parameter value (d×τ kept constant) and the dramatic increase of the processing time. The goal is to come up with the best d×τ parameter for each iteration, while speech quality remains almost unaffected. Rather than using a fixed d×τ parameter, a dynamic approach is taken. Specifically, τ is initially set to 1 and incremented by 1 for next iteration. The experimental results tested on Thai initial rhyming words corrupted by three noise types (white, car, and street) each at SNR levels of 10, 5, 0, –5 dB showed that the proposed method significantly reduced the processing time for white noise by 25% (p < 0.01).

Acoustic-to-articulatory inversion using analysis-by-synthesis using cepstral coefficients. Julie Busset and Yves Laprie (LORIA/CNRS, 615 rue du jardin botanique, Villers-lès-Nancy 54600, France, yves.laprie@loria.fr)

This paper deals with acoustic to articulatory inversion of speech by using an analysis by synthesis approach. We used old X-ray films of one speaker to (i) develop a linear articulatory model presenting a small geometric mismatch with the subject’s vocal tract mid sagittal images (ii) and design an adaptation procedure of cepstral vectors used as input data. The adaptation exploits the bilinear transform to warp the frequency scale in order to compensate for deviation between synthetic and natural speech. This enables the comparison of natural speech against synthetic speech without using cepstral liftering. A codebook is used to represent the forward articulatory to acoustic mapping, and we designed a loose matching algorithm using spectral peaks to access it. This algorithm, based on dynamic programming, allows some peaks in either synthetic spectra (stored in the codebook) or natural spectra (to be inverted) to be omitted. Quadratic programming is used to improve the acoustic proximity near each good candidate found during codebook exploration. The inversion has been tested on speech signals corresponding to the X-ray films. It achieves a very good geometric precision of 1.5 mm over the whole tongue shape unlike similar works evaluating the error at 3 or 4 points corresponding to sensors located at the front of the tongue.

An overview of the development of resources, techniques, and, systems for Indian spoken languages. Shyam S. Agrawal (KIIT, College of Eng., Solna Rd., Near Bhondsi, Gurgaon, Haryana 122102, India, dr.shyamsagrawal@gmail.com)

India possesses a large variety of languages and dialects spoken in different parts of the country. These languages possess some unique linguistic, phonological, and phonetic properties different from European languages. Research is being done in several of Indian languages—such as Hindi, Bangla, etc. to study the articulatory, acoustic—phonetic and prosodic nature for the purpose of creating standards of phonetic representation of phonemes and Pronunciation Lexicon in Indian Languages. Comprehensive and task specific language corpora, speech databases in laboratory as well as in mobile communication situation and the tools/techniques required for processing of speech signals are being developed. The emphasis is on developing multi-lingual human-machine interaction systems. Some of the recently developed systems include multi-lingual speech recognition system for voice enabled services, multilingual text to speech synthesis system, speaker and language identification system for general purpose and forensic applications. Recognition of emotions in spoken speech, spoken language translation system, etc. The paper presents an overview of such studies conducted in various laboratories, academic institutions, and industries in India pertaining to these areas. The technologies utilized for data collection, processing, and recognition/ synthesis, etc., utilized and status of the development have been mentioned.

Performance estimation of speech recognition based on Perceptual Evaluation of Speech Quality and acoustic parameters under noisy and reverberant environments with Corpus and Environment for Noisy Speech RECOgnition 4. Takahiro Fukumori, Masato Nakayama, Takanobu Nishiura, and Yoichi Yamashita (Grad. School of Information Sci. and Eng., Ritsumeikan Univ., 1-1-1 Nohiigashiki, Kusatsu 525-8577, Japan, cm013061@ed.ritsumei.ac.jp)

CENSREC-4 evaluation framework has been distributed for evaluating distant-talking speech under various noisy and reverberant environments. It however has not been evaluated how variable noisy and reverberant features in this contains. We thus try to evaluate CENSREC-4 with our designed noisy and reverberant criteria based on PESQ and acoustic parameters. We specifically focus on criteria to represent the difficulty of noisy and reverberant speech recognition, and also confirm why it is difficult to easily evaluate the recognition accuracy in a part of CENSREC-4 corpus with our proposed noisy and reverberant criteria. We first designed the noisy and reverberant criteria using the relationship among the D value, the PESQ, and the ASR performance. We then tried to estimate the recognition accuracy in various noisy and reverberant environments with CENSREC-4. We carried out evaluation experiments to confirm the difficulty to easily evaluate the recognition accuracy in a part of CENSREC-4 corpus with our proposed noisy and reverberant criteria. We therefore confirmed that CENSREC-4 contained very challenging and variable noisy and reverberant data.

On instantaneous vocal tract length estimation from formant frequencies. Adam Lammert and Shrikanth Narayanan (Signal Anal. and Interpretation Lab., Univ. of Southern California, 3740 McClintock Ave., Rm. 400, Los Angeles, CA 90089, lammert@usc.edu)

The length of the vocal tract and its relationship with formant frequencies is examined at fine temporal scales with the goal of providing accurate estimates of vocal tract length from acoustics on a spectrum-by-spectrum basis despite unknown articulatory information. Accurate vocal tract length estimation is motivated by applications to speaker normalization and biometrics. Analyses presented are both theoretical and empirical. Various theoretical models are used to predict the behavior of vocal tract resonances in
the presence of different vocal tract lengths and constrictions. Real-time MRI with synchronized audio is also utilized for detailed measurements of vocal tract length and formant frequencies during running speech, facilitating the examination of short-time changes in vocal tract length and corresponding changes in formant frequencies, both within and across speakers. Previously proposed methods for estimating vocal tract length are placed within a coherent framework, and their effectiveness is evaluated and compared. A data-driven method for VTL estimation emerges as a natural extension of this framework, which is then developed and shown to empirically outperform previous methods on both synthetic and real speech data. A theoretical justification for the effectiveness of this new method is also explained. [Work supported by NIH.]

MONDAY MORNING, 3 JUNE 2013 510A, 9:00 A.M. TO 12:00 NOON

Session 1aSP


Yang Hann Kim, Cochair
Mech. Eng., KAIST, 373-1 Science Town, Daejon-shi 305-701, South Korea

Jung-Woo Choi, Cochair
Mech. Eng., KAIST, 373-1 Daehak-ro, Yusung-gu, Daejeon 305-701, South Korea

Invited Papers

9:00

1aSP1. Control of frame loudspeaker array by minimizing fluctuations of frequency response and synthesized wave front. Akio Ando (Sci. and Technol. Res. Lab., NHK, 1-10-11 Kinuta Setagaya, Tokyo 157-8510, Japan, andio@a.memail.jp) and Aya Tokioka (Dept. of Commun. and Integrated Syst., Grad. School of Sci. and Eng., Tokyo Inst. of Technol., Tokyo, Japan)

In sound reproduction with accompanying pictures, the localization of sound on the image display is problematic because a loudspeaker cannot be placed on the display. To gain a stable localization, the use of loudspeaker array set on the frame of the display may be a solution. In general, the loudspeaker array enables to control the perceptual depth of sound image by generating the appropriate curvature of the wave front corresponding to the source position. However, the frequency response and the shape of the wave front reproduced by such a frame loudspeaker array sometimes deteriorate, particularly when the virtual sound source has a certain distance back from the display. In this study, new parameters are introduced to scale the deterioration of the frequency response and the shape of the wave front. A new method is also introduced to generate the input signals to the loudspeakers on the basis of minimization of these parameters. The experimental result showed that the method generates the sound with small deterioration of the frequency response and the wave front regardless of the depth of the virtual source position, meaning that it can be used for the sound reproduction for 3D television.

9:20

1aSP2. Optimal beamformer designed for robustness against channel mismatch based on Monte Carlo Simulation. Mingsian R. Bai and Ching-Cheng Chen (Power Mech. Eng., National Tsing Hua Univ., No. 101, Section 2, Kuang-Fu Rd., Hsinchu, Taiwan 30013, Taiwan, msbai63@gmail.com)

Design of beamformers that withstand mismatch in channel characteristics of gain, phase, and position has been a key issue in array signal processing. These mismatch factors are random in nature and generally intractable by deterministic approaches. This paper examines the effects of channel mismatch on beamformer performance from a statistical perspective. The aim of this work is twofold: analysis and synthesis. In the analysis phase, the mismatch factors of microphone characteristics are assumed to be random variables following either uniform or Gaussian distribution. In the light of the Monte-Carlo Simulation (MCS), statistics including the mean, maximum, minimum, and the probability density function (pdf) of Directivity Factor (DF) can be efficiently obtained with random sampling. This provides useful information for choosing performance measures in the next synthesis phase. Optimal parameters of superdirective array designed using least squares (LS) and convex optimization (CVX) are determined based on the preceding performance measures. Simulation results have shown that the proposed statistical approach with different performance measures provided various performance-robustness tradeoffs in terms of parameter range for optimal beamformers.

9:40

1aSP3. Hybrid immersive three-dimensional sound reproduction system with steerable parametric loudspeakers. Chuang Shi, Ee-Leng Tan, and Woon-Seng Gan (School of Elec. & Electron. Eng., Nanyang Technol. Univ., 50 Nanyang Ave., S2-B4a-03, DSP Lab, Singapore 639798, Singapore, shichuang@ntu.edu.sg)

A loudspeaker must be both dispersive and directive to accurately reproduce spatial audio from digital media. To address this problem, an audio system that has a unique combination of conventional and parametric loudspeakers has previously been proposed and proved to be effective to reproduce an immersive 3D soundscape. However, this system has two drawbacks: (1) There is only one fixed “sweet spot,” and (2) only one listener within the “sweet spot” can enjoy the complete experience. Therefore, a hybrid 3D sound
reproduction system combining conventional loudspeakers with a pair of steerable parametric loudspeakers is proposed in this paper. By using this new combination of conventional and steerable parametric loudspeakers, the “sweet spot” can be steered toward the listener’s head position. Thus, the listener no longer needs to keep his head stationary while watching movies or playing games, which resulting in a more relaxing and pleasant experience. Furthermore, a dual-beamsteering method is proposed for the parametric loudspeaker, which provides a flexible software-control solution to allow the 3D sound experience to be enjoyed by two listeners simultaneously. This paper provides the system overview and highlights the key processing techniques in rendering a “steerable” immersive 3D soundscape.

10:00

LaSP4. Virtual sound source generation: Its various methods and performances. Dong-So Kang (Ctr. for Noise and Vib. Control, Dept. of Mech. Eng., KAIST, Daejeon, South Korea), Jung-Min Lee (Grad. School of Culture Technol., KAIST, Daejeon, South Korea), Jung-Woo Choi, Min-Ho Song, and Yang-Hann Kim (Ctr. for Noise and Vib. Control, Dept. of Mech. Eng., KAIST, YuseongGu GuseongDong 373-1, Daejeon, South Korea, yanghankim@kaist.ac.kr)

There are many means to generate a virtual sound source, or sources in the region of interest. For example, Wave Field Synthesis (WFS) or Higher Order Ambisonics (HOA) are good examples. These methods normally assume that loudspeakers are spatially distributed in the space. The region of interest where the desired sound is generated can have arbitrary shape; enclosed by surrounding loudspeakers or partially enclosed. Therefore, the performance of the method would be affected by the boundary conditions as well as the wave length of desired wave field. In other words, how the waves are distributed in the selected space. In recent work [Choi and Kim, IEEE Trans. Speech Audio Process. 20(7), 1976–1989 (2012)], a new approach was proposed to generate virtual sources in the space that is enclosed by an array of loudspeakers, which have been believed to be problematic with well-known methods. It is proved to be mathematically exact solution. However, “exact solution” does not necessarily mean that it is better than the others. In this paper, performances of these three methods are compared. Theoretical and experimental comparisons have been attempted and observed in this paper.

10:20

LaSP5. Evaluation of system configuration to check the suitability for the sound field rendering using the inverse approach. Jeong-Gu Ih (Mech. Eng., Korea Adv. Inst. of Sci. and Technol., 373-1 Guseong-Dong, Yuseong-Gu, Daejeon 305-701, South Korea, J.G.Ih@kaist.ac.kr), Wan-Ho Cho (Div. of Physical Metrol., Korea Res. Inst. of Standards and Sci., Daejeon, South Korea), and Seung-Wan Hong (Mech. Eng., Korea Adv. Inst. of Sci. and Technol., Daejeon, South Korea)

Sound field control by the inverse approach based on the acoustical holography is useful to render an arbitrary target sound field within a selected control zone if the target condition is given in a detailed format. This method needs information on the various factors constituting the total system: source array configuration, relative position of source and control region, assigning method of target field condition, conditioning method, etc. Because these factors heavily affect the accuracy of the generated sound field, a proper definition of the problem including all factors related to the system configuration is important. In this work, we have studied on the condition of major factors of various configurations to generate the target sound field efficiently with high accuracy. Because the difference between target and generated sound field strongly depends on the noise and the information error existing in the actual situation, the expected accuracy should be calculated in relation to the characteristics of system transfer matrix. To this end, variances of uncorrelated noise, condition number, and linear independency of the transfer matrix are evaluated to check the suitability of transfer matrix for accurately rendering the sound field in both free-field and enclosed space.

10:40


In this paper, a method to extend the perceived spatial width of a virtual sound source using multiple loudspeakers is proposed. Control of perceived source width or apparent source width (ASW) has been attempted by decreasing the inter-aural correlation. For this purpose, numerous decorrelators were proposed for stereo loudspeakers or headphones. However, these techniques are inadequate for sound field reproduction system incorporating multiple loudspeakers. For sound field reproduction, extension of source width has to be realized with three requirements. First, extension should not deteriorate the localization cue, provided by the reproduction system. Second, the coloration artifact, which induces by extra wavefronts other than the direct wave, should be minimized. Most importantly, the effect of source width extension has to be maintained over a large listening area. To design a spatial decorrelator that can meet these requirements, we design a proper target sound field with reduced inter-aural correlation over a zone of interest. The target sound field is reproduced by loudspeakers driven from a multipole expansion technique. The performance of the proposed method is verified by examining the inter-aural correlation coefficient (IACC) of the reproduced sound field over a wide area, as well as the ITD and ILD distributions.

11:00

LaSP7. Sound-field reconstruction performance of a mixed-order Ambisonics microphone array. Marton Marschall and Jiho Chang (Dept. of Elec. Eng., Tech. Univ. of Denmark, Ørsteds Plads, Bldg. 352, Kgs. Lyngby 2800, Denmark, mm@elektro.dtu.dk)

Recently, there has been increasing interest in using spherical microphone arrays for spatial audio recordings. Accurate recordings are important for a range of applications, from virtual sound environments for hearing research through to the evaluation of communication devices, such as hearing instruments and mobile phones. Previously, a mixed-order Ambisonics (MOA) approach was proposed to improve the horizontal spatial resolution of spherical arrays. This was achieved by increasing the number of microphones near the horizontal plane while keeping the total number of transducers fixed. The approach is motivated by the fact that human spatial hearing is most acute in the horizontal plane. This study presents simulations of the performance of an MOA rigid-sphere microphone array, and its robustness to variations in microphone characteristics. Specifications of a commercially available microphone were used to simulate self-noise, sensitivity, and phase response variations between the microphones. To quantify
the reconstruction error and the “sweet area” as a function of source elevation, the reconstructed sound field based on a simulated array measurement was compared to the reference sound field for both horizontal and elevated sources. It is expected that the MOA approach results in a larger sweet area for mid to high frequencies for horizontal sources.

11:20

LaSP8. Aircraft sound environment reproduction: Sound field reproduction inside a cabin mock-up using microphone and actuator arrays, Philippe-Aubert Gauthier, Cédric Camier, Olivier Gauthier, Yann Pasco, and Alain Berry (Mech. Eng., Université de Sherbrooke, 51, 8e Ave. Sud, Sherbrooke, QC J1G 2P6, Canada, philippe_aubert_gauthier@hotmail.com)

Sound environment reproduction of various flight conditions in aircraft cabin mock-ups is useful for the design, demonstration, and jury testing of interior aircraft sound quality. To provide a faithfully perceived sound environment, time, frequency, and spatial characteristics should be preserved. Physical sound field reproduction approaches for spatial sound reproduction are mandatory to immerse the listener in the proper sound field so that localization cues are recreated. A 80-channel microphone array was built and used to capture a 2-h recording of in-flight sound environments within an actual Bombardier CRJ aircraft. An instrumented cabin mock-up was used to reproduce, in the least-mean-square sense, the recorded sound field using a 41-channel trim-panel actuator array. In this paper, experiments with multichannel equalization are reported. One of the practical difficulties was related to the use of the trim panels as sound sources. Windows and trim panels introduce audible squeaks and rattles if driven at low frequencies. Bass management was therefore implemented. Floor shakers and a subwoofer were used to recreate the low frequency content while the trim panels were only used for the high frequency range. The paper presents objective evaluations of reproduced sound fields. Results and practical compromises are reported.

MONDAY MORNING, 3 JUNE 2013 511AD, 8:55 A.M. TO 12:00 NOON

Session 1aUW

Underwater Acoustics: Seabed Scattering: Measurements and Mechanisms I

Charles W. Holland, Cochair
Appl. Res. Lab., The Penn. State Univ., P.O. Box 30, State College, PA 16801

Dale D. Ellis, Cochair
DRDC Atlantic, P.O. Box 1012, Dartmouth, NS B2Y 3Z7, Canada

Gavin Steiningen, Cochair
School of Earth and Ocean Sci., Univ. of Victoria, 3800 Finnerty Rd. (Ring Rd.), Victoria, BC V8P 5C2, Canada

Chair’s Introduction—8:55

Invited Papers

9:00

1aUW1. The small-slope approximation for layered seabeds, Darrell Jackson (Appl. Phys., Univ. of Washington, 1013 NE 40th St., Seattle, WA 98105, drj@apl.washington.edu)

The small-slope approximation has found application to unlayered seabeds and is generally regarded as an improvement over methods that employ either small-roughness perturbation theory or the Kirchhoff approximation. Unfortunately, the usual small-slope ansatz fails when applied to layered seabeds, as it is inconsistent with perturbation theory. This ansatz is replaced by an alternative, which is found to satisfy the criteria of reciprocity and consistency with the perturbation and Kirchhoff approximations. This approach will be illustrated by computation of the coherent reflection coefficient and scattering strength for a seabed consisting of a single rough fluid layer over a semi-infinite, elastic basement with flat upper boundary. Computation time is significantly longer than for the unlayered case, increasing as the desired accuracy increases. The results will be contrasted with those obtained using a variety of existing approximations.
The past decade has seen considerable growth in the use of synthetic aperture sonar (SAS) imaging systems in both the civilian and military domains. Although SAS systems are almost always uncalibrated, they can still yield information about the seafloor given an understanding of the mechanisms affecting the statistical properties of the images produced by these systems. This talk will describe our recent efforts to link SAS image statistics to seafloor properties through the use of seafloor scattering models. Sample results from several SAS systems encompassing frequencies ranging from 6 to 300 kHz will be shown.

Contributed Papers

9:40
1aUW3. Seabed roughness parameters for the Malta Plateau from joint backscatter and reflection inversion. Gavin Steininger (School of Earth and Ocean Sci., Univ. of Victoria, 3800 Finnerty Rd. (Ring Rd.), Victoria, BC V8P 5C2, Canada, gavin.amw.steiningert@gmail.com), Charles W. Holland (Appl. Res. Lab., The PennState Univ., State College, PA), Stan E. Dosso, and Jan Dettmer (School of Earth and Ocean Sci., Univ. of Victoria, Victoria, BC, Canada)

This paper presents seabed interface-scattering and geoaoustic parameters estimated on the Malta Plateau, Mediterranean Sea, by joint Bayesian inversion of monostatic backscatter and spherical-wave reflection-coefficient data. The data are modeled assuming a stack of homogeneous fluid sediment layers overlying an elastic basement. The scattering model also assumes a randomly rough water-sediment interface with a von Karman roughness power spectrum. Scattering and reflection data are inverted simultaneously using a population of interacting Markov–chains to sample roughness and geoaoustic parameters as well as residual error parameters. Trans-dimensional sampling is applied to treat the unknown number of sediment layers and unknown autoregressive order of the errors (to represent residual correlation). Results are considered in terms of marginal posterior probability profiles and distributions, which quantify the effective data information content to resolve scattering/geoaoustic parameters and structure. Results indicate well-defined scattering (roughness) parameters in good agreement with existing measurements, and a multi-layer sediment profile over a high-speed (elastic) basement, consistent with independent knowledge of sand layers over limestone. [Work supported by ONR.]

10:00
1aUW4. Energy exchange and scattering loss within a two-way coupled-mode formulation. Steven A. Stotts and Robert A. Koch (Env. Sci. Lab., Appl. Res. Labs/The Univ. of Texas at Austin, 10000 Burnet Rd., Austin, TX 78759, stotts@arlut.utexas.edu)

The loss of energy due to propagation in an ocean environment arises from several possible processes. In a two-way coupled-mode description scattering effects from a rough bottom Pekeris waveguide can be isolated by excluding bulk attenuation, and intermodal energy exchange can be examined. The range- and frequency-dependent interaction of a single trapped mode exchanging energy with multiple continuum modes is identified within this framework. The goal of the analysis is two-fold. First, it provides insight into additional loss mechanisms that can be incorporated into current local mode models (c.f. Koch and Stotts, A Derivation of Energy Loss via Coupled Modes, J65th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America, June 2–7, 2013). Second, a comparison can be made to previous descriptions of additional attenuation, such as Kirchhoff scattering loss. Varying the bottom roughness permits tests of the applicability of the Born approximation.

10:20
1aUW5. Derivation of energy loss via coupled modes. Robert A. Koch and Steven A. Stotts (Appl. Res. Labs., The Univ. of Texas at Austin, 10000 Burnet Rd., Austin, TX 78758, koch@arlut.utexas.edu)

A coupled mode formalism can describe energy loss within an ocean waveguide due to all possible mechanisms, including bulk attenuation, scattering from rough surfaces, and volume inhomogeneities. First order corrections produced from mode-couplings can be incorporated into the modal loss. Accounting for these losses within an adiabatic mode approach would provide improvements over current standard modal propagation models. Highlights of the formalism for scattering from a rough surface will be provided.

11:00
1aUW7. An initial model-data comparison of reverberation and clutter from a near-shore site in the Gulf of Mexico. Dale D. Ellis (DRDC Atlantic, P.O. Box 1012, Dartmouth, NS B2Y 3Z7, Canada, daledellis@gmail.com) and John R. Preston (Appl. Res. Lab., The Penn State Univ., State College, PA)

Reverberation measurements were made in the Gulf of Mexico off Panama City, Florida, USA, in April 2012 in preparation for the main Transmission Reverberation Experiment (TREX) in May 2013. The data were gathered using the triplet section of the ONR Five Octave Research Array (FORA), deployed as a fixed receiver. By steering cardioid beams to the right or left, the array can reduce ambiguity. Beamformed data from the 2012 trial show background noise with high directionality and variability due to nearby shipping. Model predictions of reverberation and target are compared with data using a range-dependent Clutter Model, which uses adiabatic normal modes as the computational engine. The initial predictions use isovelocity water, over a sandy bottom halfspace with Lambert scattering, and bathymetry from the GEBCO database. These initial results will be presented, hopefully supplemented by improved predictions with better environmental inputs and additional clutter data obtained during the May 2013 experiment. [Work supported by ONR Code 322 OA.]
LaUW8. Evidence for a common scale O(0.1) m that controls seabed scattering and reverberation in shallow water regions. Charles W. Holland (Appl. Res. Lab., The Penn State Univ., P.O. Box 30, State College, PA 16801, holland-cw@psu.edu)

Analysis of the spectral content of long-range reverberation yields two observations. First, there is a remarkably similar scale, O(0.1)m, between three diverse continental shelf regions. This is surprising given general understanding of the complexity and diversity of geologic processes. Second, there is strong evidence that the scale is associated with heterogeneities within the sediment. Thus, sediment volume scattering, not interface scattering, controls long-range reverberation from a few hundred Hertz to several kilohertz. This is also unexpected given that at long-ranges the vertical grazing angles are less than the critical angle, and hence, the penetration of the acoustic field into the sub-bottom is expected to be modest. The consistency of the scale, O(0.1)m, suggests an underlying feature or mechanism that is consistent across many ostensibly diverse geological settings.

Neither the feature nor mechanism is known at this time. Several hypotheses will be presented. [Work supported by ONR Ocean Acoustics.]


An obstacle’s shape is often approximated by a sphere in analyses of sound scattering by air bubbles, objects on or near the seafloor, marine organisms, clouds of suspended particles, etc. Here, an asymptotic technique is developed to study low-frequency sound scattering from spherically symmetric inhomogeneous obstacles. The obstacle can be fluid, solid, or a fluid-filled solid shell. Physical properties of the obstacle are arbitrary piece-wise continuous functions of the distance to its center. The radius of the obstacle is assumed to be small compared to the wavelengths of sound in the surrounding fluid as well as of compressional and shear waves inside the obstacle. General properties of the sound scattering by spherically symmetric bodies are established. Resonant Rayleigh scattering is studied in detail. For plane and spherical incident waves, it is discussed which physical and geometrical parameters of the obstacle can be retrieved from the scattered acoustic field.

MONDAY AFTERNOON, 3 JUNE 2013

Session 1pAAa

Architectural Acoustics and Signal Processing in Acoustics: Advanced Analysis of Room Acoustics: Looking Beyond ISO 3382 II

Boaz Rafaelly, Cochair
Dept. of Elec. and Comput. Eng., Ben-Gurion Univ. of the Negev, Beer Sheva 84105, Israel

Samuel Clapp, Cochair
Grad. Program in Architectural Acoust., Rensselaer Polytechnic Inst., 110 8th St., Greene Bldg., Troy, NY 12180

Michael Vorländer, Cochair
ITA, RWTH Aachen Univ., Neustr. 50, Aachen 52066, Germany

Chair’s Introduction—12:55

Invited Papers

1:00

1pAAa1. Theoretic considerations on how the directivity of a sound source influences the measured impulse response. Ingo B. Witew, Tobias Knüttel, and Michael Vorländer (Inst. of Tech. Acoust., RWTH Aachen Univ., Neustrasse 50, Aachen 52066, Germany, ingo.witew@akustik.rwth-aachen.de)

In previous investigations, it has been shown that the directivity of a measurement source sound has a significant influence on the measured room impulse response (RIR). Using a specialized method of analysis, the sources influence can be identified even in the very late part of the RIR even in very reverberant environments. These results seem to be surprising at first and contradict intuitive expectations. In this contribution, the findings are briefly discussed, and the congruence with general room acoustic theory is revised and discussed.

1:20

1pAAa2. Enhanced spatial analysis of room acoustics using acoustic multiple-input multiple-output systems. Hai Morgenstern and Boaz Rafaelly (Ben-Gurion Univ. of the Negev, Ben-Gurion Univ. of the Negev, Beer-Sheva 84105, Israel, hai.morgenstern@gmail.com)

Standard acoustic measurements in enclosures typically employ single-input single-output (SISO) acoustic systems. The parameters obtained from these measurements describe features of energy decay and do not characterize spatial attributes of the enclosure. Directional analysis of enclosures became popular with the introduction of microphone and loudspeaker arrays. In particular, spherical arrays have been shown to be highly beneficial for spatial analysis. Spherical microphone arrays facilitate the estimation of the arrival direction of the direct and reflected sound, while the use of both loudspeaker and microphones arrays can support the estimation of both radiation and arrival directions, with the application of conventional beamforming methods. However, when several reflections are attributed to the same time bin in a discrete impulse response, reflection paths may not be uniquely determined by existing beamforming techniques. We present a new method to uniquely determine source and receiver directions for multiple reflections when time separation is unfeasible. The paper presents the formulation of the proposed method, also showing a simulation study to demonstrate the performance of the proposed method.
1pAAa3. Spatio-temporal energy measurements in renowned concert halls with a loudspeaker orchestra. Sakari Tervo, Jukka Pätynen, and Tapio Lokki (Media Technology, Aalto Univ., P.O. Box 15500, Aalto FI-00076, Finland, Tapio.Lokki@aalto.fi)

Room acoustical parameters are commonly measured as spatial averages from a few source positions to several listening positions. In addition, ISO3382:2009 suggests that subjective listener aspect could be predicted with a few parameters at mid frequencies. It is obvious that such recommendation is inadequate to describe all perceptual differences between concert halls or seating positions. Explaining multidimensional subjective impressions is not possible with a few averaged numbers. In our opinion, to compare accurately between concert halls, the measurement positions should be exactly at the same distance from the sources in each hall. And sources should be numerous to represent the typical real source on a wide area—a symphony orchestra. In this paper, we compare renowned European concert halls with spatio-temporal visualization of sound energy. Measurements at identical distances in halls enable an accurate comparison of sound energy distributions. The analysis of measured spatial impulse responses is performed with spatial decomposition method (SDM). The spatial sound energy distribution is presented at different frequency bands as a function of time to visualize the cumulative energy before and after 100 ms.

1pAAa4. Three-dimensional spatial analysis of concert and recital halls with a spherical microphone array. Samuel Clapp (Grad. Program in Architectural Acoust., Rensselaer Polytechnic Inst., 110 8th St., Greene Bldg., Troy, NY 12180, clapps@rpi.edu), Anne Guthrie (Arup Acoust., New York, NY), Jonas Braasch, and Ning Xiang (Grad. Program in Architectural Acoust., Rensselaer Polytechnic Inst., Troy, NY)

The most well-known acoustical parameters—including reverberation time, early decay time, clarity, and lateral fraction—are measured using data obtained from omnidirectional or figure-of-eight microphones, as specified in ISO 3382. Employing a multi-channel receiver in place of these conventional receivers can yield new spatial information about the acoustical qualities of rooms, as well as the potential for new parameters that could have greater predictive power in terms of listeners’ subjective preferences. In this research, a spherical microphone array was used to measure the room impulse responses of a number of different concert and recital halls. The data were analyzed using spherical harmonic beamforming techniques, along with other direction of arrival estimation algorithms, to understand how the soundfield evolves spatially over time at different points in the room. The results were compared to geometrical acoustic simulations and used to differentiate between listener positions which exhibited similar values for the standard parameters. In addition, new parameters were examined, including soundfield homogeneity and other spatial ratios.

1pAAa5. Listening space measurements resolved by direction and spectro-temporally. Adam O’Donovan, Dmitry N. Zotkin (Comput. Sci. and UMIACS, Univ. of Maryland, College Park, MD), and Ramani Duraiswami (VisiSonics Corp., A.V. Williams Bldg., #115, College Park, MD 20742, ramani@umiacs.umd.edu)

Measurement of a listening space might be done to characterize it in a gross way, or to identify some deficiencies in the space, which can then be corrected. Alternately, these measurements might be performed to create inputs to an aurализation software, which might seek to recreate a virtual listening experience. We propose that it might be possible to perform audio-visual measurements of a listening space that allow the entire response of the listening space to be understood and visualized. The goal is to understand the response completely in terms of its components: along direction, frequency, early and late characteristics, and finally at the level of the structural elements of the scattering surfaces. Measurements with spherical arrays of cameras and microphones provide measurements that allow the response to be decomposed in the desired fashion. Post-processing software that allows the measurements to be analyzed instantly following the measurement will also be described and demonstrated.

1pAAa6. Large-scale multiple input/multiple output system identification in room acoustics. Martin Schneider and Walter Kellermann (Multimedia and Signal Processing, Univ. Erlangen Nürnberg, Cauerstr.7, Erlangen, Germany, schneider@LNT.de)

In audio reproduction scenarios, room acoustics may be described as a MIMO system response from multiple loudspeakers to multiple microphones in the listening space. This system response may, e.g., be used for an equalization of the listening room and must be identified from observing the available loudspeaker and microphone signals in real-world systems. For few transducers this task is mostly solved, but massive multichannel reproduction with dozens to hundreds of loudspeakers left many research questions open. This contribution points out the fundamental challenges, previous solutions and recent advances. As a key issue, the so-called nonuniqueness problem for MIMO system identification by adaptive filtering will be discussed along with decorrelation schemes for the loudspeaker signals to alleviate this problem. Successful adaptation algorithms suitable for these scenarios imply considerable computational demands and require additional measures to ensure robustness. Recently emerging system models in spatial transform domains allow for approximative models and seem to be promising for robust real-time implementations.


Recent works on soundfield reproduction have presented several methods of recreating a desired soundfield within a region. Estimation or prior knowledge of the inverse reverberant channels now becomes an essential element of equalizing the room effects. However, it has been shown that designing point-to-point equalizers by sampling the reverberant soundfield is only practical within a few tenths of
a wavelength of the sampled locations. This work investigates the robustness of the equalization process applied to a region, with respect to changing of actual microphone positions from their expected locations. We use a modal description of the equalized soundfield to obtain theoretical results for region equalization error due to positioning errors. Simulation results suggest that equalizing the reverberant soundfield recorded at multiple positions around the edge of the reproduction region is more immune to the positioning errors.

**Contributed Papers**

3:40

IpAAa8. A numerical and experimental validation of the room acoustics diffusion theory inside long rooms. Chiara Visentin, Nicola Prodi (Dipartimento di Ingegneria, Università di Ferrara, via Saragat 1, Ferrara 44122, Italy, chiara.visentin@unife.it), Vincent Valeau (Institut PPRIME, CNRS-Université de Poitiers-ENSMMA, Poitiers, France), and Judicäel Picaut (IFSTTAR, LUNAM Université, Bouguenais, France)

The paper focuses on the validation of the recently proposed room-acoustics diffusion theory by means of numerical simulations and experimental measurements. The analysis aims to verify the equation underlying the theory (Fick’s law of diffusion) which relates the energy density gradient and the sound intensity inside a room through a constant diffusion coefficient. In this work, the acoustic quantities are numerically/experimentally derived under stationary conditions, and their ratio is employed to estimate the effective value of the diffusion coefficient inside long rooms. The numerical study was carried out with particle-tracing simulations. The measurements were performed with a Microflown® three-dimensional sound intensity probe inside a 1:16 scale model of a long room, varying the absorption and the scattering properties at the boundaries. A comparison between numerical and experimental results is carried out with a least-square algorithm, showing a fair agreement between the diffusion coefficients estimated with the two methods. The results lead to the conclusion that the reverberant sound field inside long rooms can be described by a non-homogeneous diffusion process: the local diffusion coefficient is not a constant inside the room but increases with the distance from the source and depends on the acoustical properties of the room boundaries.

IpAAa9. Energy evolution in enclosure geometries as exhibited by a finite difference time domain method. Zackery Belanger (53 3rd St, Troy, New York 12180, zb@archgeometer.com)

Measurements and simulations conducted for the purpose of extracting or constructing impulse responses are inextricably dependent on a limited number of receiver locations. Wave-based simulations offer the opportunity to discard this dependency and assess an entire evolving sound field. In this work, a finite difference time domain method is implemented to simulate an evolving sound field in a range of enclosure geometries with reflective boundaries. The distribution of energy is monitored statistically as mixing and ergodic states are approached, and evidence is presented for the predictability of this evolution based on room geometry alone. A system for importing geometries from the Rhinoceros 3D CAD software, using the Grasshopper parametric environment, is also presented. A form known as the Barnett Biliard Table in mathematics is included in this study, which exhibits exceptional behavior even without the presence of diffusive treatment.

### MONDAY AFTERNOON, 3 JUNE 2013

513DEF, 12:55 P.M. TO 3:20 P.M.

**Session 1pAAab**

**Architectural Acoustics and Musical Acoustics: Vibration in Music Performance**

Clemeth Abercrombie, Cochair

*Artec Consultants Inc., 114 W 26th St., 10th Fl., New York, NY 10001*

M. Ercan Altinsoy, Cochair

*Chair of Commun. Acoust., Dresden Univ. of Technol., Helmholtzstr. 18, Dresden 01062, Germany*

Chair’s Introduction—12:55

**Invited Papers**

1:00

IpAAb1. Perceptual evaluation of violin vibrations and audio-tactile interaction. M. Ercan Altinsoy, Sebastian Merchel, and Sebastian Tilsch (Chair of Commun. Acoust., Dresden Univ. of Technol., Helmholtzstr. 18, Dresden 01062, Germany, ercan.altinsoy@tu-dresden.de)

When playing a violin, the musician communicates with his instrument not only through his ears but also his fingers, chin, shoulder, and eyes. He uses different sensory inputs, which are provided by different sensory channels, such as auditory, tactile, kinesthetic, and visual, to play his musical instrument. The perceived vibrations are useful for the player to feel and to control the instrument. The interaction between sound and vibration plays also a role on the overall instrument perception. In this study, violin vibrations and their interaction with violin sounds were evaluated. Therefore, the vibration amplitudes of the neck and the violin sounds were recorded simultaneously during normal playing. The vibration recordings were analyzed, and then additional stimuli were generated by filtering or modifying frequency components. In the first experimental session, the vibration stimuli, which were presented to the subjects via a mini electrodynamic shaker, were evaluated. In the second experimental session, an investigation with multimodal (auditory-haptic) stimuli was conducted. The results show the importance of vibrations on the overall perception of the instrument and provide information on useful vibration features for the player-instrument interaction.
1:20

1pAAb2. Telehaptic interfaces for interpersonal communication within a music ensemble. Jonas Brausch, Pauline Oliveros, and Doug Van Nort (Ctr. for Cognition, Commun., and Culture, Rensselaer Polytechnic Inst., Greene Bldg., 110 8th St., Troy, NY 12180, braasj@rpi.edu)

Visual communication is an important aspect of music performance, for example, to pick up temporal cues and find the right entries. Visual cues can also be instrumental to negotiate the solo order in improvised music or enable social exchange, for example, by signaling someone that her solo was well received. The problem with visual communication is that one has to catch someone else’s attention, and visual cues outside someone’s visual field cannot be detected, even more so if the addressee is busy reading a music score or closing his eyes in a Free Music session. Acoustic communication does not encounter these challenges, but of course someone does not want to disturb the music with other acoustic signals. The haptic modality has the advantage that it does not necessarily interfere with the acoustic signal and does not require attention. However, it allows interpersonal communication if both parties are within close proximity. Using telematic interfaces solves the problem of proximity by allowing participants to communicate over any physical distance. In the project presented here, haptic interfaces were explored in connection with an intelligent music system, CAIRA, to examine both the effect of human/machine and inter-human communication. [Work supported by the National Science Foundation, No. 1002851.]

1:40

1pAAb3. Stage floor vibrations and bass sound in concert halls. Anders Askenfelt (Dept. of Speech, Music and Hearing, KTH Royal Inst. of Technol., Lindstedtsvägen 24, Stockholm 10044, Sweden, andersa@csc.kth.se) and Knut Guettler (Norwegian State Acad. of Music, Jar, Norway)

The double bass and cello sections in the orchestra transmit vibrations to the stage floor through the end pins. Whether or not these vibrations may contribute to the perceived sound in the hall has been investigated since the 1930s. In this study, the conditions for an efficient transfer of instrument vibrations to the floor, as well as the radiation from the floor to the audience area, are investigated. The study includes measurements of the impedance matching between bass and stage floor, the vibration velocity transfer to the floor via the endpin, and radiation from point-driven bending waves in the stage floor well below the coincidence frequency. The impedance conditions and radiation properties for the stage floors of five concert halls were investigated. In the most promising hall, a full-scale experiment was run with an artificially excited double bass supported via the end pin on the stage floor, and on a concrete support below, respectively. The contribution from the stage floor radiation to the sound level in the audience area was 5 dB or more between 30 and 60 Hz. This range covers the fundamental frequencies over one octave starting from the lowest note (B0) of a five-string bass.

2:00

1pAAb4. Recent experiences with vibration of stage and audience floors in concert halls. Thomas Wulfrank (Kahle Acoust., Ave. Moliere 188, Brussels 1050, Belgium, thomas.wulf@kahle.be), Igor Lyon-Caen (Alstom Transport TGS, Saint-Ouen, France), Yann Jurkiewicz, Johan Bruze, and Eckhard Kahle (Kahle Acoust., Brussels, Belgium)

Vibration of (wood) surfaces plays a significant role in concert hall acoustics, as confirmed by musicians and music lovers. Many acoustic engineers, on the other hand, tend to have strong reservations against vibrating surfaces, and usually try to minimize surface vibration in order to maximize RT and airborne strength (G) at bass frequencies. This has led to a generally accepted preference for massive and stiff surface constructions in new halls. Problems have been known to occur when this general guideline was also applied to the design of wooden floors, in particular stage floors. Despite some good scientific research in this field, a big gap still remains between the vibro-acoustic behavior of wooden floors and subjective preferences of musicians and audiences. This paper further explores the role of vibrations in concert hall design, and the need for balancing surface reflectivity versus vibration transmission. Recent experiences, including the Konserthus in Stavanger and the renovation of the Bolshoi Hall of the Moscow Conservatory, will be described as well as vibration measurements carried out on a number of existing stage floors. Some implications for the design of wooden floor constructions will be discussed.

Contributed Paper

2:20

1pAAb5. Auditory-tactile music perception. Sebastian Merchel and M. Erkan Altnsoy (Chair of Commun., Acoust., TU Dresden, Helmholtzstr. 18, Dresden 01069, Germany, sebastian.merchel@tu-dresden.de)

The coupled perception of sound and vibration is a well-known phenomenon during live pop or organ concerts. However, even during a symphonic concert in a classical hall, sound can excite perceivable vibrations at the body surface. However, the concert musician might not be aware of those vibrations, because the tactile percept is integrated with the other senses into one multi-modal percept. This article discusses the influence of whole-body vibrations on the listener experience during the reproduction of concerts recordings. Four sequences were selected from classical and modern music, which include low frequency content (e.g., organ, kettledrum, contrabass). A stimulus length of 1.5 min was chosen in order to provide enough time for habituation. The audio signal was reproduced using a surround setup. Additional seat vibrations have been generated from the audio signal. Test participants were asked to rate the overall quality of the concert experience. The results show that vibrations have a significant influence on our perception of music. This finding is interesting in the context of audio reproduction, but also for the construction of concert venues.

2:40–3:20 Panel Discussion
In spite of its importance for the understanding of the evolution of sound communication, information concerning the vocal world of crocodilians is limited. Experimental works have brought evidence of the biological roles of juvenile sound signals, with “hatching calls” eliciting care by the mother and synchronizing clutch hatching, “contact calls” gathering groups of juveniles, and “distress calls” inducing maternal protection. Recently, we investigated the question of species-specific information coding within juvenile calls. The analysis of signal acoustic structure shows inter-specific differences between calls. However, using playback experiments, we bring the evidence that these differences are not relevant to animals, either juveniles or adults. By using calls modified in the temporal and the frequency domains, we isolate the acoustic cues necessary to elicit a behavioral response from receivers, underlying the importance of the frequency modulation slope. Considering previous results underlying the absence of information about individual identity in juvenile calls, we make the hypothesis that these signals basically support a “crocodilian” identity.
Hearing thresholds for three pairs of 1 m long Pacific bluefin tuna (Thunnus orientalis) were measured utilizing operant conditioning procedure with a food reward and a staircase psychophysical technique. Fish, swimming at 1–4 m/s, quickly learned to approach the feed when they heard a sound. Measurements were made at the Tuna Research and Conservation Center (Stanford University) in a 9.14 m diameter, 1.65 m deep indoor cylindrical tank. The acoustic stimulus was produced by radially oriented piezoelectric line sources centered at the bottom of the tank, which produced a circumferentially uniform sound field. The acoustics of the tank was thoroughly characterized for both acoustic pressure and particle motion using hydrophones and two neutrally buoyant accelerometers with response axes oriented in the radial and vertical directions. Thresholds, expressed in terms of pressure and particle acceleration, were obtained at six sinusoidal frequencies between 325 Hz and 800 Hz, a range that was limited by source and tank acoustics. The lowest mean threshold for the three fish pairs, expressed in terms of acoustic pressure, was 83 dB re 1 µPa at 500 Hz. [Work supported in part by ONR/CNR Challenge Grant: “Mitigation of flow noise effects by fish.”]

We investigated prey pursuit behavior of Japanese horseshoe bats, while they were tasked to make a choice between two tethered flutering moths during flight. Echolocation pulses were recorded by a telemmetry microphone mounted on the bat, combined with a 17-ch horizontal microphone array to measure pulse directions. Flight paths of the bat and moths were monitored by using two high-speed video cameras. Acoustical measurements of CF echoes from flutering moths (67 kHz : CF2 frequency) was conducted using an ultrasonic loudspeaker, turning the head direction of the moth to the loudspeaker from 0° to 180° in the horizontal plane. Amount of acoustical glints caused by moth flutering varied with the sound direction, showing the maximum between 70° and 100°. In the flight experiment, moths chosen by the bat fluttered within or moved across these angles to the bat’s pulse direction, which would cause dynamic changes in frequency and amplitude of acoustical glints during flight. This result suggests that dynamic changes in acoustical glints appear to attract the bats for prey selection. Furthermore, mathematical modeling implied that the bats possibly took the optimum flight path for capturing a target, which the bat selected based on the acoustical cues in the echoes.

The alignment problem for bat biosonar beampatterns, Philip Caspers (Dept. of Mech. Eng., Virginia Tech, 1110 Washington St., Blacksburg, VA 24061, pcaspers@vt.edu), Rongjiang Pan (School of Comput. Sci. & Technol., Shandong Univ., Jinan, China), Alexander Leonessa, and Rolf Müller (Dept. of Mech. Eng., Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA)

Unlike the beampatterns of technical acoustical systems, the biosonar beampatterns of bats are highly variable in the shapes of their main- and side-lobes over frequency. Some of this variability could represent adaptations to different sensing tasks. In order to understand such possible adaptations, a quantitative method for the analysis of variability (e.g., principal component analysis) is needed. Since the orientation of biosonar beampatterns is highly variable in vivo, e.g., due to ear/head movements, and not preserved in isolated noseleaf/ear samples, orientation is left out of the initial analysis.

Instead, beampatterns should be aligned to characterize their orientation-independent features. For this purpose, a framework to characterize the beampattern alignment problem and perform the alignment has been drawn up. For each frequency, beampatterns are compared using a distance metric (e.g., a p-norm). By investigating the value of this distance metric over the space of all possible beampattern rotations, it is possible to gain insights into the alignment problem, e.g., with regard to the existence of multiple minima in the metric. This space can also be used to test alignment strategies across multiple frequencies, e.g., through a weighted sum of the respective distances.

We investigated prey pursuit strategy of Japanese horseshoe bats, Rhinolophus ferrumequinum Nippom, during target selection task, Yuki Kinoshita, Daiki Ogata (Faculty of Life and Med. Sci., Doshisha Univ., 1-3 Miyakotani Tatara, Kyotanabe 610-0321, Japan, dmm1014@mail4.doshisha.ac.jp), Ikkyu Allara (Brain Sci. Inst., RIKEN, Wako, Japan), Yosikishri Watanabe, Hiroshi Riquimaroux, Tetsuo Ohta, and Shizuku Hiruyu (Faculty of Life and Med. Sci., Doshisha Univ., Kyotanabe, Japan)

We studied as a model. Numerical beampattern estimates were obtained for bat noseleaves' acoustic function can be made based on the digital models of noseleaf shape. To limit model size and computational effort associated with numerical beampattern predictions, the vocal tract is often only partially included in these models or left out completely. In order to investigate the effect of source placement within a complete or partial vocal tract attached to a noseleaf shape on the numerical beampattern prediction, the noseleaf of the Great Roundleaf Bat (Hipposideros armiger) was studied as a model. Numerical beampattern estimates were obtained for a single monopole source positioned near the vocal folds or closer to the nostrils. Two monopoles sources placed in each nostril were also investigated. It was found that source positioning could impact the beampattern whenever they broke the symmetry in the near-fields of the two nostrils.

We investigated acoustic gaze strategy by Pipistrellus abramus and Rhinolophus ferrumequinum Nippom during obstacle avoidance flight. Yasufumi Yamada, Arie Oka, Shizuku Hiruyu, Tetsuo Ohta, Hiroshi Riquimaroux, and Yosikishri Watanabe (Faculty of life and Med. Sci., Doshisha Univ., 1-3, 1-3, Miyako-tani, Tatara, Kyotanabe,Kyoto 610-0394, Japan, dmm0142@mail4.doshisha.ac.jp)

We investigated the acoustic gaze (angle between pulse and flight directions) and the beam width of echolocation pulses emitted by bats during obstacle avoidance flight in a chamber (7×3×3 m). Echolocation pulses were recorded by a telemetry microphone mounted on the front and back of 20-ch microphone array set up in the chamber. Flight path measurements were conducted using two high-speed video cameras. While the bat showed a circular flight avoiding the surrounding walls, the acoustic gaze showed significant linear correlation to the angular velocity of the flight. This means that the bat adjusted the pulse direction to precede its own flight direction. The correlation coefficient increased with complexity of obstacle conditions. We compared changes in acoustic gaze between FM bats (mean beam width: ±50°) and CF-FM bats (mean beam width: ±22°). We found that FM bats smoothly shifted the acoustic gaze within 10° during the flight whereas the CF-FM bats frequently shifted the acoustic gaze within 25°. These results indicate that the shifting acoustic gaze by CF-FM bats compensates their own narrow beam width. Both bat species may keep approximately ±50° of their echolocation sights in order to sense the space for moving safely.

A basic model of a ribbed finite plate is first considered, with the plate connected to a parallel surface by a nonlinear spring. When individual ribs are placed under compression, the linearized version of the model predicts...
eventual exponential growth of the transverse displacement when the compression load exceeds the buckling load. The nonlinear spring, however, stops this growth and a subsequent oscillation ensues. The anatomy of the cicada is, of course, much more complicated, and the basic model is extended to give a mathematical formulation of the model proposed by Bennett-Clark and Daws (J. Exper. Biol. 1999) for *Cyclochila australasiae* (a relatively large species of cicada), with explicit elasto-mechanical parameters, a principal objective being the computational prediction of the observed far-field waveforms. Possible explanations are advanced for the anatomical cause of the nonlinear springs. Further extensions of the theory are applied to the development of mathematical models for species of cicadas (considerably smaller) commonly found in the United States.

### 4:20

**IpAB11. Nature of nonlinear mechanisms in the generation and propagation of sound in the cicada mating call.** Derke Hughes (NUWC-DIVNPT, 1176 Howell St., Newport, RI 02841, derke.hughes@verizon.net), Kossi Edoh (North Carolina A&T State Univ., Greensboro, NC), and Allan Pierce (Woods Hole Oceanogr. Inst., Thalmouth, MA)

Experiments and analyses (Hughes et al., J. Acoust. Soc. Am. 2009) on the relationship of body surface displacements with external acoustic pressure measurements while cicadas are generating mating calls resulted in the conclusion that the relationship is substantially nonlinear. The present analysis assesses whether the propagation through the air is nonlinear propagation. Suspicion that such might be the case is suggested by the fact that the sound levels at distances of the order of several meters from a sounding cicada are as high as 90 dB at distances of the order of several meters. Computational results are reported in the present paper that indicate that nonlinear effects are not important for propagation of typical cicada frequencies of 10 kHz over a radial distance interval beginning 2 cm and ending at 10 m. A suggested explanation is based on the observation that the displacement of the body surface varies with position over the surface. The time history of displacements at different points is not as repetitive during successive tone burst generations as is the total volume displacement of the surface. This is consistent with the observation that buckling of the long ribs in the tymbals is the ultimate cause of the surface displacement vibrations.
Acoustic microscopy provides not only high resolution imaging but also basic data for interpreting clinical ultrasound images and information on biomechanics of the tissues. Multimodal ultrasound microscopy is developed for quantitative measurement of sound speed of the tissue. The frequency dependent characteristics of the amplitude and phase of a single pulse deduce the tissue thickness and sound speed. Specific acoustic impedance and elastic bulk modulus are derived by the sound speed and density of the tissue. Ultrasound impedance microscopy visualizes microscopic image of the tissue surface by just touching the probe to the tissue. The reflection from the interface between the tissue and plastic plate is obtained to visualize two-dimensional distribution of specific acoustic impedance of the tissue. The multimodal ultrasound microscope realized conventional C-mode, surface impedance mode, B-mode, 3D mode, and combination of photoacoustic imaging. The series of the ultrasound measurements of gastric cancer, renal cancer, prostatic cancer, myocardial infarction, atherosclerosis, cartilage-bone complex, and brain have provided important information for clinical ultrasound imaging and pathophysiology from the point of view of biomechanics. Development of higher frequency transducer or arrayed transducer with newest technologies would realize higher resolution imaging and easier handling.

Department of Biomedical Engineering, Tohoku University, Sendai, Japan.

**1pBAa2. Multimodal ultrasound microscopy for biomedical imaging.** Yoshifumi Saijo (Grad. School of Biomedical Eng., Tohoku Univ., Aoba-Ku, Sendai 980-8575, Japan, saijo@idac.tohoku.ac.jp)

Early detection of hepatitis is critical for proper patient management and improving disease prognosis. Ultrasound imaging is ideally suited for early-stage assessments, but conventional ultrasound images based on backscatter do not display quantitative tissue information because conventional ultrasound lacks essential modeling of the complex interaction between ultrasound and liver tissue in normal and diseased states. Therefore, speed-of-sound (SOS) measurements were obtained from three types of rat livers (normal, fatty, and fibrosis). Livers were harvested, fixed, and embedded in paraffin; a single 10-μm thin section was obtained using a microtome and placed on a microscope slide. A scanning acoustic microscope incorporating transducers operating at 80- and 250-MHz center frequencies was used to scan the 10-μm section. An adjacent 4-μm thin section was stained with H&E (normal and fatty livers) or Azan (fibrosis livers). The SOS measured with both transducers displayed the same trend: SOS in fatty liver was lower than in normal liver and SOS in fibrosis liver was higher than in normal liver. SOS differences were greater at 250 MHz because of the improved spatial resolution, which allowed choosing region-of-interests containing only fat or fibrosis tissue. These initial results also were used to correlate the pathologic state with the SOS.

**1pBAa3. Speed of sound of fatty and fibrosis liver measured by 80-MHz and 250-MHz scanning acoustic microscopy.** Tadashi Yamaguchi (Res. Ctr. for Frontier Med. Eng., Chiba Univ., 1-33 Yayoicho, Inage, Chiba 2638522, Japan, yamaguchi@faculty.chiba-u.jp), Kenta Inoue (Grad. School of Eng., Chiba Univ., Chiba, Japan), Jonathan Mamou (F. L. Lizzi Ctr. for Biomedical Eng., Riverside Res., New York, NY), Kazuto Kobayashi (Honda Electron. Co., Ltd., Toyohashi, Aichi, Japan), and Yoshifumi Saijo (Grad. School of Biomedical Eng., Tohoku Univ., Sendai, Miyagi, Japan)

The acoustic properties of single cells such as their size, sound speed and attenuation are known to change depending on the type, state, or disease progression of a cell. Typically, ultrasonic pulse echo methods on adherent cells are used. We propose using the ultrasound backscatter power spectrum on cells in suspension to extract the acoustic parameters. When the ultrasound wavelength is on the same order as the dimensions of the cell, periodically varying minima and maxima occur throughout the power spectrum that depend on the sound speed and density of the object and the surrounding fluid, respectively. The ultrasound parameters can be determined by comparing the measured spectrum to a theoretical scattering model. We measured the backscattered ultrasound signals from single MCF7 breast cancer cells in suspension using a 200 MHz transducer. The cell diameter was determined through simultaneous optical imaging. The sound speed was calculated by adjusting the parameters in the scattering model until a good fit of the spectral features between the model and measured agreed. The sound speed from single cells found to vary between 1540 to 1580 m/s when the density was fixed at 1050 kg/m³.

**1pBAa4. Sound speed estimation in single cells using the ultrasound backscatter power spectrum.** Eric M. Strohm and Michael C. Kolios (Physics, Ryerson Univ., 350 Victoria St, Toronto, ON M5B2K3, Canada, estrohm@ryerson.ca)

Atherosclerosis is defined as a focal, inflammatory, and fibro-proliferative response to endothelial injury. The development of atherosomatous lesions in the coronary tree is predominantly a quiescent asymptomatic process without any clinical manifestations. The unpredictable and acute nature of cardiovascular plaque rupture makes diagnosis and treatment of this disease an outstanding medical challenge. We investigate non-invasive techniques that facilitate mechanical measurements at the microscopic level, which can then be directly correlated to biomarker localization within lesion sites. To characterize these sites in vitro, we used time-resolved scanning acoustic microscopy (TRSAM). This technique allows for non-invasive interrogation of tissue samples with optical resolution at the micrometer scale. Furthermore, we combined TRSAM with micro-Raman (micro-RS) spectroscopy to investigate plaque morphology with regard to specific biomarkers. We characterized meehanoelastic and biochemical regions containing high cholesterol, phosphate, and carbonate apatite that are characteristic of atherosclerotic lesions. The meehanoelastic evaluation of these regions was determined using TRSAM. Calculated lesions, for example, exhibit ultrasonic velocities of 1810 m/s ± 25 m/s and are more rigid and stiffer than normal blood vessel tissues.
Contributed Paper

3:20

IpBAb6. An analysis of the acoustic properties of the cell cycle and apoptosis in MCF-7 cells. Maurice M. Pasternak, Eric M. Strohm, and Michael C. Kolios (Physics, Ryerson Univ., 10 Torresdale Ave. B-1, Toronto, ON M2R3V8, Canada, emilku@hotmail.com)

Through the use of high frequency acoustic microscopy, the acoustic properties of cells through various stages of interphase (G1/G2), mitosis (metaphase, M-phase), and apoptosis were ascertained. The cell thickness, sound velocity, acoustic impedance, density, bulk modulus, and attenuation were determined through a quantitative analysis of the pulse echoes from the cell membrane and substrate using a 375 MHz transducer. Hoechst 33342, Annexin-V, propidium iodide, and FITC-448 Anti-cyclin B1 and D1 mouse antibodies were used to identify cell cycle stage. ANOVA and Tukey post hoc statistical tests were used to quantify differences between cell stages. A total of 174 cells, 58 within each category, were measured. A statistically significant increase in thickness (9.4–11.4 μm), and decrease in attenuation (1.20–1.05 dB/cm/MHz) was observed between G1 and G2 cells, respectively. A statistically significant increase in thickness, and decrease in acoustic impedance, density, bulk modulus, and attenuation was observed between M-phase and G1 or G2. During apoptosis, minor differences were observed between interphase and early apoptosis; however, significant differences in nearly all properties were observed as the cells progressed to late stage apoptosis. The differences found indicate considerable structural and/or organizational alterations occurring as the cell progresses through these phases.

MONDAY AFTERNOON, 3 JUNE 2013

Session IpBAb

Biomedical Acoustics: Ultrasound Contrast Agents and Passive Cavitation Mapping of High Intensity Focused Ultrasound Lesion Formation

Eleanor Stride, Chair
Univ. of Oxford, Old Rd. Campus Res. Bldg., Oxford OX3 7DQ, United Kingdom

Contributed Papers

1:00


Biodegradable polymers like polylactic acid hold potential for better stability and control over encapsulation properties of ultrasound contrast microbubbles. We report here several interesting acoustic properties of air-filled PLA shelled microbubbles through both in vitro experiments and mathematical modeling. Attenuation measurements with PLA microbubbles (average diameter 1.9 micrometer), indicated a resonance frequency of 2.5–3 MHz, which, in contrary to other encapsulated microbubbles, is lower than the resonance frequency of a free bubble of similar size. Pressure dependent scattering measurements at two different excitation frequencies (2.25 and 3 MHz) show strongly non-linear behavior with distinct second and subharmonic responses. Subharmonic responses are registered above the resonance frequency of a free bubble of similar size. To investigate the underlying mechanisms, we utilized several preexisting interfacial models describing encapsulated bubble dynamics. The attenuation data were utilized to determine the interfacial rheological properties of the encapsulation for each of these models. The model predictions are then compared with scattered nonlinear—sub- and second harmonic—responses. Our studies indicate that the extremely low surface elasticity (around 0.01 N/m) and reduced surface tension (0.01–0.03 N/m) along with the polydispersity of the bubble suspension play a critical role in determining the acoustic properties of PLA microbubbles.

1:20

IpBAb2. Acoustic and optical characterization of targeted ultrasound contrast agents. Camilo Perez, Jarred Swalwell (Ctr. for Industrial and Med. Ultrasound (CIMU), Univ. of Washington Appl. Phys. Lab., 1013 NE 40th St., Seattle, WA 98105-6698, camipiri@uw.edu), Juan Tu (Key Lab. of Modern Acoust., Nanjing Univ., Nanjing, China), Hong Chen, Andrew Brayman, and Thomas J. Matula (Ctr. for Industrial and Med. Ultrasound (CIMU), Univ. of Washington Appl. Phys. Lab., Seattle, WA)

We previously developed a flow cytometer system that incorporates the action of ultrasound to characterize shell properties of ultrasound contrast agents (UCA’s). The most recent manifestation involves a flow cytometer modified with a custom square quartz flow cell in place of the standard nozzle and fluid jet. Acoustic coupling to the carrier shear fluid and UCA samples occurs through a PZT bonded to one side of the flow cell. The PZT-driven UCA oscillations were processed and fitted to the Marmottant UCA model. Shell properties for UCAs (including Definity, Optison, SonoVue, and even homemade bubbles) were determined. A major limitation of the previous work involved a lack of knowledge of the actual acoustic pressure incident on the UCA. The focus of this talk will be on optimization of the pressure inside the flow cell using finite element methods, and the comparison with additional measurements of unpublished data from targeted UCA’s. [Work funded in part by the Life Sciences Discovery Fund #3292512.]
1:40

IpbA83. Investigating the effect of fabrication method on the stability and acoustic response of microbubble agents. Graciela Mohamed (Dept. of Eng. Sci., Univ. of Oxford, Inst. of Biomedical Eng., Old Rd. Campus, Headington, Oxford OX3 7DQ, United Kingdom, graciela.mohamed@eng.ox.ac.uk), Nevene A. Hosny (Dept. of Chem., Imperial College London, London, United Kingdom), Paul Rademeyer (Dept. of Eng. Sci., Univ. of Oxford, Oxford, United Kingdom), Yoonjee Park (Dept. of Biomedical Eng., Boston Univ., Boston, MA), Joshua Owen (Dept. of Eng. Sci., Univ. of Oxford, Oxford, United Kingdom), Tuan Pham, Joyce Y. Wong (Dept. of Biomedical Eng., Boston Univ., Boston, MA), Marina Kuimova (Dept. of Chem., Imperial College London, London, United Kingdom), and Eleanor Stride (Dept. of Eng. Sci., Univ. of Oxford, Oxford, United Kingdom)

Microbubbles stabilized by a surfactant or polymer coating are already in clinical use as ultrasound imaging contrast agents. They have also been widely investigated as vehicles for drug delivery and gene therapy that can be tracked and triggered using ultrasound. Extensive studies have been made of the effects of the coating material and gas core on microbubble characteristics, but the influence of the fabrication method has received less attention. The aim of this study was to compare the behavior of microbubbles prepared using different techniques. Phospholipid-coated microbubbles were produced using sonication, electrospraying, or in a specially designed microfluidic device. The microbubbles were observed using optical, electron, and fluorescence lifetime imaging microscopy (FLIM) to interrogate their surface microstructure and stability over time. Their acoustic response was then determined in a flow chamber by detecting the pressure scattered from individual microbubbles as they passed through the focal region of a transducer (center frequencies 1, 2.25, and 3.5 MHz; peak negative pressures 50–300 kPa). The method of bubble generation was found to significantly affect the bubble surface characteristics, stability, and acoustic response. The results demonstrate that the processing method affects not only the bubble size distribution but other characteristics important for biomedical applications.

2:00

IpbA84. Radiation for bubble contrast agents in inhomogeneous media. Chrisna Nguon, Max Denis, Kavitha Chandra, and Charles Thompson (Univ. of Massachusetts Lowell, 63 Hemlock St., Dracut, MA 01826, chrisna_Nguon@student.uml.edu)

The acoustic field generated by a distribution of micro-bubbles serving as contrast agents for a three-dimensional scattering volume is evaluated. A dual-frequency incident field generated by a confocal transducer insonifies the target and creates a scattered field that includes the difference frequency component that is of interest for improving the resolution in imaging of biological tissue. The scattered pressure is computed for a range of compressibility contrast parameters and wavenumbers using Born series and Padé approximants to ensure convergence as the medium contrast is increased. The effect of this pressure field on the resonant radiation of bubbles is examined, and bubble parameters that influence the amplification of the field measured exterior to the scattering volume are identified. A baseline comparison of the scattered pressure field with and without the presence of bubble contrast agents is presented.

2:20


A large body of work has investigated the influence of the excitation pulse, agent size distribution, and the ambient pressure on the subharmonic response of microbubble contrast agents (MCA). The purpose of this study was to investigate the temporal evolution of the subharmonic emissions, i.e., whether the subharmonic response is influenced by the time elapsed since agent constitution. We measured subharmonic emissions from a commercial lipid-encapsulated contrast agent (Targestar-P®, Targeson Inc., San Diego) over the time span of 60 min. The excitation parameters were as follows: 10-MHz frequency, 30–290 kPa pressures, 60 cycles, and 1-kHz pulse repetition frequency. The subharmonic emissions were observed to increase by 11 dB over 60 min relative to those measured immediately after reconstitution. The most striking increase (>8 dB) was observed in the first 15 min. Although we did not observe a change in the agent size distribution, the pressure threshold for subharmonic emissions reduced by nearly two-fold within the time span of our measurements. This work demonstrates that time evolution of subharmonic emissions could bias quantitative estimates obtained from techniques such as subharmonic imaging and subharmonic-aided pressure estimation. Additionally, these findings suggest the possibility for improving subharmonic emission by careful agent design.

2:40–3:00 Break

3:00

IpbA86. Simulations of transcranial passive acoustic mapping with hemispherical sparse arrays using computed tomography-based aberration corrections. Ryan Jones (Med. Biophysics, Univ. of Toronto, 2075 Bayview Ave., Focused Ultrasound Lab (C713), Toronto, ON M4N 3M5, Canada, ryanjones017@gmail.com), Meaghan O’Reilly (Physical Sci. Platform, Sunnybrook Res. Inst., Toronto, ON, Canada), and Kullervo Hynynen (Med. Biophysics, Univ. of Toronto, Toronto, ON, Canada)

Passive acoustic mapping (PAM) is receiving increasing interest as a method for monitoring focused ultrasound (FUS) therapy. PAM would be beneficial during transcranial cavitation-enhanced FUS treatments, particularly non-thermal, cavitation-mediated applications such as FUS-induced blood–brain barrier disruption or sonothrombolysis, for which no real-time monitoring technique currently exists. However, the use of PAM in the brain is complicated by the presence of the skull bone. If not properly accounted for, skull-induced aberrations of propagating caviation emissions will lead to image distortion and artifacts upon reconstruction. Through the use of numerical simulations, this study investigated the feasibility of transcranial PAM via hemispherical sparse hydrophone arrays. A multi-layered ray acoustic transcranial ultrasound propagation model based on computed tomography-derived skull morphology was developed. By incorporating skull-specific aberration corrections into a conventional passive beamforming algorithm [Norton and Won, IEEE Trans. Geosci. Remote Sens. 38, 1337–1343 (2000)], simulated acoustic source fields were spatially mapped through digitized human skulls. The effects of array sparsity and receiver element configuration on the formation of passive acoustic maps were examined. Multiple source locations were simulated to determine the imageable volume within the skull cavity. Finally, the reconstruction algorithm’s sensitivity to noise was explored.

3:20

IpbA87. Transcranial spatial and temporal assessment of microbubble dynamics for brain therapies. Costas Arvanitis and Nathan McDannold (Radiology, Brigham and Women’s Hospital, Harvard Med. School, 221 Longwood Ave., Rm. 514a, Boston, MA 02115, cda@bwh.harvard.edu)

Harnessing ultrasound/microbubble interactions in the brain may make possible a number of therapeutic ultrasound applications, such as targeted drug delivery, sonothrombolysis, and cavitation-enhanced ablation. However, methods to guide these emerging therapies are presently lacking. Here, we integrated a linear US imaging transducer with a clinical transcranial MRI-guided focused ultrasound (MRgFUS) system and evaluated passive cavitation imaging to monitor microbubble-enhanced sonications. A nonhuman primate skull filled with brain-mimicking phantom was used for the experiments. First, we sonicated the phantom over a range of powers (20–60 W) to induce cavitation-enhanced heating. Using transcranial passive cavitation mapping and MR thermometry, we assessed the ability of the integrated system to simultaneously visualize temperature changes and microbubble activity. In another experiment, we traversed the phantom with a 2 mm needle through which microbubbles could flow and applied burst sonications (5 W) to generate stable and inertial cavitation. In the first experiment, cavitation activity and heating were colocaled. In the second, the location of the cavitation activity was coincident with the targeted location in the channel within the expected resolution of the passive imaging. We conclude that combined MR/ultrasound imaging can provide comprehensive guidance to simultaneously localize and quantify both acoustic cavitation activity and heating.

ICA 2013 Montréal 3262
Passive cavitation images (PCIs) generated from scattered acoustic waves are a potential technique for monitoring lesion formation during high-intensity focused ultrasound (HIFU) thermal ablation. HIFU lesion prediction by PCIs was assessed in ex vivo bovine liver samples (N = 14) during 30-s sonications with 1.1-MHz continuous-wave ultrasound (1989 W/cm² estimated spatial-peak intensity). Treated samples were sectioned, optically scanned, and the HIFU lesions segmented based on tissue discoloration. During each insonation, a 192-element, 7-MHz linear array (L7/Iris 2, Ardent Sound) passively recorded emissions from a plane containing the HIFU propagation axis oriented parallel to the image azimuth direction. PCIs were formed from beamformed A-lines filtered into fundamental, harmonic, ultraharmonic, and inharmonic frequency bands. Lesion prediction was tested using binary classification of local tissue ablation based on thresholded PCIs, with spatial specificity and sensitivity of lesion prediction quantified by the area under receiver operating characteristic curves (AUROC). Tadpole-shaped lesions were best predicted by harmonic emissions (AUROC = 0.76), prefocal lesions were best predicted by harmonic or ultraharmonic emissions (AUROC = 0.86), and cigar-type focal lesions were best predicted by fundamental and harmonic emissions (AUROC = 0.65). These results demonstrate spatial specificity and sensitivity when predicting HIFU lesions with PCIs. [Work supported in part by NIH grants F32HL104916 and R21EB008483.]
first-order speckle statistics of images acquired before and after injection of microbubbles. The microbubble signal component is modeled as a temporally varying random process superimposed on a Rayleigh-distributed speckle signal representing backscatter from tissue. Images were acquired at 18 MHz from a murine orthotopic (mammary fat pad) xenograft breast cancer model following a bolus injection of microbubbles. Images were processed using gold-standard pulse inversion nonlinear CEUS, conventional linear subtraction, and the proposed statistical method. In comparison to conventional linear CEUS, the statistical method produced a wash-in curve that showed closer agreement to the gold-standard nonlinear CEUS data. The statistical method eliminates baseline image subtraction from linear CEUS processing, which should streamline the imaging workflow, improve the robustness of image quantification, and enable real-time perfusion imaging with linear CEUS.

MONDAY AFTERNOON, 3 JUNE 2013

Session 1pEAA

Engineering Acoustics: Active and Passive Control of Fan Noise

Alain Berry, Cochair
Dept. Mech. Eng., Univ. of Sherbrooke, Sherbrooke, QC J1K 2R1, Canada

Anthony Gerard, Cochair
Soft dB, 1240 Ave. Beaumont, Bureau 206, Mont Royal, QC H3P3E5, Canada

Invited Paper

1:00

1pEAA1. Active control of axial and centrifugal fan noise. Scott D. Sommerfeldt and Kent L. Gee (Dept. of Phys. and Astronomy, Brigham Young Univ., N181 ESC, Provo, UT 84602, scott_sommerfeldt@byu.edu)

Both axial and centrifugal fans are used to cool information technology (IT) equipment. These fans generate noise that can be annoying to their users, particularly the tonal noise that can be radiated. Work has focused on developing a method to attenuate the tonal noise associated with both of these types of fans. A compact system is used, whereby control sources are placed in close proximity to the fan. A genetic algorithm has been implemented to determine optimal source configurations. The attenuation associated with some configurations is found to be much more sensitive to error than others. For a given configuration, by using a relatively simple point source model it becomes possible to identify optimal near-field error sensor locations, which results in a compact noise control solution that provides significant global attenuation of the radiated tonal noise. This paper will review progress that has been made to apply this method to both axial and centrifugal fans. Experimental results confirm that it is feasible to achieve significant global control using this method.

Contributed Papers

1:20

1pEAA2. Industrial fan noise control using flow obstructions. Remy Oddo, Anthony Gérard (GAUS, 2500 Boul. de l’Université, Sherbrooke, QC J1K2R1, Canada, Remy.Oddo@USherbrooke.ca), Michel Pearson (Soft dB, Québec, QC, Canada), Adrien Amyotte, Patrice Masson (GAUS, Sherbrooke, QC, Canada), Franck Sgard (IRSST, Montréal, QC, Canada), and Alain Berry (GAUS, Sherbrooke, QC, Canada)

Fans are used in a lot of industrial processes and are sometimes a source of important noise for workers. The first aim of this study was to identify some problematic fans in Québec industries, for which the noise exposure exceeds the CSST (Commission de santé et sécurité au travail) limit of 90 dBA for 8 h. We have focused on fans having a high tonal content, for which the Simple Silence technology can be applied, i.e., tonal fan noise control using obstructions in the flow. Two analytical models of the tonal noise radiated by these fans have been proposed: a free field model based on the Lowson model and an in-duct model based on the Goldstein model. The first free-field model has been applied to the control of the noise from a series of eight evaporator fans, having a strong blade passage frequency (BPF) tone at 90 Hz. These fans have been controlled in situ, in a cold storage room, using trapezoidal obstructions in the downstream flow field of the fans. The second in-duct model has been applied to control the tonal noise from an in-duct air-extractor fan used in the underground gold mining galleries. Several obstructions have been tested in the upstream flow field.

1:40

1pEAA3. Analyzing the impact of the inlet temperature on the acoustic noise production form a supersonic jet using large eddy simulations. Bernhard Semlitsch, Mihai Mihaescu, Laszlo Fuchs (Mechanics - Linne Flow Ctr., KTH - Royal Inst. of Technol., Osquars Backe 18, Stockholm 10044, Sweden, bernhard@mech.kth.se), and Ephraim Gutmark (School of Aerosp. Syst., UC - Univ. of Cincinnati, Cincinnati, OH)

Non-ideal expanded supersonic jets emerging from a convergent-divergent nozzle produce three different types of noise, i.e., the shock-associated broadband noise, the screech noise, and the turbulent mixing noise. Interesting to note that the screech tone outside of the nozzle was exposed mostly in downscaled laboratory experiments, while under realistic conditions the exhaust jet of a gas turbine engine does not show this phenomena. Apart from a geometric scaling difference, usually a lower temperature is employed in experimental studies. It is believed that the screech tone occurs due to self-excitation of the shear-layer in a feedback-loop. Acoustic waves generated by vortical structures interacting with a shock are propagating upstream within the subsonic region of the shear-layer or outside of it. They eventually hit the nozzle’s lip and excite instabilities at a certain frequency. The compressible Navier-Stokes equations are simulated numerically by using Large Eddy Simulation approach. The effect of supersonic jet operation temperature onto the associated noise is investigated. The jet-exit Mach-number is 1.56, while the total temperature ratios considered at the
inlet plane of the nozzle are 1.27, 2.05, and 3.65. The differences in the near-field acoustics will be presented in each of the cases and the flow-acoustic interaction will be analyzed and quantified.

2:00

1pEAa4. Low frequency sound absorption of resonators with flexible tubes. Frank Simon (DMAE, Onera, 2 Ave. Edouard Belin, Toulouse 31055, France, frank.simon@onera.fr)

Classically, passive acoustic liners, used in aeronautical engine nacelles to reduce radiated fan noise, have a quarter-wavelength behavior, thanks to perforated sheets backed to honeycombs (SDOF, DDOF). So, their acoustic absorption ability is naturally limited to medium and high frequencies because of constraints in thickness. To drastically improve their capabilities to the lowest frequencies, the combination with active control systems or the using of foam architecture have shown an interest, but the industrial application is tricky (i.e., problems of fouling, robustness). A possible approach is to carry out a perforated panel resonator with flexible tube bundles to shift the resonance frequency to a lower frequency by a prolongation of air column length (Yadong Lu et al., Internoise 2007). This paper describes theoretically this concept that allows a significant change in the acoustic impedance due to the large thickness of the resistive and reactive material and the coupling with the surrounding cavity. Applied to aeronautical configurations, the resonance frequency decreases considerably compared to a conventional resonator (factor of about 1/5) but with a reduction of the maximum absorption when the tubes fill the cavity. Experiments in impedance tube validate the theoretical approach.

Invited Paper

2:20

1pEAa5. Volumetric resistance blower. Mark MacDonald and Douglas Heymann (Intel Corp., HF2-40, 5200 Elam Young Pkwy, Hillsboro, OR 97124, mark.macdonald@intel.com)

This paper reports on a new low-noise blower rotor technology developed by Intel Corporation (patents pending). The new approach replaces the traditional centrifugal blower rotor with a block of continuous porous media. The porous media can be as simple as a low-cost, block of open-cell foam and has no blades or macroscale structure. As the porous media rotor rotates, viscous and inertial forces from the volumetric resistance of the porous media cause the air within the rotor to rotate with it, creating centrifugal forces that overwhelm the flow resistance in the radial direction and create a flow pattern similar to that achieved in a traditional blower. However, because of the lack of distinct blades, the porous-media generates nearly zero aerodynamic tonal noise and significantly reduced broadband noise. This allows the blower to be operated at significantly higher RPM and reduced clearances relative to the traditional rotor design for further improved performance. This paper will discuss numerical modeling and experimental development of the new blower type. An iso-flow comparison of porous-media and traditional rotors with the same motor and housing demonstrate a 5 dBA reduction in broadband noise and a factor of two reduction in tonality while maintaining comparable overall efficiency. Impact of porosity and different rotor support structures are also discussed.

Contributed Papers

2:40

1pEAa6. Effect of standoff distance on the reconstruction of in-duct velocity field and regeneration of pressure field. Yong-Ho Heo and Jeong-Guon Ih (Mech. Eng., KAIST, Mech. Blg. Rm. 5121, KAIST, Daejeon, Chungcheongnam-do 305-701, South Korea, yonghoeo@kaist.ac.kr)

Identification of in-duct acoustic source characteristics is essential in the design of fluid machinery system for reducing and predicting the flow-generated noise. To this end, the inverse estimation method can be employed by using the measured sound field and matrix formulation for wave propagation within a duct. In this paper, the effect of the distance between source and measurement plane is investigated. At each standoff distance, pressures are measured at three planes with two different spacings to widen the estimation frequency range, and measurements are conducted with three different standoff distances. Modal decomposition is applied to estimate modal amplitudes, and the result is used to reconstruct the velocity field at the source plane and to obtain the regenerated pressure field at the measurement planes. It is shown that the modal amplitude identified by measured pressure field at the short standoff distance, i.e., at nearfield, can yield an accurate reconstructed velocity field of the source and regenerate the pressure field with smaller error, which is similar to the other inverse techniques such as equivalent source method and nearfield acoustical holography. A field reduction example by suppressing some parts of source velocity field is shown for demonstrating the effectiveness of the method.

3:00


Two-dimensional time-domain numerical investigation of sound-induced flow through an orifice with a diameter 6 mm is conducted by using lattice Boltzmann method. Emphasis is placed on characterizing its acoustic damping behaviors. The main damping mechanism is identified as incident waves interact with the shear layers formed at the orifices rims and the acoustic oscillations destabilize the shear layers to form vortex rings. And acoustic energy is converted into vortical energy. To quantify the orifice damping effect, power absorption coefficient is used. It is related to Rayleigh conductivity and describes the fraction of incident acoustical energy being absorbed. Numerical simulations are conducted in time domain by forcing a fluctuating flow with multiple tones through the orifice. This is different from frequency-domain simulations, of which the damping is characterized one frequency at a time. Comparing our results with those from Howe’s theoretical model, good agreement is observed. In addition, orifice thickness effect on its damping is discussed.

3:20

1pEAa8. Scattering of sound waves at an area expansion in a cylindrical flow duct. Susann Boij (Marcus Wallenberg Lab. for Sound and Vib. Res., Dept. of Aeronautical and Vehicle Eng., KTH Royal Inst. of Technol., 2004 Yolo Ave., Berkeley, California 94707, sboij@kth.se), Özge Yanac Cinar, Gökhân Cinar (Gebze Inst. of Technol., Kocaeli, Turkey), and Börje Nilsson (School of Comput. Sci., Phys. and Mathematics, Linnaeus Univ., Växjö, Sweden)

Sound propagation in pipes and ducts with flow, like ventilation ducts and exhaust pipes, is influenced by flow separation and vortex production at sharp edges along the ducts, such as at bends and area expansions. Shear layers form at the separation points, and such layers are unstable to low frequency acoustic disturbances. An analytical model, aiming at physical insight into this interaction, is presented. Results in the plane wave region for the so called scattering matrix for a sudden area expansion with flow in cylindrical pipes are compared with experimental values. Both the magnitude and the phase, in the form of an end correction, is presented. The model is also compared to a 2 dimensional model, in order to evaluate the anticipated increased accuracy of the 3 dimensional modeling. The scattering coefficients are strongly dependent on the flow speed, which is up to a Mach
number of 0.5. It is observed that for low frequencies, the interaction is dominated by the dynamics of an unstable shear layer downstream of the edges. For higher frequencies, the wave propagation is mainly affected by convective effects. Differences in properties for the 2D and the 3D cases are also explored.

3:40

1pEAa9. Design of a built-in electroacoustic resonator for active noise reduction. Romain Boulandet, Etienne Rivet, and Hervé Lissek (Laboratoire d’ElectroMagnétisme et Acoustique, Ecole Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne, ELB Station 11, Lausanne CH-1015, Switzerland, romain.boulandet@gmail.com)

The paper focuses on the design of a built-in electroacoustic resonator for active noise reduction purposes. This concept basically encompasses a loudspeaker connected to a synthetic electrical load that enables the ability of the transducer to dissipate a certain part of the incoming acoustic energy. The strategy is therefore to control the dynamics of boundaries in closed sound spaces (such as room, cavity, etc.) rather than targeting a global control that requires significant input of additional acoustic energy. The main attraction of the proposed methodology is its ability to achieve broadband sound absorption while bypassing the use of sensors, the sensing of sound field information being incorporated within the synthetic electrical load admittance (current/voltage transfer function). Computational and experimental results are provided to illustrate the benefits and potential of a built-in electroacoustic resonator compared to other options. Concluding remarks and discussions on foreseen future developments are then provided.

4:00

1pEaA10. The threshold of the difference between a mathematical model applied to active noise control and data recorded. Ricardo A. Quintana and Adriana P. Gallego (Universidad Distrital Francisco José de Caldas, Calle 7A # 73 - 98 Apto 503 Int 4, Bogotá 11001000, Colombia, rqquintana@raqsacoustic.com)

Nowadays, there are many methods used to obtain mathematical models applied to active noise control, especially when the transfer function is required. Inside rooms, the global active sound control has bad results due to the reflections and the diffuse field. Then, authors have applied system identification to find more complex mathematical models based on measured data. Also, the number of system identification methodologies is increasing and it carries to having many unexplored models. In order to know which models are useful for global active noise control inside rooms, a relationship between the sound pressure level decreased and the error of the mathematical model is presented. First, the concept of “a useful mathematical model” is defined under any context based on an analysis of the error (FIT). In addition, this concept is delimited to the active noise control context. Finally, an example is presented.

Invited Paper

4:20

1pEaA11. Upgrade of a multi-channel active noise control system for an industrial stack. Louis-Alexis Bou dreault, André L’Espérance, and Alex Bou deau (Soft dB Inc., 1040, Ave. Belvedere, Ste. 215, Quebec, QC G1S 3G3, Canada, la.boudreault@softdb.com)

Active noise control has been studied in the 1990s as an innovative way to reduce the noise in specific situations. Some applications are well known today and found commercial success like noise-canceling headphones. However, the use of active noise control in industrial applications is more complex, thus being an uncommon solution in this field. The use of active noise control for industrial stack noise is one of these applications. One of the first large-scale implementation has been set up at the end of the 1990s. This system was a 10-channel active noise control system installed on a 1.8 m wide chimney to attenuate a 320 Hz pure tone. At that time, an 8 dB noise reduction was achieved at error microphones. Fifteen years later, it has been decided to upgrade the system with the latest generation of digital signal processor (DSP) allowing a real-time optimization and better tracking speed. This paper describes the overall system and the updated multi-channel active noise controller developed for this application. It also presents the improvements, the achieved noise reduction, and the associated environmental benefits.
crystal transducers, prototypes working at higher frequencies as well as transducers modeled with finite element method are taken into account. Using these data and classical scaling laws, abacuses displaying acoustic power-frequency curves for given masses are constructed for each technology. They show that single crystals transducers could provide more compact and powerful solutions for frequencies above 40 Hz.

1:20

1pEAb2. Performance of transducers with segmented piezoelectric stacks using materials with high electromechanical coupling coefficient. Stephen C. Thompson, Richard J. Meyer, and Douglas C. Markley (Appl. Res. Lab., The Penn State Univ., P.O. Box 30, State College, PA 16803, sci12@psu.edu)

Abstract underwater acoustic transducers often include a stack of thickness polarized piezoelectric material pieces of alternating polarity interspersed with electrodes and bonded together. The stack is normally much shorter than a quarter wavelength at the fundamental resonance frequency, so that the mechanical behavior of the transducer is not affected by the segmentation. When the transducer bandwidth is less than a half octave, as has conventionally been the case, stack segmentation has no significant effect on the mechanical behavior of the device. However, when a high coupling coefficient material such as PMN-PT is used to achieve a wider bandwidth, the difference between a segmented stack and a single piezoelectric piece with the same overall dimensions can be significant. This paper investigates the effects of stack segmentation on the performance of broadband underwater acoustic transducers, particularly tonpilz transducer elements. Included is discussion of transducer designs using single crystal piezoelectric material with high coupling coefficient compared with more traditional PZT ceramics.

1:40

1pEAb3. On the spatial distributions for randomly spaced arrays. Jenny Au and Charles Thompson (Univ. of Massachusetts Lowell, 1 University Ave., Lowell, MA 01854, jenny.au@student.uml.edu)

In this work, we examine the statistical characteristics of the randomly spaced transducer arrays. Approaches to realizing the linear and two-dimensional arrays are considered. The array elements are equally weighted in amplitude and their contribution to received signal is by virtue of adjustment by their spatial location. The cumulative distribution for the number of transducers as a function of transducer spacing and its relationship to the spatial objective function is given. The case for Dolph-Chuheychev objective function is shown in detail and in closed-form. The statistical effect spatial binning of transducer elements is examined.

2:00

1pEAb4. Electroacoustic metamaterials: Achieving negative acoustic properties with shunt loudspeakers. Herve Lissek (LEMA, Ecole Polytechnique Federale de Lausanne, STI IEL LEMA, Station 11, Lausanne 1015, Switzerland, herve.lissek@epfl.ch)

Acoustic metamaterials constitute a new class of structures that exhibit acoustic properties not readily available in nature. These properties can be a negative mass density, expressing the opposition of the acceleration of a particle to the application of pressure, or a negative bulk modulus, signifying the rarefaction of the particle in reaction to a compression (resp. a condensation in reaction to a depression). However, these artificial behaviors result from a periodic arrangement of passive unit-cells (such as membranes and side holes), and not from individual “meta-properties” of each unit-cell. It is however possible to observe such intrinsic metamaterial properties out of a passive electroacoustic resonator. This concept encompasses a loudspeaker, connected to a specific electric load, thus altering the acoustic dynamics of the loudspeaker diaphragm when subject to an exogenous sound source. It is especially possible to achieve negative acoustic impedance at its diaphragm, thanks to the connection of passive electric shunt circuits, such as simple RLC series resonators. This paper aims at highlighting the metamaterial nature of such electroacoustic resonators through computational and experimental results, followed by discussions on ongoing developments.

2:20

1pEAb5. Loudspeaker for low frequency signal driven by four piezoelectric ultrasonic motors. Juro Ohga (Ohga Acoust. Lab., 2-24-3 Tama-nawa, Kamakura 247-0071, Japan, johga@nitify.com), Hirokazu Negishi (MIX Corp., Yokosuka, Japan), Ikku Oohira (I. Oohira and Assoc., Yokohama, Japan), Hiroya Saito, Kunio Oishi (Tokyo Univ. of Technol., Hachioji, Japan), and Kazuaki Maeda (TOA Corp., Takarazuka, Japan)

The authors are developing a completely new direct-radiator loudspeaker as an alternative of the conventional electrodynamic loudspeaker. It is driven by continuous revolution of piezoelectric ultrasonic motors. It is useful for radiation of very low frequency signal because it shows almost flat phase frequency characteristics in low frequency region. A preliminary model, named dual-motor, de-spin (DMDS) model, included co-axial two ultrasonic motors. Stator of one motor is fixed to the base and of the other is connected to the cone radiator. Velocity modulation for any motor induces driving force for the cone radiator. Output sound at low frequency range (for example, 30–120 Hz) by this model was excellent because it has no significant resonance in this frequency region. However, its operation was occasionally unstable. At this Congress, a highly improved model named quad-motor, de-spin (QMDM) model is presented. It uses two co-axial DMDS mechanisms. The experimental model has a cone radiator of 46 cm in diameter and an enclosure of 400 L. Its working frequency range is same as QMDM model. Harmonic distortions included in the output signal are improved to be less than 10%. Its sound quality is excellent.

2:40

1pEAb6. Influence of nonlinear parameters in Mirror filter to compensation performance of nonlinear distortions. Natsuki Uesako and Yoshi-nobu Kajikawa (Faculty of Eng. Sci., Kansai Univ., 3-3-3 Yamate-cho, Suita-shi, Osaka 564-8680 Japan, natsuki.uesako@gmail.com)

Mirror filter is used for the compensation of nonlinear distortions for electro-dynamic loudspeaker systems and is based on the nonlinear differential equations. The design of Mirror filter requires the estimated parameters of a target loudspeaker system. If you obtain the corresponding parameters of a target loudspeaker system and arrange Mirror filter designed using those parameters in front of the loudspeaker, then the nonlinear distortions can be compensated. Hence, the estimated parameters are very important to achieve high compensation performance. In this paper, we therefore examine the effects of the estimated parameters to the compensation performance. Concretely, we clarify the effects by varying each nonlinear parameter in Mirror filter. Simulation and experimental results demonstrate that the compensation performance for the second order nonlinear distortions depends on a nonlinear parameter of the force factor in loudspeaker systems.

3:00–3:20 Break

3:20

1pEAb7. A new loudspeaker for low frequency radiation by linear motion type piezoelectric ultrasonic actuators. Hiroya Saito (School of Comput. Sci., Tokyo Univ. of Technol., 1401-1,Katakurak, Hachioji 192-0982, Japan, hirosaito12@gmail.com), Hirokazu Negishi (MIX Corp., Yokosuka, Japan), Juro Ohga (Shibaura Inst. of Technol./MIX Corp., Kamakura, Japan), Ikku Oohira (Self-Employee, Yokohama, Japan), Kazuaki Maeda (TOA Corp., Takarazuka, Japan), and Kunio Oishi (School of Comput. Sci., Tokyo Univ. of Technol., Hachioji, Japan)

The authors had proposed new direct-radiator loudspeaker constructions with a conventional paper cone radiator driven by ultrasonic motors (USM), as a substitution for voice-coil motor. However, those models needed a revolution to linear motion conversion mechanism, and avoiding zero region non-linearity, like class A amplifier. These complications came from the conventional USM, since it is a rotational and having zero region non-linearity inherently. Here, the authors would propose a new mechanism by using new ultrasonic linear actuators, called longitudinal-bending multilayered transducers with independent electrodes (LBMTIE). The beauty of LBMTIE is linear and to control vertical motion and horizontal motion independently, hence zero region non-linearity avoided. Therefore, it is possible to substitute the voice-coil motor directly, which avoids the complicated mechanisms mentioned above. In this LBMTIE driven loudspeaker, vertical
movement voltage be fixed and horizontal voltage is driven by audio signal, like voice-coil motor. In addition, there is a big contrast against conventional voice-coil motor, which is a typical transducer, as its electrical input and sound pressure output are direct proportion each other. This is because LBMTIE driven loudspeaker may behave a sort of modulator, which is not direct proportion in between input electric power and output sound pressure level.

3:40

IpEAb9. A system for ultrasonic transmission of power and signal to an implanted hearing aid. Hugo Vihvelin, Jeffrey Leadbetter, Jeremy A. Brown, and Robert Adamson (School of Biomedical Eng., Dalhousie Univ., 1276 South Park St., Rm. 3189, Dickson Bldg., VG Site, Halifax, NS B3H 2Y9, Canada, hugo.vihvelin@gmail.com)

We will report on development of a system for efficiently powering implanted hearing aids by transmitting ultrasonic acoustic energy across the skin. As compared to traditional magnetic induction coil power delivery systems, ultrasound-based systems offer a more compact form factor for the same power handling capability and lower electrical loss. Part of the challenge of building such a system for implanted hearing aids is developing efficient modulation and demodulation electronics that can deliver both electrical power and an acoustic frequency signal to the implanted device. We present the design and implementation of an amplitude modulated system in which the power is delivered on the carrier and signal in the modulation sidebands. The transmitter consists of an efficient PWM encoder driving an LC resonator tuned to the ultrasound transducer resonance frequency. The receiver consists of an efficient rectifying demodulator that provides supply voltages to internal electronics as well as the acoustic signal. Power loss mechanisms, form factor considerations, linearity, and overall system performance will be discussed.

4:00

IpEAb10. The design of ultrasonic lead magnesium niobate-lead titanate composite transducers for power and signal delivery to implanted hearing aids. Jeff Leadbetter, Jeremy Brown, and Rob Adamson (Dalhousie Univ., 1276 South Park St., Rm. 3189, Dickson Bldg., VG Site, Halifax, NS B3H 2Y9, Canada, jeff.leadbetter@dal.ca)

We present a system for efficiently powering implanted hearing aids by transmitting an ultrasonic signal across the skin. The use of ultrasound as method for power and signal transfer is known for embedded systems in industrial applications and has more recently been investigated for use with other medical implants. In our application, ultrasonic transducers are investigated as they offer substantially reduced size relative to traditional magnetic induction coil power delivery. The developed transducers use lead magnesium niobate-lead titanate (PMN-PT) piezoelectric material in a 1–3 composite formulation. PMN-PT offers an electromechanical coupling factor (kt, an indicator of maximum efficiency) that is up to 60% greater than traditional piezoceramics, while the use of composite transducers removes geometric constraints that can limit the achieved efficiency. The fabrication methods for the transducers are detailed. Experimental results are presented to show the composite transducers achieve a kt of 0.86 (out of 1.00), and a power transmission efficiency that is improved by 38% relative to a similar non-composite transducers. It is also demonstrated that these transducers offer sufficient bandwidth for amplitude or frequency modulation schemes to transmit data signals along the power carrier beam.

4:20

IpEAb11. Biocompatible wireless power transferring and charging based on ultrasonic resonance devices. Sung Q Lee, Woosub Youm, and Gunn Hwang (Nano Convergence Sensor, Electron. and Telecommunications Res. Inst., 161 gajungro yousung, Daejon 305-350, South Korea, hermann@etri.re.kr)

To increase application area of implantable devices for medical treatment including implantable cardiac defibrillator or deep brain stimulator, the rechargeable battery module is highly requested. The previous Li-type battery has limited current sources, so that the patient is forced to have surgery just for changing battery. Previous technologies such as magnetic resonance and induction coupling have limited applications because of its short transfer distance compared to device size and magnetic field intensity limitation for the safety of body exposure. As an alternative, the biocompatible wireless power transferring and charging technology is proposed using ultrasonic resonance devices. For the high efficient power transferring, optimal transfer frequency is calculated based on the acoustic radiation and damping effect. Then, the optimal load resistance is selected for matching power condition in receiver. And, transmitter is designed to match the optimal transfer frequency. The ultrasonic resonance transmitter and receiver are manufactured with the size of 20 mm diameter, 6.0 mm height. The energy conversion efficiency from input electrical power of transmitter and output power of receiver is about 25.6% at 10 cm distance, experimentally. The maximum transferring power is up to 15 mW. This result is quite high considered with the device size and the power transfer distance.
Musical Acoustics and Psychological and Physiological Acoustics: Player/Instrument Coupling

Gary Scavone, Cochair
McGill Univ., 555 Sherbrooke St. West, Montreal, QC H3A 1E3, Canada

Tamara Smyth, Cochair
Music, Univ. of California San Diego, 9500 Gilman Dr., La Jolla, CA 92093

Invited Papers

1:00

1pMU1. A morphological and acoustic study on the effect of a trumpet player’s vocal tract. Tokihiko Kaburagi (Grad. School of Design, Kyushu Univ., Shiobaru 4-9-1, Minami-ku, Fukuoka 815-8540, Japan, kabu@design.kyushu-u.ac.jp), Naoyuki Yamada (Nagareyama City Hall, Nagareyama, Japan), Takashi Fukui (Shikumi Design Co., Ltd., Fukuoka, Japan), and Eriko Minamiya (Yamaha Corp., Hamamatsu, Japan)

A morphological and acoustic study is presented to examine the role of the vocal tract in playing the trumpet. Preliminary results obtained from one professional player are shown, and the effectiveness of the method is demonstrated. Images of the vocal tract with a resolution of 0.5 mm (2 mm in thickness) were recorded with magnetic resonance imaging to observe tongue posture and to estimate the vocal-tract area function during actual trumpet performance. The input impedance was then calculated for the player’s air column, including both the supra- and sub-glottal tracts, using an acoustic tube model that also considers wall losses. Finally, a time-domain blowing simulation was performed with a lip vibration model (Adachi and Sato, J. Acoust. Soc. Am. 99, 1200–1209, 1996). In this simulation, the oscillating frequency of the lips was slightly affected by using different shapes of the vocal tract measured for the player. In particular, when the natural frequency of the lips was gradually increased, the transition to higher modes occurred at different frequencies for different vocal-tract shapes. Furthermore, simulation results showed that the minimum blowing pressure required to attain lip oscillation can be reduced by properly adjusting the vocal-tract shape.

1:20

1pMU2. Simulating different upstream coupling conditions on an artificial trombone player system using an active sound control approach. Vincent Fréour (Computational Acoust. Modeling Lab., Ctr. for Interdisciplinary Res. in Music Media and Technol., Schulich School of Music, McGill Univ., Music Technol. Area, Schulich School of Music, McGill Univ., 555 Sherbrooke St. West, Montreal, QC H3A 1E3, Canada, vincent.freour@mail.mcgill.ca), Thomas Hélie, Nicolas Lopes, René Caussé (IRCAM - CNRS UMR 9912, UPMC, Paris, France), and Gary P. Scavone (Computational Acoust. Modeling Lab., Ctr. for Interdisciplinary Res. in Music Media and Technol., Schulich School of Music, McGill Univ., Montreal, QC, Canada)

Recent research suggests that the ability to finely tune vocal-tract resonances during trombone playing may constitute an important aspect of performance expertise. Artificial player systems, designed to reproduce the behavior of a real player, often neglect this component by not providing any control of upstream resonances. However, they offer great experimental platforms for quantitative studies on sound production mechanisms, allowing independent adjustment of certain control parameters. An active sound control method was designed to improve high tone support and investigate different conditions of coupling between the artificial lips, the downstream air-column, and the upstream cavity during sustained tones played by an artificial valve-trombone player system. Upstream input impedance at the fundamental frequency was controlled through real-time adjustment of the phase and amplitude ratio between the acoustic pressure generated on both sides of the lips. The phase difference between the upstream and downstream pressures was swept linearly while maintaining different conditions of upstream energy and fixed trombone fingering. Observations during this procedure included: (1) significant fundamental frequency variations in the neighborhood of a downstream impedance peak; and (2) variation of the downstream energy and optimal phase tuning with regard to the mechanical efficiency of the lip-valve system suggested at the energy maximum.

1:40

1pMU3. Saxophone modeling and system identification. Tamara Smyth (Music, Univ. of California San Diego, 9500 Gilman Dr., La Jolla, CA 92093, trsmyth@ucsd.edu) and Marjan Rouhipour (Computing Sci., Simon Fraser Univ., Vancouver, BC, Canada)

In this work, saxophone instrument frequency responses are estimated at both the mouthpiece corresponding to the input impedance and outside the bell, using acoustic measurement and post signal processing. The measurement technique is based on one previously developed for measuring the acoustic properties of instrument bells but is adapted to account for the fact that the saxophone bell does not easily separate from the instrument bore and must be measured as a single unit. Furthermore, measurements are taken of the instrument configured with all possible fingerings covering the playable range of the B-flat tenor saxophone, and instrument reflection and transmission functions are estimated for, and applied to a waveguide model of, each tone-hole configuration. Having the instrument frequency responses at both the mouthpiece and the bell for every possible fingering allows for an improved parametric synthesis, but also allows for saxophone system identification, inverse modeling, and estimation of player-instrument control parameters during real-time performance.
1pMU4. Measuring lips control on flute-like instruments using active vision. Benjamín Carriquiry, Patricio de la Cuadra (Centro de Investigación en tecnologías de audio, Music department, Pontificia Universidad Católica de Chile, Jaime Guzman Errazuriz 3300, Providencia, Santiago 07866, Chile, pcuadrar@uc.cl), and Benoit Fabre (LAM-JILRA, Université Pierre et Marie Curie (Paris 6), Paris, France)

Flute-like instruments operate under a feedback system between an air jet and a resonator. The characteristics of the air jet and its interaction with the resonator are defined by construction in some flute-like instruments such as the organ pipes, or completely determined by the musician’s control like in the Shakuhachi, panpipe, or transverse flute. In this article, a 3D lips detection system based on active vision using laser grid triangulation has been designed and implemented. Simple musical gestures from transverse flute players have been measured and analyzed, outlining the strategies used to coordinate the parameters available, such as lips to labium distance, jet speed, and jet shape, to orchestrate an adequate sound. The analysis is presented in a non-dimensional representation capable of generalizing to other members of the flute family. The measurement system developed is compared with previous strategies and reveals a promising tool to further understand the complexity of the human control in this popular family of instruments.

2:00

1pMU5. Analysis of bow-change strategies. Knut Guettler (Retired, Eilins vei 20, Jar 1358, Norway, kg@knutsacoustics.com)

One of the most important skills of the accomplished bowed-string player is the smooth bow change. Smooth changes are often necessary in order to keep a phrase flowing, and equally important in situations where the bow is too short for the duration of the given note, the latter requiring a bow change of least possible audibility. The problem arises from the fact that a change of bowing direction requires the rotation of the Helmholtz corner to be reversed, and the phases of the string-frequency velocity components thus to be shifted 180°. In between the two states, there exists no transition that can fully maintain the sound flow without introducing undesirable noises. However, by choosing the right bowing strategy and gesture, the tradeoff between transition time and noise content can be optimized for the purpose. In practice, different players solve this problem in a number of ways. The present study, which is mainly based on numeric simulations, analyzes the sounding outcome of a variety of possible bowing parameters.

2:20

1pMU6. Perception and production of complex bowing movements in violin performance. Erwin Schoonderwaldt (Inst. of Music Physiol. and Musicians’ Medicine, Hanover Univ. of Music, Drama and Media, Emnichplatz 1, Hannover, NDS 30175, Germany, schoondw@khk.se), Matthias Demoucron (Inst. for Psychoacoustics and Electron. Music, Ghent Univ., Ghent, Belgium), Eckart Altenmüller (Inst. of Music Physiol. and Musicians’ Medicine, Hanover Univ. of Music, Drama and Media, Hanover, Germany), and Marc Leman (Inst. for Psychoacoustics and Electron. Music, Ghent Univ., Ghent, Belgium)

In bowed-string instruments, the primary function of bowing movements is to control the parameters that govern the stick-slip interaction between the bow and the string, giving the performer control of the sound. Not less importantly, bowing movements have to be planned ahead in order to anticipate future events. In fast, repetitive bowing movements involving string crossings and bow changes the primary and anticipatory movements become integrated, forming an overall, in the simplest case circular movement pattern. The relative timing of string crossings and bow changes is an inherent property of the shape of these patterns, which therefore has an important influence on the quality of the note transitions. We will present two complementary studies that provide insight in this coordination phenomenon. A perceptual study has been conducted using a virtual violin, in which the participants could influence the relative timing between string crossings and bow changes by a simple slider, giving insight in the perception of such transitions and typical temporal constraints. Analyses of bowing movements show in detail how the coordination is realized in performance, and how the performer adapts her/his movement patterns to performance constraints, such as tempo and dynamic level.

3:00–3:20 Break

3:20

1pMU7. Time-domain simulation of the bowed cello string: Dual-polarization effect. Hossein Mansour (Music, McGill Univ., Ste. 500- 550 Sherbrooke o, Montreal, QC H3A 1B9, Canada, hossein.mansour@mail.mcgill.ca), Jim Woodhouse (Engineering, Cambridge Univ., Cambridge, United Kingdom), and Gary P. Scavone (Music, McGill Univ., Montreal, QC, Canada)

A detailed time-domain simulation is implemented to model the bowed cello string. Building on earlier simulation models, several new features have been added to make the model more realistic: in particular, both polarizations of the string motion are included, as well as the longitudinal vibrations of the bow hair. These additional features can be turned on and off in the model to evaluate their relative importance. In all previous simulations, the bow-hair was assumed stiff enough to suppress any motion of the string perpendicular to the bowing direction. High-speed video recordings, on the contrary, have suggested that the amplitude of this motion is not negligible compared to the motion of the string in the bowing direction. The major source of this motion is tracked down to the X-Y coupling through the bridge. Although this extra dimension of vibration may not necessarily contribute much to the radiated sound by itself, it can modulate the effective bow force and hence affect the stick-slip motion of the string. The longitudinal vibration of the bowhair is also included in our model. The compliance of the bowhair was accounted for in previous studies in a crude way, but without enough detail to capture the difference between different bows.

3:40

1pMU8. Characterization of bowing strokes in violin playing in terms of controls and sound: Differences between bouncing and on-string bow strokes. Alfonso Perez Carrillo (Schulich School of Music, McGill Univ., 555 Sherbrooke West, Montreal, QC H3A, Canada, alfonso.perezcarrillo@mail.mcgill.ca)

Bowing is the main element in sound production during a violin performance and one of the most basic and important expressive resources for the musician. In the lowest level, control parameters such as force, velocity, or bow-bridge distance are directly determining the characteristics of the sound. In a higher level, bowing strokes constitute one of the main mechanisms for structuring the...
performance. There are many different kinds of bowing strokes, and they are commonly classified into on-string, if the attack happens with the bow on the string and off-string, if the bow is bouncing. From a database of violin performances containing multimodal data including sound and gestures, a set of spectral features and instrumental controls is extracted and the database is segmented into intra-note segments (attack, sustain, and release). A characterization of bowing strokes and a comparison between bouncing and on-string strokes in terms of bowing controls and sound at the intra-note segments is presented.

4:00

1pMU9. Analysis/synthesis of bowing control applied to violin sound rendering via physical models. Esteban Maestre (Music Technol. Group, Roc Boronat 138, Barcelona 08018, Spain, esteban.maestre@upf.edu)

A prominent challenge in instrumental sound synthesis is to reproduce the expressive nuances naturally conveyed by a musician when controlling a musical instrument. Despite the flexibility offered by physical modeling synthesis, appropriately mapping score annotations to sound synthesis controls still remains an interesting research problem, especially for the case of excitation-continuous instruments. Here we present our work on modeling bowing control in violin performance, and its application to sound synthesis via physical models. Minimally invasive sensing techniques allow for accurate acquisition of relevant timber-related bowing control parameter signals. The temporal contours of bowing control parameters (bow velocity, bow force, and bow–bridge distance) are represented as sequences of low-order polynomial curves. A database of parametric representations of real performance data is used to construct a generative model able to synthesize bowing controls from an annotated score. Synthetic bowing controls are then used to render realistic performances by driving a violin physical model.

Contributed Papers

4:20

1pMU10. On the relation between gesture, tone production, and perception in classical cello performance. Magdalena Chudy (Ctr. for Digital Music, School of Electron. Eng. and Comput. Sci., Queen Mary Univ. of London, Mile End Road, London E1 4NS, United Kingdom, magdalena.chudy@eecs.qmul.ac.uk), Alfonso Pérez Carrillo (Ctr. for Interdisciplinary Res. in Music Media and Technol., Schulich School of Music, McGill Univ., Montreal, QC, Canada), and Simon Dixon (Ctr. for Digital Music, School of Electron. Eng. and Comput. Sci., Queen Mary Univ. of London, London, United Kingdom)

On bowed string instruments such as violin or cello, the quality of sound depends mostly on the performer’s bowing technique, which determines the interaction between the bow hair and the string. An accomplished string player has numerous ways of shaping the spectrum of a desired sound. This research investigates the combination of bowing gestures necessary for production of a rich tone. In particular, bowing control parameters such as bow force, bow velocity, and bow–bridge distance captured by a dedicated sensing system are analyzed and compared against audio features. Using audio and gesture measurements of six advanced cellists recorded on two different instruments of a luthier class, we characterize a sound palette and respective bowing control patterns of each player in performed music excerpts and scales. We especially focus on how performers adjust their bowing technique to control the timber of an instrument on which they have never practiced before. Observed differences between the players on the measured audio features show consistency with the bowing parameters adapted for balancing the timbral changes due to instrument, string, and fingering position. To perceptually evaluate the recorded samples, expert musicians were asked to rank the players in terms of sound quality and tone richness.

4:40

1pMU11. Differences in technique and sound in beginner and expert cello performances and use of acoustic information to provide support for performance techniques. Taichi Sato, Shoichi Miyagawa, and Hiromi Yamatani (Tokyo Denki Univ., Adachi-ku, 5 Senju-Asahi-cho, Tokyo 120-8551, Japan, taichi@mail.dendai.ac.jp)

We studied the differences in performance between beginners and expert musicians by taking cello performance as the object of our research. By principal component analysis of the beginning part of a performance—the part when a performer just begins to play—we were able to distinguish between performances by beginners and those by experts. We showed that the process of mastery of an instrument, in which the sound of a beginning performer becomes better, can be evaluated using principal component analysis. We studied the characteristics of the ability to skillfully draw the bow across the cello strings, and we created acoustic information based on these characteristics. By giving this acoustic information to beginners, the beginners learned to become almost as skillful as expert cellists in their ability to draw the bow skillfully across the strings, even though they were only beginners.
Session 1pNSa

Noise: Advanced Hearing Protection and Methods of Measurement II

Jeremie Voix, Cochair
École de technologie supérieure, Université du Québec, 1100 Notre-Dame Ouest, Montréal, QC H3C 1K3, Canada

Elliott H. Berger, Cochair
Occupational Health & Env. Safety Div., 3M, 7911, Zionsville Rd., Indianapolis, IN 46268-1650

Invited Papers

1:00

1pNSa1. Improving speech intelligibility in active hearing protectors and communication headsets with subband processing.
Anthony J. Brammer, Gongqiang Yu, Eric R. Bernstein, Martin G. Cherniack, and Donald R. Peterson (Ergonomics Technol. Ctr., Univ. of Connecticut Health Ctr., 263 Farmington Ave., Farmington, CT 06030-2017, brammer@uchc.edu)

Parallel subband processing, in which the full bandwidth of environmental noise and a communication channel are processed separately in contiguous, restricted frequency bands, has been proposed as a means to improve speech intelligibility in noise for active hearing protectors and communication headsets (Bernstein et al., Int. J. Ind. Ergonom., in press). An active, adaptive feed-forward control structure has been employed to improve the audibility of sounds in the communication channel of a circumaural hearing protector / headset while active noise reduction (ANR) is used to complement the passive attenuation of the device from 50 to 800 Hz. The communication channel subbands have been implemented as octave bands from 125 Hz to 8 kHz. The performance of the device has been evaluated in a diffuse field when worn by human subjects. Word intelligibility in industrial noise was evaluated when the active system was not operating, when the device was operating as a fullband ANR system with fixed communication channel gain, and as a subband ANR system with adaptive gain of the communication channel signal to improve the speech signal-to-noise ratio. A significant improvement in speech intelligibility can be obtained with the subband system. [Work supported by NIOSH 5R01OH 008669.]

1:20

1pNSa2. Advanced hearing protection and auditory awareness in individuals with hearing loss.
Christian Giguere, Chantal Laroche, and Véronique Vaillancourt (Audiol./SLP Program, Univ. of Ottawa, 451 Smyth Rd., Ottawa, ON K1H8M5, Canada, cgiguere@uottawa.ca)

In-ear and earmuff-type electronic protection devices are rapidly being introduced into the marketplace and deployed in noisy industrial workplaces and military settings. In these environments, workers must be sufficiently protected from noise while being able to maintain good communication abilities and situational awareness. Features such as level-dependent attenuation or amplification, user-adjustable talk-through circuitry, noise reduction, and remote communication capabilities are commonly found in advanced devices.

The benefits of these features depend on their complex interaction with the signal and noise characteristics, the hearing status and language proficiency of the workers, and the nature of the auditory task. Yet, detailed electro-acoustical specifications are rarely reported by manufacturers. Measurement standards are also lacking, though the advent of ANSI/ASA S12.42 should in part address this situation.

In this paper, the characteristics of two advanced devices are reported over a test battery including measurements of the passive sound attenuation, level-dependent talk-through sound transmission, and speech recognition in noise for listeners with a wide range of hearing loss. The language proficiency of the workers, and the nature of the auditory task. Yet, detailed electro-acoustical specifications are rarely reported by manufacturers. Measurement standards are also lacking, though the advent of ANSI/ASA S12.42 should in part address this situation. In this paper, the characteristics of two advanced devices are reported over a test battery including measurements of the passive sound attenuation, level-dependent talk-through sound transmission, and speech recognition in noise for listeners with a wide range of hearing profiles. Electronic level-dependent attenuation provided superior speech recognition performance than passive attenuation for all groups of listeners, and often exceeded unprotected speech recognition performance.

1:40

1pNSa3. Supplemental text messaging for the resolution of auditory overload.
Sharon M. Abel (Individual Behaviour and Performance Section, Defence R&D Canada - Toronto, 1133 Sheppard Ave. W., Toronto, ON M3K 2C9, Canada, sharon.abel@drdc-rddc.gc.ca), Geoffrey Ho (Human Systems Integration Section, Defence R&D Canada - Toronto, Toronto, ON, Canada), Ann Nakashima, and Ingrid Smith (Individual Behaviour and Performance Section, Defence R&D Canada - Toronto, Toronto, ON, Canada)

Military signal operators listen, transcribe, and respond to audio traffic over multiple audio channels, in high-level noise from vehicles and weapons. The messages typically overlap in time and may be difficult to disentangle. Two studies were carried out to determine the benefit of supplemental texting. Normal-hearing participants were tested in a mock up of a military command post. Brief messages were played simultaneously over a communications headset (dichotic) and a loudspeaker array, either in quiet or in a background of vehicle noise. The at-ear speech-to-noise ratio was 5 dB. Only those messages beginning with a pre-assigned call sign were encoded. Mean scores of 84% or better were observed for messages presented over the headset, although there was a clear right ear advantage in noise. Messages coming over the loudspeakers were more difficult to understand but a visual cue directing attention to the source of an incoming targeted message resulted in a significant improvement of 7%. Replacing audio messages over the loudspeakers in noise with visual or audiovisual presentations resulted in an improvement from 71% to 96% that did not negatively affect headset performance. The data suggest that texting is a viable option for communication in cases of degraded audio.
Contributed Paper

2:00

IpNSa4. Investigation of the role for noise canceling headphones to assist speech recall in noise. Marion Burgess and Brett Molesworth (School of Eng. and Information Technol., Univ. NSW, Canberra, Northcott Dr., Canberra, ACT 2612, Australia, m.burgess@adfa.edu.au)

There are many situations where it is necessary to hear, understand and be able to recall spoken information in less than ideal listening conditions. For example within an aircraft cabin where, despite improvements in modern passenger aircraft, noise generated from aircraft engines and aerodynamic airflow make it difficult to hear important on-board safety announcements such as the preflight safety brief. The benefits of headphones that incorporate active noise control in such environments are the focus of a series of research studies. In this paper, we discuss the techniques developed to investigate the use of active noise control headphones on the intelligibility and recall of speech generated outside the headsets in noise typical of that in a commercial aircraft cabin. The initial studies were directed towards assessing the effects on the recall for safety announcements. These studies have been extended to investigate if there are any benefits for those for which English is a second language. The results suggest that the use of active noise control headphones can minimize communication errors in a range of situations and this paper will discuss the methodology adopted and summarize the outcomes.

Invited Papers

2:20

IpNSa5. Integration of a distance sensitive wireless communication protocol to hearing protectors equipped with in-ear microphones. Rachel E. Bou Serhal, Tiago Falk, and Jérémi Voix (Universite de Quebec, Ecole de Technologie Superieure, 1280 Rue Saint Marc Apt. PH3, Montreal, QC H3H 2G1, Canada, rachel.bou.serhal@etsmtl.ca)

Using radio communication in noisy environments is a practical and affordable solution allowing communication between workers wearing hearing protection devices (HPD). However, typical radio communication systems have two main limitations when used in noisy environments: first, the background noise is disturbing the voice signal picked-up and transmitted, and second, that voice signal goes to all listeners on the same radio channel regardless of their physical proximity. A new concept of a so-called “Radio-Acoustical Virtual Environment” (RAVE) addressing these two issues is presented. Using an intra-aural instantly custom molded HPD equipped with both an in-ear microphone and miniature loudspeaker, undisturbed speech is captured from inside the ear canal and transmitted over the wireless radio to the remote listener. The transmitted signal will only be received by listeners within a given spatial range, such range depending on the user’s vocal effort and background noise level. This paper demonstrates the technological challenges to overcome and the methodology involved in the implementation of RAVE.

2:40

IpNSa6. Sensorial substitution system from vision to audition using transparent digital earplugs. Damien Lescal, Jean Rouat (GEGI, Université de Sherbrooke, Sherbrooke, QC, Canada), and Jérémi Voix (Génie mécanique, Ecole de Technologie Supérieure, 1100, rue Notre-Dame Ouest, Montréal, QC H3C 1K3, Canada, jeremie.voix@etsmtl.ca)

Since the Tactile Vision Substitution System (TVSS) developed by Bach-Y-Rita in 1960’s, several sensorial substitution systems have been developed. In general, the so-called “sensorial substitution” system transform stimuli characteristic of one sensory modality (for example, vision) into stimuli of another sensory modality (for example, audition). These systems are developed to help handicapped persons. We developed a sensorial substitution system from vision to audition. An artificial neural network is used to identify the important parts in the image. The virtual acoustic space technic is used to generate localizable sounds. A sound is associated to each important parts of the image. The entire real-time system has been implemented on iOS platforms (IPhone/IPad/IPod Touch). We associated our system with transparent digital earplugs. This way the user is aware of the audio scene happening around him. The system has been tested on non-blind persons and the results are presented.

3:00–3:20 Break

3:20

IpNSa7. An active hearing protection device for musicians. Antoine Bernier and Jérémi Voix (École de Technologie Supérieure, 1100 Rue Notre-Dame Ouest, Montreal, QC H3C 1K3, Canada, antoine.bernier@ens.etsmtl.ca)

Professional musicians have to deal with two great problems when wearing hearing protection devices (HPDs): the occlusion effect and the isolation effect. The occlusion effect is an unnatural and annoying perception of one’s own voice when wearing HPDs. It will affect all musicians whose instrument induces vibrations to the skull, including a singer’s vocal tracts and instruments mechanically coupled to the head, such as a trumpet or a violin. The isolation effect is the unnatural sensation of being isolated from a given sound environment. It is caused by a non-uniform attenuation of the HPD over the frequency spectrum and the absence of compensation for psychoacoustic factors, such as uneven loudness perception. These two effects cause a shift of perception between the musician’s perception and the audience’s perception and therefore compromise the musician’s ability to offer a good performance to his audience. This paper presents the design and implementation of an active musician’s HPD featuring a feedback active noise control system for occlusion effect reduction as well as psychoacoustic compensations for isolation effect reduction. The proposed test procedure and preliminary performance assessments are presented to validate both the test procedure and the system for future subjects trials on a larger scale.
3:40

IPNSA8. A case-study on the continuous use of an in-ear dosimetric device. Kuba Mazur and Jeremie Voix (Universite du Quebec, Ecole de Technologie Superieure, 1100, rue Notre-Dame Ouest, Montreal, QC H3C 1K3, Canada, kuba.mazur@etsmtl.ca)

In order to further understand the combined effects of occupational and recreational noise exposure with regards to noise induced hearing loss (NIHL), an in-ear dosimeter prototype meant for continuous use was developed. The device acts as a hearing protection device (HPD) and can measure and log effective in-air sound pressure level as well as unprotected levels. To enable its continuous use, this HPD is also equipped with a bypass feature for “transparent” hearing, input for music or communication devices and interfaces with Android smartphones. The proposed device allows for the implementation of an algorithm accounting for the auditory fatigue recovery rate, providing a true representation of the current accumulated noise dose. This allows for 24 h dosimetry and avoids having the user manually reset the dose back to 0% on the next day and thus assuming complete fatigue recovery has occurred. This paper details the proposed recovery algorithm, presents collected field data, and discusses the benefits as well as real-world challenges of using such a device.

4:00

IPNSA9. Estimation of noise exposure level for subjects wearing hearing protector devices. Cécile Le Coq (Génie mécanique, École de technologie supérieure, 1100 Notre Dame Ouest, Montréal, QC H3C1K3, Canada, cecile.lecocq@etsmtl.ca), Hugues Nélisse, Jérôme Boutin (Prévention des risques mécaniques et physiques, Institut de recherche Robert-Sauvé en santé et en sécurité du travail, Montréal, QC, Canada), Jérémie Voix, and Frédéric Laville (Génie mécanique, École de technologie supérieure, Montréal, QC, Canada)

Industrial workers are exposed to noise levels that could damage their hearing. The Field-MIRE (F-MIRE) method has been developed to quantify earplug and earmuff attenuations with two microphones located under and outside of the HPD. This technique has been designed to be used in the field, but does not give a direct access to the noise exposure level, that is, the noise level at the head location without the subject. In this article, we present a combination of the F-MIRE method with a proposed technique to estimate the sound pressure level without subject, in order to quantify both the ambient and protected noise exposure levels and deduce the effects on worker hearing. Several experiments have been conducted on four subjects with three types of earplugs and with five types of earmuffs. First, the best location for the microphone outside of the HPD has been determined. Second, correction factors that need to be applied on the outside microphone measurement to estimate the sound pressure level without subject have been quantified. Finally, the proposed technique has been validated with measurements taken in a simulated workplace.

4:20

IPNSA10. Improved hearing conservation in industry: More efficient implementation of distortion product otoacoustic emissions for accurate hearing status monitoring. Annelies Bockstael, Hannah Keppler, and Dick Botteldooren (Ghent Univ., Sint-Pietersnieuwstraat 41, Gent 9000, Belgium, annelies.bockstael@intec.ugent.be)

Preventing occupational hearing damage requires close monitoring of workers’ hearing. Implementing Distortion Product Otoacoustic Emissions (DPOAEs) in-field is a sensitive and feasible approach provided that a combination of minimal measuring time and infrequent false-positives is found. This paper investigates how measurement time can be reduced by carefully selecting the tested frequency span and resolution, and how false-positives are minimized by comparing DPOAEs acquired in noise with DPOAEs previously obtained in optimal test conditions. To test this, DPOAEs have been registered with a 1/8-octave band resolution from 841 Hz to 8 kHz for 60 subjects, in quiet conditions and in white noise levels ranging from 54 dB(A) to 90 dB(A). Measurement accuracy is confronted to decrease the measurement time as a function of frequency resolution and range. Diagnostic importance and sensitivity to background noise is addressed for different frequency regions. Within-subject variation of DPOAEs in noisy conditions is assessed both between different noise conditions and between subsequent probe placement. Obtained test–retest statistics quantify normal variability and allow within normal working routines to select for further investigation persons with DPOAEs falling outside this range.

4:40

IPNSA11. Use of passive hearing protectors and adaptive noise reduction for field recording of otoacoustic emissions in industrial noise. Vincent Nadon (École de technologie supérieure, 6080 rue Laurendeau, appartenant 2, MONTREAL, QC H4E3X5, Canada, vincent.nadon.16@ens.etsmtl.ca), Annelies Bockstael (INTEC, Ghent Univ., Ghent, Belgium), Hannah Keppler (Dept. of Oto-Rhino-Laryngology and Logopaedic-Audiol. Sci., Ghent Univ., Ghent, Belgium), Dick Botteldooren (INTEC, Ghent Univ., Ghent, Belgium), Jean-Marc Lina, and Jeremie Voix (École de technologie supérieure, Montréal, QC, Canada)

Distortion product otoacoustic emissions (DPOAEs) can detect noise-induced hearing loss in-field, but their data extraction is very sensitive to background noise. This paper investigates how passive and active noise reduction enhance DPOAE recording based on data collected in white noise from 54 dB(A) to 90 dB(A). Despite considerable high-frequency attenuation from a proper placed DPOAE probe, 54 dB(A) background noise deteriorates the test outcome substantially. More low-frequency attenuation by an extra passive ear-muff enables measurements in white noise levels of 70 dB(A). The relationship between external sound level and noise recorded by the DPOAE system has been statistically modeled. Additionally, the upper limits of attenuation improvement are analyzed by quantifying residual physiological noise. Furthermore, for an earplug integrating microphone and speakers of the DPOAE measurement probe, adaptive noise reduction processing on the DPOAE signal is used to improve the signal-to-noise ratio. The adaptive noise reduction (ANR) is implemented using the NLMS algorithm to filter out the ambient noise, measured by the first microphone measuring the DPOAE signal, with a second miniature microphone mounted flush with the external faceplate of the isolating DPOAE probe. Simulated data show that DPOAE response extraction is possible in an environment with noise levels exceeding 70 dB(A).
MONDAY AFTERNOON, 3 JUNE 2013

Session 1pNSb

Noise: Community Noise

Eric L. Reuter, Chair
Reuter Assoc., LLC, 10 Vaughan Mall, Ste. 201A, Portsmouth, NH 03801

Invited Papers

1:00

1pNSb1. Quantifying the ambient community noise environment for optimal industry siting. Tim C. Wiens, Gordon L. Reusing, Slavi Grozev, and Zachary Zehr (Noise and Vib. Services, Conestoga-Rovers & Assoc., 651 Colby Dr., Waterloo, ON N2V 1C2, Canada, twiens@craworld.com)

A road traffic noise model was developed to approximate the ambient noise levels present within a 200 km² urban center. Road corridors that included highways, city streets, and country side-roads with varying traffic volumes were modeled to evaluate the existing ambient conditions within the project area. To calculate noise levels, an acoustical model and Traffic Noise Model (TNM) calculation standard was used to account for a variety of real-world variables such as daily average traffic counts, turning counts, speed limits, road composition, elevation, road width, and traffic composition. The model generated noise contours that were used to identify areas of elevated ambient noise levels within the project area that may prove suitable for a medium-sized industrial facility. This modeling technique and ambient community noise analysis allowed for the identification of an optimal site within the project area and also proved to be an approach that can be used to industry’s advantage. Urban noise is an emerging issue for growing communities. Locating new facilities within urbanized areas with elevated ambient conditions may minimize community noise impacts, reduce post-construction noise abatement costs, and ultimately promote complementary adjacent land use and sustainable urban densification.

1:20

1pNSb2. Proposed standard—Guidance for developing state noise regulations and local noise ordinances. Bennett M. Brooks (Brooks Acoust. Corp., 30 Lafayette Square - Ste. 103, Vernon, CT 06066, bbrooks@brooks-acoustics.com)

The American National Standards Institute (ANSI) Accredited Standards Committee S12 (Noise) Working Group (WG) 41 has been developing a draft standards document for over 12 years. The current document is in Draft #9, now under development. This document represents the consensus of many stakeholders in the community noise arena, including industry, government, consulting, and the public. The purpose of the document is to provide guidance to government officials, acoustical consultants, and other interested persons on how to develop a community noise ordinance or regulation, which is appropriate for the existing local circumstances. The document addresses issues such as public and government priorities and values, and available resources, and also provides the technical basis to manage the local sound environment. The keys to the effectiveness of the document are that it provides a menu of options for the user, discusses the trade-offs involved for decisions that must be made by government officials, and emphasizes that enforcement of a community noise ordinance is crucial to its success. A description of the current draft is presented.

Contributed Papers

1:40

1pNSb3. Do recent findings on jet noise answer aspects of the Schultz curve? Micah Downing (Blue Ridge Res. and Consulting, 15 W. Walnut St., Ste. C, Asheville, NC 28801, micah.downing@blueideresearch.com), Kent Gee (Dept. of Phys. and Astronomy, Brigham Young Univ., Provo, UT), Sally Anne McInerny (Dept. of Mech. Eng., Univ. of Louisiana at Lafayette, Lafayette, LA), Tracianne Niilsen (Dept. of Phys. and Astronomy, Brigham Young Univ., Provo, UT), and Michael James (Blue Ridge Res. and Consulting, Asheville, NC)

Recent research efforts on nonlinear propagation from high performance jet aircraft have revealed an interesting challenge to predicting community response. This challenge focuses on receiver perception of these unique acoustical signals, which contain acoustical shocks that appear to increase their relative loudness and/or noisiness. This current finding suggests a need for an improved description of a receiver perception of the loudness of these signals in order to improve the assessment of noise impacts from these aircraft. Looking backwards, an interesting question emerges: did the earlier low bypass jet engines on commercial and transport aircraft also include these acoustical shocks? If they did contain these features, then the perceptual differences observed between aircraft and other transportation noise sources may be partially explained.

2:00

1pNSb4. Acoustical indicator of noise annoyance due to tramway in in-curve operating configurations. Arnaud Trollé, Catherine Marquis-Favre, and Achim Klein (Lab. of Bldg. and Civil Eng., Univ. of Lyon, Labex CELYA, National School of State Public Works, Rue Maurice Audin, Vaulx-en-Velin 69518 CEDEX, France, arnaud.trolle@entpe.fr)

Tramway gives rise to annoyance. Particularly, tramway in an in-curve operating configuration often emits squeal noises leading to inhabitants’ complaints. Noise exposure levels were not sufficient to account for annoyance. Other acoustical factors could explain noise annoyance. A laboratory experiment is carried out in order to identify and characterize the influential acoustical factors of in-curve tramway noises. Subjects are asked to rate the short-term annoyance caused by 14 tramway pass-by noises, recorded in situ for various in-curve operating configurations. A psychoacoustical analysis shows that the overall perceived noise level, the irregular character and the treble character of tramway noises influence noise annoyance. These
acoustical features are taken into account through the following indices: the mean loudness, the variance of time-varying A-weighted pressure normalized by RMS A-weighted pressure, and a psychoacoustical index, constructed to account for squeal noise, expressed by the total energy of the tonal components within critical bands from 12 to 24 Barks. A multilevel regression analysis reveals that a combination of these indices proves to be satisfactory for predicting short-term annoyance due to in-curve tramway noises. These results are consistent with those from a previous experiment that implied 61 tramway pass-by noises corresponding to different operating situations.

2:20
IpNSb5. Rail noise and vibration in Australia—A case study. Vincent Chavand (Air & Noise Service Line, GHD, Level 3, GHD Tower, 24 Honeysuckle Dr., Newcastle, NSW 2300, Australia, vincent.chavand@ghd.com)

This paper reviews the various stages of a major rail project undertaken in New South Wales (NSW), Australia, between 2010 and 2012. This case study involves 40 km of new track adjacent to existing railway lines in the Hunter Valley, NSW. The project is located within a mixture of rural and urban settings and had the potential to impact on a large number of sensitive receivers during both the construction and operational phases. The project approvals required compliance with a number of relatively new noise and vibration guidelines and policies, which provides an opportunity for the author to reflect on the recent evolutions in noise and vibration control practices and policing in Australia. This paper reviews the project from the approvals process to its commissioning phase from a noise and vibration point of view. It explores the construction and operational noise modeling methodologies, reviews the design process and adopted mitigation measures and, in doing so, it discusses the practical challenges met through the course of the works.

2:40–3:00 Break

3:00
IpNSb6. Noise pollution in urban settings of the Western Amazonia and an approach to cope with. Stephan Paul (Undergrad. Program Acoust. Eng., Fed. Univ. of Santa Maria, Av. Roraima 1000, Camobi, Santa Maria, RS 97105-900, Brazil, stephan.paul@eac.ufsm.br), Isabel C. Kuniyoshi (Dept. of Speech and Hearing Sci., Faculdade Sao Lucas, Porto Velho, Brazil), Flávio André M. de Araujo (Office of the Federal Public Prosecutor of Rondonia State, Porto Velho, Brazil), and Lucinara Camargo (Dept. of Environmental Protection SEMA, Municipality of Porto Velho, Porto Velho, Brazil)

The Amazon Region is usually well known for its nature and not for the noise pollution that recently took over in many cities, both major ones such as Porto Velho, Manaus, or Belém, as well as minor cities. Transparent facades with large openings of places like restaurants and bars, heavy traffic, and young adults competing with high power car sound systems are the most common sources of noise pollution and annoyance. Results from noise measurements done at different moments at several “hot spots” in Porto Velho, capital of the state of Rondônia, will be presented. A-weighted equivalent sound pressure levels at all measurement points were found to be in excess of 70 dBA during several hours at night, causing a lot of annoyance to the population. Besides the results of measurements some results of the state authorities approach to combine a campaign to raise noise awareness and noise policy enforcement will be presented.

3:20
IpNSb7. Sound power level of speaking people. Marco Caniatio (Univ. of Trieste, via valerio 6/a, Trieste 34100, Italy, mcaniatio@units.it), Federica Bettarello (Acusticamente - Designing Team, Conegliano, Italy), and Michele Taffarel (M&T Eng., Conegliano, Italy)

In restaurants and cafés many sound sources are present: music, refrigerant, and cooling equipment and people speaking. The smoking prohibition law did move out people creating a lot of aggregation areas outdoor, both in summer and in winter time. As a matter of facts many cafés open on the outer part a stallage in order to provide beverages to outside costumers. In this way, the “people speaking” source became a common problem to deal with and solve. In order to characterize this particular sound source in terms of sound power level of a typical stallage situation full of speaking people, sound pressure power measurements according to ISO 3446 standard were carried out. The results confirm the first investigation achievements provided by Sepulcri et al. with a non-direct method.

3:40

Saint Joseph’s University, located in Philadelphia, purchased a vacated private school campus adjacent to theirs. This new campus, which resides in neighboring Lower Merion Township, included 15 acres of open fields that the university desired to turn into NCAA (National Collegiate Athletic Association) baseball, softball, and field hockey fields. Proposed improvements to the fields included permanent bleacher seating, press boxes, dug-outs, batting cages, artificial turf playing surfaces, re-grading of the fields, and sound reinforcement systems among other changes. The surrounding community vehemently opposed the proposed changes largely due to the potential noise generated from cheering crowds and sound systems. Through a year and a half of township hearings with testimony provided by a plethora of expert witnesses, Saint Joseph’s University finally received approval with various restrictions to build their fields. This presentation explores the research, measurements, and modeling methods undertaken to quantify the acoustical implications on the surrounding community.

4:00
IpNSb9. Noise control for rooftop chiller units: An application in Istanbul. David Meredith (Kinetics Noise Control, 6300 Irelan Place, Dublin, OH 43065, dmeredith@kineticsnoise.com), Hakan Dilmen, Merve Çağ (Pro-Plan Proje Mühendislik San. ve Tic. Ltd, Istanbul, Turkey), H. Temel Belek, and Ahmet Arisoy (İstanbul Teknik Üniversitesi Makina Fakültesi, İstanbul, Turkey)

A telecommunication corporation located in Gayrettepe, Istanbul, installed 20 rooftop chillers on their six-story building to air condition their newly introduced client Internet server hall in spring 2010, causing annoyance in the mostly residential neighborhood during the summer months. After a series of night-time acoustic measurements were performed to characterize the noise emitted by the chillers, a three-dimensional noise model of the area was created. Using this model, a ventilated noise control barrier was designed to bring down the contribution of the chiller units to the overall environmental noise level. Following the manufacturing and installation of the barrier, a series of night-time measurements were performed anew, which demonstrated that the application has mitigated the contribution of the noise emitted by the rooftop units to within regulation limits.
Session 1pPAa

Physical Acoustics and Biomedical Acoustics: Acoustics in Microfluidics and for Particle Separation IIb: Bubbles and Drops

Martin Wiklund, Cochair

Yong-Jae Kim, Cochair
Mech. Eng., Texas A&M Univ., College Station, TX 77843

Contributed Papers

1:00
1pPAa1. Acoustic bubble behavior in a standing wave field. Cyril Desjouy, Pauline Labelle, Bruno Gilles, Jean-Christophe Bera, and Claude Inserra (U1032, LabTAU, Inserm, 151 Cours Albert Thomas, Lyon cedex 03 69424, France, cyril.desjouy@inserm.fr)

This paper focuses on the experimental and numerical studies of acoustic cavitation induced micro bubbles in a standing waveguide filled with water. It is shown that the cylindrical geometry of the system used in this study allows the micro bubbles to self organize into particular patterns. At high pressure amplitudes, the cavitation bubbles tend to aggregate into well known cluster patterns and at relatively low pressure amplitudes, the cavitation micro bubbles aggregate into ring patterns. This study highlights that the shape of these ring patterns is directly related to the Bjerknes force distribution in the resonator. It is also shown both experimentally and numerically that cavitation bubbles may exhibit spiraling behavior around this ring pattern. This spiraling phenomenon is numerically studied and the conditions for which a single cavitation bubble follows an orbital trajectory in the cylindrical waveguide are established, and the influences of the acoustic pressure amplitude and the initial bubble radius are investigated.

1:20
1pPAa2. The roles of acoustic cavitations in the ultrasonic cleansing of fouled micro-membranes. Yuanxiang Yang (School of Civil and Environmental Eng. and DHI-NTU Ctr., Nanyang Technolog. Univ., Nanyang Ave. 50, N1-B1-3a, Maritime Res. Ctr., Singapore 639798, Singapore, yang0250@e.ntu.edu.sg), Qianxi Wang (School of Mathematics, The Univ. of Birmingham, Birmingham, United Kingdom), and Soon Keat Tan (Nanyang Environment and Water Res. Inst. and Maritime Res. Ctr., Nanyang Technolog. Univ., Singapore, Singapore)

This paper concerned the experimental studies on the cleansing mechanism of acoustic cavitation bubbles near the fouled micro-membranes. The existence of the membrane created asymmetry in the flow field, which forced the cavitation bubble to oscillate non-spherically and finally brought forth the jet impact. The oscillations and micro-jets of the cavitation bubbles enhanced the dynamic features of the fluid nearfield and improved the capability of removing fouling. The study on the acoustic multi-bubble system was quite complicated, so first, we focused on the individual bubble dynamics near the membrane. A succession of individual cavitation bubbles were created by Q-switched Nd: YAG laser pulses and observed using a high-speed camera (up to 100,000 frames per second). The jet flow hit against the membrane surface with velocity above 100 m/s, which was strong enough to remove the adherent fouling. We compared the cleansing effects of the cavitation bubbles with different laser energies and stand-off distances from the membrane surface. And then based on the individual bubble dynamics, we can deduce the influence of cavitations in the ultrasonic cleansing of micro-membranes.

1:40

The theory of self-organization of bubbles in acoustic fields predicts formation and propagation of waves of self-induced acoustic transparency. This is a strongly nonlinear effect, which is a result of a two-way coupling of the sound field with the bubble distribution. We are challenging the theory with an experiment. Here, a homogeneous distribution of gas bubbles is first generated and then an ultrasonic field is switched on. The pressure waves are below the cavitation threshold and in a frequency range from 50 kHz to 200 kHz, mostly above the linear resonance frequency of the bubbles. The ultrasound leads to a rapidly propagating bubble wave away from the transducer. The dynamics is observed with a high-speed camera and analyzed. Interestingly, this transparent region is propagating through the bubbly liquid at velocities substantially higher than the bubble rise velocity due to the gravity. A simplified theoretical model of this acoustically induced transparency is developed. Both, analytical and numerical solutions are obtained. A comparison of the experimental data with the model is presented and the underlying physics of the problem is discussed.
MONDAY AFTERNOON, 3 JUNE 2013

Session 1pPAb

Physical Acoustics and Biomedical Acoustics: Acoustics in Microfluidics and for Particle Separation III: Biological Applications

Michel Versluis, Cochair
Univ. of Twente, P.O. Box 217, Enschede 7500 AE, Netherlands

Lawrence A. Crum, Cochair
Appl. Phys. Lab., Univ. of Washington, Ctr. for Industrial and Medical Ultrasound, Seattle, WA 98105

Invited Papers

2:00

1pPAb1. Acoustic deformation of cells. Puja Mishra, Martyn Hill, and Peter Glynne-Jones (Faculty of Eng. and the Environment, Univ. of Southampton, University Rd., Southampton SO17 1BJ, United Kingdom, pgj98r@gmail.com)

The stretching of cells using optical tweezers has been previously demonstrated, enabling the mechanical properties of individual cells to be assessed with potential applications in, for example, identifying cancer cells and parasite infections such as malaria. We demonstrate here a system that uses acoustic radiation forces to compress levitated cells to an extent comparable to that demonstrated with optical tweezers. While the deformation of levitated droplets has been demonstrated in the past, this paper addresses the challenge of producing significant forces on objects that have low acoustic contrast with their host medium and are small compared to the acoustic wavelength. The acoustic deformation can potentially be applied to many (e.g., thousands) of cells simultaneously, opening the way to higher throughput diagnostic devices. In our system, osmotically swollen red blood cells (RBCs) are used to demonstrate the principle as they are particularly compliant due to the absence of a cytoskeleton. A resonance is formed in a square capillary of inner dimension, 100 μm. Excited by a transducer at a half-wave resonance of 7.9 MHz, cells are both levitated and focused laterally into a single line down the center of the capillary prior to the compression forces being applied. We present finite element models of the acoustic deformation, verifying our code against known results for droplet deformation.

2:20

1pPAb2. Application of acoustic radiation pressure to align cells in a commercial flow cytometer. Gregory Kaduchak and Michael D. Ward (Molecular and Cell Essentials, Life Technologies, 29851 Willow Creek Rd., Eugene, OR 97402, greg.kaduchak@lifetech.com)

Forces derived from acoustic radiation pressure can be used to replace or partly replace hydrodynamic forces to align cells and particles in flow cytometry. The ability to focus cells into a tight line without relying on hydrodynamic forces allows many new possibilities for sample delivery. Dilute samples can be processed quickly. Flow velocities can be varied allowing control of particle delivery parameters such as laser interrogation time and volumetric sample input rates. Recently, a commercial flow cytometer that directs particles into the laser interrogation region using acoustic radiation pressure in a 200 μm channel has been developed. In this talk, the application of acoustic radiation pressure in flow cytometry systems from fundamental principles to implementation details will be presented. Data will be shown for both the operational implementation of the acoustic focusing device as well as demonstrating its ability to perform for complex biological assays.

2:40


We describe a novel platform for acoustic sample preparation in microchannels and microplates. The utilized method is based on generating a multitude of acoustic resonances at a set of different frequencies in microstructures, in order to accurately control the migration and positioning of particles and cells suspended in fluid channels and chambers. The actuation frequencies range from 30 kHz to 7 MHz, which are applied simultaneously and/or in sweeps. We present two devices: A closed microfluidic chip designed for pre-alignment, size-based separation, isolation, up-concentration, lysis of cells, and an open multi-well microplate designed for parallel aggregation and positioning of cells. Both devices in the platform are compatible with high-resolution live-cell microscopy, which is used for fluorescence-based optical characterization. Two bioapplications are demonstrated for each of the devices: The first device is used for size-selective cell isolation and lysis for DNA-based diagnostics, and the second device is used for quantifying the heterogeneity in cytotoxic response of natural killer cells interacting with cancer cells.
1pPAb5. Acoustic radiation force to reposition kidney stones. Michael Bailey, Yak-Nam Wang, Julianna C. Simon, Bryan W. Cunitz (Ctr. Industrial and Medical Ultrason., Appl. Phys. Lab., Univ. of Washington, 1013 NE 40th St., Seattle, WA 98105, bailey@apl.washington.edu), Jonathan D. Harper, Ryan S. Hsi (Dept. of Urology, Univ. of Washington School of Medicine, Seattle, WA), Frank Starr, Marla Paun, Barbrina Dunmore (Ctr. Industrial and Medical Ultrason., Applied Physics Lab, Univ. of Washington, Seattle, WA), Oleg A. Sapozhnikov (Phys. Faculty, Moscow State Univ., Seattle, Washington), Lawrence A. Crum (Ctr. Industrial and Medical Ultrason., Applied Phys. Lab., Univ. of Washington, Seattle, WA), and Mathew D. Sorensen (Dept. of Urology, Univ. of Washington School of Medicine, Seattle, WA)

Our group has introduced transcutaneous ultrasound to move kidney stones in order to expel small stones or relocate an obstructing stone to a nonobstructing location. Human stones and metalized beads (2-8 mm) were implanted ureteroscopically in kidneys of eight domestic swine. Ultrasonic propulsion was performed using a diagnostic imaging transducer and a Varasonic ultrasound platform. Stone propulsion was visualized using fluoroscopy, ultrasound, and the ureteroscope. Successful stone movement was defined as relocating a stone to the renal pelvis, ureteropelvic junction (UPJ), or proximal ureter. Three blinded experts evaluated for histologic injury in control and treatment arms. All stones were moved, 65% (17/26) of stones/beads were moved the entire distance to the renal pelvis (3), UPJ (2), or ureter (12). Average successful procedure per stone required 14±8 min and 23±16 pushes. Each push averaged 0.9 s in duration. Mean interval between pushes was 41±13 s. No gross or histologic kidney damage was identified in six kidneys from exposure to 20 1-s pushes spaced by 33 s. Ultrasonic propulsion is effective with most stones being relocated to the renal pelvis, UPJ, or ureter. The procedure appears safe without evidence of injury. [Work supported by NIH DK43881, DK092197, and NSBRI through NASA NCC 9-58.]

Contributed Papers

1pPAb6. Macro-scale acoustophoretic separation of lipid particles from red blood cells. Brian P. Dutra (FloDesign Sonics Inc., 380 Main St., Wilbraham, MA 01095, b.dutra@fdesonics.com), Michael Rust (Biomedical Eng., Western New England Univ., Springfield, MA), Daniel Kennedy (Pharmacology, Western New England Univ., Springfield, MA), Louis Masi (FloDesign Sonics Inc., Wilbraham, MA), and Bart Lipkens (Mech. Eng., Western New England Univ., Springfield, MA)

Autologous blood salvage is frequently used in cardiac surgery. However, shed mediastinal blood contains lipid particles ranging in size from 10 to 60 μm. Lipid emboli flow subsequently lodge in the brain capillaries resulting in strokes, leading to neurocognitive dysfunction and death. A novel acoustophoretic filtration system has been developed to separate the lipids from the red blood cells (RBCs). The system works at the macroscale, supporting flow rates in excess of 2 L/h. The system is designed such that the acoustic radiation force is able to overcome the combined effects of fluid drag and buoyancy forces. Both RBCs and lipid particles are therefore trapped in the ultrasonic standing wave. Due to the opposite contrast factors of lipids and RBCs, the two components separate at opposite nodes within the standing wave, with lipids concentrating at pressure anti-nodes and RBCs at pressure nodes. Subsequent gravitational separation is used to separate the lipids and RBCs. Preliminary results were obtained with a suspension of 10x diluted bovine blood mixed with a 0.75% safflower oil emulsion. Measurements indicate a 15 fold increase in hematocrit of the captured RBCs when compared to the original sample solution, and an excellent separation of the oil droplets.

1pPAb7. Removal of living cells from biosensing surfaces in droplet-based microfluidics using surface acoustic waves. Adrien Bussonnière, Alan Renaudin (Université de Sherbrooke, Pavillon 3IT Parc innovation, 3000 boulevard de l’université, Sherbrooke, QC J1K 0A5, Canada, adrien.bussonniere@usherbrooke.ca), Yannick Miron, Michel Grandbois (Pharmacology, Université de Sherbrooke, Sherbrooke, QC, Canada), Michaël Baudoin (FILMS, IEMN, Lille, France), and Paul Charette (Université de Sherbrooke, Sherbrooke, QC, Canada)

Removal of living biological cells from surfaces is a critical process for many applications in the area of biosensing and lab-on-a-chip. Trypsin is one of the most effective biochemical tools used to cleave the cells proteins that are responsible for bonding cells to surfaces [K. A. Walsh, Meth. Enzymol. 19, 41 (1970)]. We propose a method using Rayleigh-type (20 MHz) surface acoustic wave (SAW)-based mixing [Renaudin et al., Lab Chip 10, 111 (2010)] as an accelerator for trypsin-mediated removal of living cells from surfaces. In the experiments, a 10 μL droplet of Hank’s Balanced Salt Solution (HBSS)-trypsin is placed on a piezoelectric substrate covered with human embryonic kidney cells (HEK293). Using phase contrast microscopy, cells removal time for different acoustic power levels and trypsin concentrations is measured. Results from validation experiments show that a minimum of 180 s is necessary to completely release surface-bonded cells covered by the 10 μL droplet without the use of SAW (negative control). By using microstreaming flow in the droplets generated by the SAW, cells are released from the surface in less than 8 s. This work will contribute to improved lab-on-a-chip devices based on living cell biosensing.
Mechanical properties of cells such as compressibility are regarded to be different as cancer cells progress into metastatic state. Traditional methods for measuring mechanical properties of single cells such as AFM and micro-pipette aspiration require labor-intensive procedures and can cause damage to cells due to direct contact, thus unsuitable for high-throughput measurement.

Acoustophoretic force exerted on particles under acoustic-standing-waves depends on the particle and medium’s vibro-acoustic properties. Thus, cells with different mechanical properties show different mobility under acoustic resonant field, which can be analyzed to decipher the mechanical properties of cells. Here we present a high-throughput, single-cell-resolution, cell compressibility measurement approach based on acoustic-standing-wave-induced force, and the finding that head and neck cancer cells having different metastatic capacities show noticeable differences in compressibility. The acoustophoresis chip has a straight flow channel with a piezoelectric transducer attached at the bottom. Trajectories of moving cells in the channel under acoustic standing wave excitation in the absence of flow are recorded. By using a microfluidic acoustophoretic model, the simulated trajectories of cells are calculated. The mechanical properties of cells are estimated by fitting the experimental and simulated trajectories thereby, consistent with previously reported clinical observations.

In several areas of science and technology, there is a strong need for concentrating, separating, and sorting small particles suspended in gaseous flows. Acoustic fields can be used to accomplish this task, an approach extensively used in liquid phase microfluidics that has great potential for aerosol treatment. This paper presents an experimental investigation of acoustophoresis for very small particles in gases, with sizes ranging from tens to hundreds of nanometers. The phenomenon is studied in a rectangular channel with variable height in which a standing acoustic field is created by a broadband electrostatic transducer operated in the 50-100 kHz range. The flow can either be seeded with particles with a known size distribution or ambient laboratory air can simply be circulated in the channel. Downstream of the separation channel, the flow is separated into enriched and depleted streams with adjustable slits for analysis. The particle number density and size distribution is measured with a scanning mobility particle sizer (SMPS) as a function of position in the standing wave pattern. From these measurements, the separation efficiency is determined as a function of the particle size, excitation frequency, bulk flow velocity, and number of nodes in the channel. Further analysis yields an estimation of the force acting on the particles, which for very small particles yields novel information on the magnitude of acoustophoretic forces in the transition and molecular flow regimes.
1:20

1pPPa2. An improved method for head-related transfer function interpolation and grid matching. Aussal Matthieu (DIGITAL MEDIA SOLUTIONS, 45, grande allée du 12 février 1934, Noisiel 77186, France, matthieu.aussal@dms-cinema.com), Alouges François (CMAP, ECOLE POLYTECHNIQUE, Palaiseau, France), and Katz F. Brian (LIMSI-CNRS, Orsay, France)

Today, there grows a number of HRTF datasets available with each set often proposing a unique variation on the spatial discretization measurement grid. These differing grids, typically determined by the mechanical system employed, result in datasets, which are not directly comparable or exploitable. To alleviate the limitation of incompatible grids and assist in the adaptation of measurements performed on one grid to another, facilitating the inter-exchange of HRTF sets, a fixed radius HRTF interpolation method is proposed. The approach is based on decomposition of the sound field using spherical harmonics, allowing for a global spatial recomposition. The frequency domain HRTF is separated into its complex components and interpolations are performed independently before reconstitution. Spherical harmonic truncation order is chosen to provide a system which is roughly square, improving matrix inversion with Tikhonov regularization. A high spatial density HRTF was used as a test case for evaluating the interpolation method. A series of measures are employed to quantitatively compare the quality of the interpolation as compared to traditional interpolation methods in both the time and frequency domains.

1:40

1pPPa3. Statistical analysis of head related transfer function data. Yuancheng Luo, Dmitry N. Zotkin (Comput. Sci. and UMIACS, Univ. of Maryland, College Park, MD), and Ramani Duraiswami (VisiSonics Corp., A.V. Williams Bldg., #115, College Park, MD 20742, ramani@umiacs.umd.edu)

The head related transfer function (HRTF) is a function that characterizes the response of a given individual to sound from a particular location in an egocentric coordinate system. The range dependence is often neglected, and the HRTF is approximated as a function of frequency and direction, H(\theta,\phi,\omega). The HRTF displays considerable inter-personal variability, and a major open problem is the development of a generative model for the HRTF from anthropometry. Further, the sampling used in measuring HRTF data varies widely from database to database, and moreover often there are no measurements for elevations below the subject. This raises associated questions of optimal sampling, interpolation, hole-filling, and others. In this work, we model the HRTF via a non-parametric, data-driven, Gaussian Process Regression model. We develop efficient regression techniques to perform inference using this model on measured HRTF data. We then suggest methods for HRTF interpolation, HRTF extrapolation, feature extraction, sampling, and personalization. The methods are tested on the CIPIC database and results presented. [Partial NSF support is gratefully acknowledged.]

2:00

1pPPa4. Toward optimal functional representation of head-related transfer functions in the horizontal plane. Wen Zhang, Thushara D. Abhayapala, Rodney A. Kennedy (Res. School of Eng., Australian National Univ., Canberra, ACT 0200, Australia, wen.zhang@anu.edu.au), and Mengjue Zhang (School of Elec. Eng., KTH Royal Inst. of Technology, Stockholm, Sweden)

Head-related transfer function (HRTF) individualization using principle component analysis (PCA) modeling rely on the empirical data to reduce HRTF dimensionality for an optimal representation and to achieve HRTF personalization by tuning the model weights with the subject anthropometric parameters. However, for these representations, the basis is discrete and data dependent, which can limit its usefulness in universal HRTF representation. This paper studies the optimal functional representation of magnitude HRTF of 45 subjects for sound sources in the horizontal plane. We first use circular harmonics to extract the subject-independent HRTF angular dependence. The remaining spectral components of 45 subjects are then modeled by PCA and two standard functions, i.e., Fourier series and Fourier Bessel series. The metric to evaluate the model efficiency is the expansion weights cumulative variance. We identify that individual magnitude HRTFs over 20 kHz range could be modeled adequately well by a linear combination of only 19 Fourier series; this is a near optimal representation in comparison with the statistical PCA model. Further analysis of the model weights with subjective and objective measures will provide a promising method for HRTF individualization, especially considering the nature of data independent functionalization of basis functions employed in the proposed functional representation.

2:20

1pPPa5. A three dimensional children head database for acoustical research and development. Stine Harder, Rasmus R. Paulsen (Informatics and Mathematical Modelling, Tech. Univ. of Denmark, Richard Petersens Plads., Bldg. 321, Office 215, Kgs. Lyngby 2800, Denmark, rrp@imm.dtu.dk), Martin Larsen (Oticon A/S, Smørnør, Denmark), and Soren Laugesen (Oticon Res. Ctr. Eriksholm, Snekkertsten, Denmark)

Most computational–acoustic work within spatial hearing relies on head-related transfer functions from databases of measurements taken on adult humans or dummy heads. We aim to provide a set of 3D digital heads including children, from which head-related transfer functions can be computed instead of measured. However, current volumetric scanning techniques do not have sufficient resolution for accurately scanning the external ear, and computed tomography also involves radiation. In this paper, we propose a framework for scanning, stitching, and meshing complete human heads. The process starts by acquisition of multiple 3D surface scans of the same subject using a high-resolution photogrammetric scanner. Second, the scans are semi-automatically aligned and noise and incoherence is removed. This is followed by an iterative process where a volumetric implicit representation of the head is optimized. The process consists of a regularized surface-reconstruction step followed by an alignment step. Finally, a surface representation of the entire head is extracted using a triangulation of the zero-level iso-surface of the implicit volume. The process has been used to reconstruct the heads of children aged 10 months to 9 years. The data and the associated reconstruction algorithms will be made publicly available for use in acoustical research and development.
Empirical measurement is a common approach to obtaining head-related transfer functions (HRTFs). Due to differences in experimental conditions and possible errors, some deviations exist among the data from different measurements even for the same subject. This work aims to evaluate deviations of HRTFs from different measurements. Five sets of KEMAR HRTFs from three groups including MIT-media Lab, CIPIC Interface Lab, and our lab are used. A free-field equalization is applied to the original data so as to eliminate the influence caused by the difference in the response of electro-acoustic measuring chain. The deviations among HRTF magnitudes for different measurements are specified by spectral distortion. Results indicate that the magnitude deviation increases with increasing frequency and reaches more than 10 dB above the frequency of 6 kHz. Salient deviations often occur in contralateral source directions or in ipsilateral source directions near the frequency of pinna-related notch. Nevertheless, most deviations can be effectively reduced after an auditory filter smoothing. This work suggests that the inconsistency in measured HRTF data and its impact on auditory perception should be taken into account when comparing and standardizing HRTFs from different measurements. [Work supported by National Nature Science Fund of China Grant No. 11004064]

3:00–3:20 Break

3:20


Head-related transfer functions (HRTFs) vary with both frequency and source position. The near-field HRTFs with source distance less than 1.0 m are particularly complicated due to their distance dependence. Principal component analysis (PCA), which is conventionally carried out in the frequency or time domain, has been widely applied to reduce the dimensionality of far-field HRTF data with source distance greater than 1.0 m. The present work first extends the conventional PCA, and then proposes a spatial PCA method in the spatial domain rather than in the frequency or time domain to reduce the dimensionality of near-field HRTF data. An illustrative case indicates that near-field HRTF magnitudes at 9 distances with 493 directions for each distance can be approximately represented by the weighted sum of 15 spectral shape basis functions using the conventional PCA or the weighted sum of 15 spatial basis functions using the spatial PCA. Both representations account for more than 98% energy variation of the original data, and reduce the dimensionality of the original data to about a quarter. The proposed method is also applicable to the head-related impulse responses in the time domain. Furthermore, the spatial PCA scheme is potentially applicable to simplify near-field HRTF measurement.

3:40

1pPPa8. Spatially continuous model of the broadband time-of-arrival in the head-related transfers functions. Piotr Majdak and Harald Ziegelwanger (Acoust. Res. Inst., Austrian Acad. of Sci., Wohllebengasse 12-14, Vienna 1040, Austria, piotr@majdak.com)

Head-related transfer functions (HRTFs) describe the filtering of the incoming sound by the human anatomy. They contain the so-called broadband time-of-arrivals (TOAs), which interaural differences yield the well-known interaural time differences used to estimate the lateral position of sound sources by the human auditory system. The TOAs are essential for a time-synchronous binaural rendering of multiple virtual sound sources or for interpolation of the timing information in an existing HRTF set. Estimation of the TOA is usually done separately for each spatial direction and is thus prone to errors and directional outliers. A method for a robust estimation of spatially continuous TOA function from a set of listener-specific HRTFs is presented. The method relies on a geometric model of the HRTF-measurement setup represented by parameters like head position, radius, and ear position. The model parameters were fit to HRTFs of a sphere numerically calculated under various conditions, and to measured HRTFs of 160 listeners. The resulting model parameters and TOA functions corresponded well with the measurement geometry and manually derived TOAs, respectively. The model parameters were further compared to those resulting from a simplified model which assumes the listener being in the center of the HRTF-measurement setup, demonstrating the impact of the usually neglected aspect of listener position on the HRTF timing quality.

4:00

1pPPa9. Calculation of listener-specific head-related transfer functions: Effect of mesh quality. Harald Ziegelwanger, Piotr Majdak (Acoust. Res. Inst., Austrian Acad. of Sci., Wohllebengasse 12-14, Vienna, Vienna A-1040, Austria, harald.ziegelwanger@oeaw.ac.at), and Andreas Reichinger (Zentrum für Virtual Reality und Visualisierung Forschungs-Gmbh, Wien, Austria)

The geometry of head and ears defines the listener-specific directional filtering of the incoming sound. The filtering is represented by the head-related transfer functions (HRTFs), which provide spectral features relevant for the localization of sound-sources. HRTFs can be acoustically measured or numerically calculated based on a geometric representation of the listener. While the acoustically measured HRTFs usually provide localization performance similar to that obtained in free-field listening, the performance obtained with numerically simulated HRTFs, however, heavily depends on the quality of the geometric and acoustic model of the listener used for the simulation. In this study, we show how to calculate listener-specific HRTFs with spectral features similar to that from acoustically measured HRTFs for the entire audible frequency range. We review the boundary-element method coupled with the fast-multipole method and we present details on the prerequisites like the geometry-capture technique, acoustical parameters, and the numerical algorithms. Further, the effect of the mesh quality on the HRTFs was investigated by systematically varying the average edge length from 1 to 5 mm. The HRTF amplitude spectra were analyzed and evaluated by visual comparison and in a localization model. The optimal average edge length for a fast calculation of HRTFs yielding potentially good localization performance is discussed.
1pPPb. Study of effects of presence of cue-tone on psychoophysical tuning curves. Shunsuke Kidani, Ryota Miyauchi, and Masashi Unoki (School of Information Sci., JAIST, 1-1, Asahidai, Nomi, Ishikawa 923-1292, Japan, kidani@jaist.ac.jp)

Our previous study indicated that tunings of the auditory filter were sharpened by the presence of a cue-tone [Kidani et al. (2012), ISH2012]. It is unclear, however, whether the variation of the auditory filter due to the cue-tone is caused by excitation or suppression, because tip of the filter is normalized at 0 dB. Physophysical tuning curves (PTCs) can show that the detection threshold is decreased at the probe frequency or increased around the probe by the presence of cue-tone, indicating excitation and suppression respectively. PTCs, because, are measured as masked threshold of probe by narrow-band noise. This study aims to consider the effect of the presence of cue-tone on PTCs. In present study, PTCs were measured in

1pPPb1. Effects of compression on the use of onset time differences to detect one tone in the presence of another. Sara M. Madsen and Brian Moore (Psychology, Cambridge Univ., Downing St., Desborough, Cambridge CB2 3EB, United Kingdom, smkm2@cam.ac.uk)

It is easier to hear one of two notionally “simultaneous” tone complexes if the onset of the masker complex is delayed relative to that of the signal. However, the ability to use onset asynchrony as a cue may be reduced when using amplitude compression, due to distortion of the onset of sounds (overshoot effects). We assessed how fast- and slow-acting five-channel compression affects the ability to use onset asynchrony to detect one (signal) complex tone when another (masking) complex tone is played almost simultaneously. A 2:1 compression ratio was used with normal-hearing subjects and individual compression ratios and gains recommended by the CAM2 hearing aid fitting method were used for hearing-impaired subjects. For the normal-hearing subjects, performance improved with increasing onset asynchrony in all conditions. The improvement was greatest with fast compression and least with no compression. Preliminary results for the hearing-impaired subjects indicate smaller but similar effects of onset asynchrony and a greater benefit of compression. The benefit of compression probably occurs because compression increases the level of the part of the signal that occurs before the masker relative to the masker. [Work supported by Starkey (U.S.A.) and the MRC (UK).]
simultaneous masking in the absence and presence of cue-tone for four probe frequencies. The probes were presented at 10 dB above each absolute threshold. The frequency and level of the cue-tone were same as the probe. The result revealed that filter-Q, regarded as the sharpness of tuning, was increased by the presence of cue-tone when the probe frequencies were 1.0 and 2.0 kHz, while the filter-Q was not changed when the probe frequencies were 0.5 and 4.0 kHz.

IpPPb3. Optimizing the simultaneous estimation of frequency selectivity and compression using notched-noise maskers with asymmetric levels. Tomofumi Fukawatase, Toshio Irino, Ryuichi Nisimura, Hideki Kawahara (Faculty of Systems Eng., Wakayama Univ., 930 Sakaedani, Wakayama 640-8510, Japan, tomo.fukuta0522@gmail.com), and Roy D. Patterson (Dept. of Physiol., Development and Neurosci., Cambridge Univ., Cambridge, United Kingdom)

It is important for the development of hearing aids and other audio devices to make accurate estimates of the frequency selectivity and compression of the auditory filter. Previously, we reported a technique for estimating the compression of the auditory filter that combined data from a simultaneous notched-noise experiment and a temporal masking curve (TMC) experiment. Unfortunately, the TMC data derived for individual listeners in forward masking is not stable; the cue to the presence of the signal is not entirely clear in forward masking. In this paper, we report attempts to make the traditional simultaneous notched-noise technique more sensitive to the effects of cochlear compression by varying the relative levels of the noise bands. Asymmetric-level maskers (ALMs) make it possible to estimate the filter shape and compression of the auditory filter simultaneously and reliably; the slope of the input–output function is substantially lower than with symmetric-level maskers. We also describe a procedure for incorporating a sensitivity analysis into the filter-fitting process to determine the minimum number of notched-noise conditions required to produce reliable estimates of selectivity and compression, in hopes of being able to employ the technique with hearing impaired listeners.

IpPPb4. Reliability of procedures used for scaling loudness. Walt Jesteadt and Suyash N. Joshi (Psychoacoust. Lab., Boys Town National Res. Hospital, 555 N 30th St., Omaha, NE 68131, Walt.Jesteadt@boystown.org)

In this study, 16 normally hearing listeners judged the loudness of 1000-Hz sinusoids using magnitude estimation (ME), magnitude production (MP), and categorical loudness scaling (CLS). Listeners in each of four groups completed the loudness scaling tasks in a different sequence on the first visit (ME, MP, CLS; ME, MP, CLS; MP, ME, CLS; MP, ME, CLS), and the order was reversed on the second visit. This design made it possible to compare the reliability of estimates of the slope of the loudness function across procedures in the same listeners. The ME data were well fitted by an inflected exponential (INEX) function, but a modified power law was used to obtain slope estimates for both ME and MP. ME and CLS were more reliable than MP. CLS results were consistent across groups, but ME and MP results differed across groups in a way that suggested influence of experience with CLS. Although CLS results were the most reproducible, they do not provide direct information about the slope of the loudness function because the numbers assigned to CLS categories are arbitrary. This problem can be corrected by using data from the other procedures to assign numbers that are proportional to loudness. [Work supported by NIH.]

IpPPb5. Sequential dependencies in magnitude scaling of loudness. Suyash N. Joshi and Walt Jesteadt (Psychoacoust. Lab., Boys Town National Res. Hospital, 555 N 30th St., Omaha, NE 68131, Suyash.Joshi@boystown.org)

Ten normally hearing listeners used a programmable sone-potentiometer knob to adjust the level of a 1000-Hz sinusoid to match the loudness of numbers presented to them in a magnitude production task. Three different power-law exponents (0.15, 0.30, and 0.60) and a log-law with equal steps in dB were used to program the sone-potentiometer. The knob settings systematically influenced the form of the loudness function. Time series analysis was used to assess the sequential dependencies in the data, which increased with increasing exponent and were greater for the log-law. It would be possible, therefore, to choose knob properties that minimized these dependencies. When the sequential dependencies were removed from the data, the slope of the loudness functions did not change, but the variability decreased. Sequential dependencies were only present when the level of the tone on the previous trial was higher than on the current trial. According to the attention band hypothesis [Green and Luce, Perception Psychophys., 1974] these dependencies arise from a process similar to selective attention, but observations of rapid adaptation of neurons in the inferior colliculus based on stimulus level statistics [Dean et al., Nature Neurosci. (2005)] would also account for the data. [Work supported by NIH.]

IpPPb6. Effect of musical training on static and dynamic measures of spectral-pattern discrimination. Stanley Sheft (Commun. Disord. and Sci., Rush Univ. Medical Ctr., 600 S. Paulina St., 1012 AAC, Chicago, IL 60612, sshete6@gmail.com), Kirsten Smayda (Univ. of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX), Valeriy Shafiro (Commun. Disord. and Sci., Rush Univ. Medical Ctr., Chicago, IL), W. Todd Maddox, Bharath Chandrasekaran, (Univ. of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX)

Both behavioral and physiological studies have demonstrated enhanced processing of speech in challenging listening environments attributable to musical training. The relationship, however, of this benefit to auditory abilities as assessed by psychoacoustic measures remains unclear. Using tasks previously shown to relate to speech-in-noise perception, the present study evaluated discrimination ability for static and dynamic spectral patterns by 49 listeners grouped as either musicians or nonmusicians. The two static conditions measured the ability to detect a change in the phase of a logarithmic sinusoidal spectral ripple of wide-band noise with ripple densities of 1.5 and 3.0 cycles per octave chosen to emphasize either timbre or pitch distinctions, respectively. The dynamic conditions assessed temporal-pattern discrimination of 1-kHz pure tones frequency modulated by different 5-Hz lowpass noise samples with thresholds estimated in terms of either stimulus duration or signal-to-noise ratio. Musicians performed significantly better than nonmusicians on all four tasks. Discriminant analysis showed that group membership was correctly predicted for 84% of the listeners with the structure coefficient of each measure greater than 0.46. Results suggest that enhanced processing of static and dynamic spectral patterns defined by low-rate modulation may contribute to the relationship between musical training and speech-in-noise perception. [Work supported by NIH.]


Evidence is provided suggesting a primary dependence of informational masking (IM) on the stochastic separation of target and masker given by Simpson-Fitter’s da [Lutfi et al. J. Acoust. Soc. Am. 132, EL109-113 (2012)]. The stimuli were synthesized impact sounds of plates played in sequence as target-masker-triads. Their spectra varied independently and at random on each presentation as would correspond to changes in plate size. In the 2IFC procedure the listener’s task was to choose the larger-sized target. The effect of spectral uncertainty regarding the masker was examined by measuring d’ performance for different values of the variance in masker size. The effect of spectral similarity of target and masker was examined by measuring performance for different values of the mean difference between target and masker size. The functions relating d’ to da in both cases were identical and of similar slope across listeners. Identical functions were also obtained, though with shallower slopes, when listeners judged the target hit with greater impact force. The terms of considered in terms of their implications for the development of a model of IM that emphasizes the statistical properties of signals over loosely defined concepts of target-masker similarity and masker uncertainty.


Further evidence is provided suggesting a primary dependence of informational masking (IM) on the stochastic separation of target and masker given by Simpson-Fitter’s da [Lutfi et al. J. Acoust. Soc. Am. 132, EL109-113 (2012)]. The stimuli were brief bursts of Gaussian noise or words played.
in sequence as masker-target-masker triads. The apparent position of bursts (words), from left to right, was varied independently and at random on each presentation using KEMAR HTRFs. In the 2IFC procedure, the listener’s task was to choose the target positioned further to the right. The effect on performance of spatial uncertainty regarding the masker was examined by manipulating the position variance of the masker. The effect on performance of spatial proximity of target to masker was examined by manipulating the position mean difference between target and masker. In both cases, the data were well described by a single linear function relating d’ performance to da; intercepts differed across listeners, but slopes were similar. Comparable results presented at this meeting for the effects of spectral uncertainty and similarity of target and masker suggest that the statistical properties of signals may be a more significant determinant of IM than their specific acoustic properties.


Informational masking (IM) is the term used to describe masking that appears to have its origin at some central level of the auditory nervous system beyond the cochlea. Supporting a central origin are the two major factors associated with IM: trial-by-trial uncertainty regarding the masker and perceived similarity of target and masker. Here preliminary evidence is provided suggesting these factors exert their influence through a single critical determinant of IM, the stochastic separation of target and masker given by Simpson-Fitter’s da [Lufti et al., J. Acoust. Soc. Am. 132, EL109-113 (2012)]. Target and maskers were alternating sequences of words or words with frequencies, F0s for words, selected at random on each presentation. The listener’s task was to discriminate a frequency-difference in the target tones or identify the target words. Performance in both tasks was found to be constant across conditions in which the mean difference (similarity), variance (uncertainty), or covariance (similarity) of target and masker frequencies were selected to yield the same value of da. The results are discussed in terms of the implications for the development of a model of IM that emphasizes the statistical properties of signals over loosely defined concepts of masker uncertainty and target-masker similarity.

1pPPb10. Extending Schroeder-phase masking: Influence of direction and shape of masker instantaneous frequency. Evelyn M. Hoglund, Yonghee Oh, Joseph F. Hribar, Kelsi J. Wittum, Megan L. Strang, and Lawrence L. Feth (Speech and Hearing Sci., The Ohio State Univ., 110 Pressey Hall, 1070 Carmack Rd, Columbus, OH 43204, hoglund.1@osu.edu)

Schroeder (1970) devised an algorithm to produce low peak factor signals. Schroeder signals with equal amplitude spectra, but reversed phase spectra, reveal large differences in masker effectiveness for listeners with normal hearing [Smith et al. (1986)]. Results reported here extend previous work to include detection of multiple bursts of the same frequency, and multiple bursts that increase or decrease in frequency. Signal frequencies were selected to correspond with harmonics in the maskers. Results indicate that changing the frequency of the signal amplifies the difference between the Schroeder-phase maskers, but the direction of the change does not. When a frequency modulated tone is substituted for the Schroeder maskers, masked threshold depends on the shape of the instantaneous frequency (IF) function, as well as the direction of change. For linear FM (with IF similar to the Schroeder maskers), masked thresholds are comparable to the Schroeder-phase maskers. However, for logarithmic FM, IF changes at a constant ERB/s and directional differences are much smaller. A modified channel model [Oh (2012)] shows substantial differences in the basilar membrane response to these different maskers. [Research supported by a grant from the Office of Naval Research #N000140911017.]

1pPPb11. Multicomponent signal detection: Tones in noise and amplitude modulation detection. Eric R. Thompson (Ball Aerosp. & Technol. Corp., 2610 7th St., Bldg. 441, Wright Patterson, OH 45433, eric.thompson.ct@wpafab.af.mil), Brian D. Simpson, and Nandini Iyer (Air Force Res. Lab., Wright Patterson, OH)

In order to predict the detectability of broadband acoustic signals, a model must include a means of integrating information across frequencies. There have been several previous studies measuring the detectability of multicomponent signals, but it is still not clear what the best model is when signal components are not equally detectable. Some researchers have proposed that thresholds are driven by the most detectable component (max-d’ model), while others have found that the best model for their data is a statistical summation model, where component sensitivities are combined using a Pythagorean sum. In the present study, detection thresholds were collected in broadband noise for single tones at three frequencies and three signal-to-noise ratios (SNRs) for the three tones presented together. Also, amplitude modulation (AM) detection thresholds were measured for a 16-Hz AM signal imposed on 300-Hz-wide noise bands centered at three frequencies at three modulation depths for each band individually, for combinations of two bands and for all three bands presented together. While both models (max-d’ and Pythagorean sum) can predict the general trend of the multicomponent data from the single component data, neither model fits the data very well.

1pPPb12. Investigating the effects of intensity on the bandwidth of peripheral filtering in an amplitude-modulation notch detection task. Matthew L. Richardson, Allison I. Shim, and Bruce G. Berg (Cognit. Sci., UC Irvine, 159 St. Vincent, Irvine, CA 92618, mlrichard@uci.edu)

The effect of intensity on the effective bandwidth of auditory temporal processing is investigated. Thresholds for detecting sinusoidal amplitude-modulation of a 200-Hz wide band of noise centered at 1000 Hz are measured in the presence of a notched noise masker. The masker consists of two 200-Hz wide, unmodulated bands of noise placed at frequencies above and below the modulated band. Thresholds for a modulation rate of 10 Hz are estimated for different notch bandwidths ranging from 100 Hz to 2740 Hz. The use of a slow modulation frequency aims to avoid possible central limitations of temporal processing at higher modulation frequencies. Intensity is varied across two conditions, with all three bands of noise presented at either 40 dB SPL or 85 dB SPL. Threshold functions for the two intensity levels are essentially identical. The maximum notch width at which an effect of the masker is observed is approximately 500 Hz. The results are consistent with a hypothesis that the filtering characteristics of temporal processing (e.g., envelope model) and spectral processing (e.g., power spectrum model) are different.

1pPPb13. Thresholds of tone pitch contour discrimination for English listeners. Rachael C. Gilbert (Linguistics, The Univ. of Texas at Austin, 4812 Ave. H, Apt B, Austin, TX 78751, rachaelgilbert@gmail.com) and Chang Liu (Commun. Sci. and Disord., The Univ. of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX)

This study aims to provide psychophysical data on English language listeners’ ability to discriminate tone pitch contours. Just noticeable differences (JND) of F0 contour changes were measured in six native listeners of American English. Previous work in our lab found English listener thresholds for offsets of falling tones to be significantly lower than those for onsets of rising tones. To what extent this difference is due to the position of the F0 shift versus the direction of the F0 contour is unclear. In this study, we control for four experimental factors: stimulus type (speech, nonspeech), position of F0 shift (onset, offset), direction of shift (upward, downward), and F0 contour direction (falling, rising). Preliminary results reveal that English listeners had significantly lower psychophysical thresholds for F0 shifts at the offset than at the onset. No significant difference was found for F0 shift direction, F0 contour direction, or stimulus type. The current data suggest that the F0 shift position was the primary determinant in our previous study and replicate other findings showing that English listeners perceive tones on a psychophysical base. Future work will examine these results in relation to those of native tone language listeners.

1pPPb14. An automated procedure for detecting human frequency-following responses to voice pitch. Fuh-Cherng Jeng and Jiong Hu (Commun. Sci. and Disord., Ohio Univ., 1 Ohio University Dr., Grover Ctr. W224, Athens, OH 45701, jengt@ohio.edu)

The frequency-following response (FFR) to voice pitch has been widely examined in research laboratories and has demonstrated its potential to be transformed into a useful tool for patients with hearing, speech, and language disorders in the clinic. During the past decade, many aspects of the FFR have been reported. The presence of such a response, however, still
relies on subjective interpretation of the observer. Aside from a recent study reporting two algorithms for detecting such a response, there has been limited number of studies reporting the development of an automated procedure for FFR. The purpose of this study is (1) to develop an automated procedure that utilizes the statistical properties of the temporal and spectral energy distributions in the recorded waveforms and (2) to explore the effectiveness, accuracy, and efficiency of the automated procedure and compare them with those obtained from conventional algorithms and human judgments.

**IpPPb15. Infants’ ability to perceive the pitch of unresolved harmonics.** Bonnie K. Lau and Lynne A. Werner (Univ. of Washington, 523 Broadway East Unit 217, Seattle, WA 98102, bonnieklau@gmail.com)

An important phenomenon for models of pitch perception is that adult listeners’ can extract pitch from complexes containing only unresolved harmonics. Although 3-month-olds discriminate resolved harmonics on the basis of missing fundamental (MF) pitch, their ability to discriminate unresolved harmonics is unknown. This study investigated the ability of adults, 7- and 3-month-olds, to perceive the pitch of unresolved harmonics using an observer-based method. Stimuli were MF complexes that were bandpass filtered with a -12 dB/octave slope, combined in random phase, and presented at 70 dB SPL for 650 ms with a 50 ms rise/fall and with a pink noise to mask distortion products. The experiment consisted of two conditions: (1) “low” unresolved harmonics between 2500 and 4500 Hz based on MFs of 160 Hz (H17–H26) and 200 Hz (H13–H22) and (2) “high” unresolved harmonics between 4000 and 6000 Hz based on MFs of 190 Hz (H22–H31) and 200 Hz (H20–H29). To demonstrate MF pitch discrimination, participants were required to ignore spectral changes in complexes with the same fundamental and to respond only when the fundamental changed. Interestingly, variable performance in the “high” condition was observed with adult participants. However, nearly all infants tested categorized complexes by MF pitch in both conditions, suggesting discrimination of unresolved harmonics at 3 months.

**IpPPb16. Mistuning detection in a complex of unresolved harmonics: Effects of age.** Sara K. Mamo (Div. of Speech and Hearing Sci., Univ. of North Carolina - Chapel Hill, 075 MacNider Hall, CB #7070, Chapel Hill, NC 27599-7070, smamo@med.unc.edu) and John H. Grose (Dept. of Otolaryngol.-Head/Neck Surgery, Univ.of North Carolina - Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC)

Older adults experience speech perception difficulties that are not explained by audiometric thresholds. One hypothesis is that temporal processing deficits contribute to these speech-in-noise difficulties. To test this, threshold for mistuning was measured for a component within a complex of unresolved harmonics—a cue that likely depends on sensitivity to envelope perturbations. The complex comprised harmonics 12–16 of a 100-Hz or 200-Hz fundamental, and the duration was either 170-, 340-, or 680-ms. Presentation level was 70 dB SPL. The starting phases of all components were randomized on each presentation. The 3AFC procedure adaptively varied the mistuning of harmonic 14 to obtain the frequency-shift threshold. Younger and older listeners with audiometrically normal hearing participated. The expectation was that older adults would require greater mistuning to detect changes in envelope periodicity and that this would be more evident at shorter durations. Preliminary results support an overall effect of age as well as effects of fundamental frequency and duration. Results will be considered in the context of parallel speech-evoked ABR studies being undertaken in this population that point to age-related deficits in envelope processing, possibly driven by poor encoding of unresolved harmonics. [Work supported by NIDCD 1-F32-DC012217-01A1 & 5-R01-DC001507].

**IpPPb17. Retention of gap length in normal-hearing listeners.** Meghan M. Smith, Dennis Ries, and Audra Woods (Commun. Sci. and Disord., Grover Ctr. W241, 1 Ohio Univ., Athens, OH 45701, ms025311@ohio.edu)

Listeners’ ability to retain information about gap length within a noise burst was studied. JND for gap length between the target and comparison stimuli was obtained using the single-interval adjustment-matrix procedure for retention intervals that were silent, included four noise bursts, or included noise bursts with discrete gaps. JNDS for retention intervals containing either type of noise burst did not differ significantly from those obtained for the silent retention interval. This result differs from that found for retention of pitch and loudness. This might occur as more cortical resources are used for retention of auditory temporal information.

**IpPPb18. The influence of feature detection on working memory in complex auditory fields.** AnneMarie Chiodi, Aurora Weaver, and Dennis Ries (Commun. Sci. and Disord., Grover Ctr. W241, 1 Ohio Univ., Athens, OH 45701, ac175509@ohio.edu)

Research reveals that feature detectors may enhance listener performance in auditory discrimination and detection tasks involving frequency modulation (FM) [Cusack and Carlyon, J. Exp. Psychol. 29, 713–725 (2003)]. The influence of these detectors on retention of auditory information is unknown. This study investigated the impact of FM on listener performance in auditory, delayed-comparison tasks for conditions that differed in the number of background stimuli within two perceptual windows separated by various retention intervals. The background stimuli within both windows were either all modulated sinusoids or pure-tones for a given trial. An additional stimulus was presented in each window that could differ in its modulation state (FM or unmodulated sinusoid) across the two windows. The temporal placement and frequencies of all stimuli within the first window were assigned randomly for a given trial and the second window followed these parameters. Listeners were to determine whether the two windows were the same or different. Preliminary results show that same-different judgments of target modulation state was easier in a field of four unmodulated sinusoids than vice versa. This result occurred regardless of retention interval length. The further influence of field complexity, retention interval length, and working memory span will be discussed.

**IpPPb19. Boundary effects on the illusory continuity of and interrupted glide through a noted noise.** Valter Ciocca (School of Audiol. and Speech Sci., UBC, 2177 Wesbrook Mall, Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z3, Canada, vcioccav@audiospeech.ubc.ca) and Nicholas Haywood (MRC Inst. of Hearing Res., Nottingham, United Kingdom)

This study investigated the illusory continuity of an interrupted frequency glide through a noted-noise burst. A 2I-2AFC procedure was used to measure detection of the frequency glide that overlapped in time with the noise. The portions of the glide preceding and following the noise (flankers) could be present or absent. The center frequency of the notch coincided with either the frequency end-point of the flanker that preceded the noise, or the onset frequency of the flanker that followed the noise. A control condition with a wide-band noise burst (absent notch) was also included. Performance was poorest in the absent notch condition and was significantly poorer with present than with absent flankers. This suggests that listeners perceptually restored the missing target when flankers were present. Performance was also less accurate (indicating stronger illusory continuity) when the notch was centered on the end-point of the flanker that preceded the noise. These results suggest that the masking of the onset of the flanker following the noise provides a stronger cue to the perception of continuity than the masking of the offset of the flanker that precedes the noise.

**IpPPb20. Sensory consonance of two simultaneous sine-tones.** Reinhart Frosch (ETH and PSI (retired), Sommerhaldenstrasse 5B, Brugg 5200, Switzerland, reinfrosch@bluewin.ch)

In Chapter 4 of my book “Musical Consonance and Cochlear Mechanics” (vdF, Zurich, 2012), four psychoacoustic experiments on the sensory consonance of two simultaneous sine-tones are described. In each of those experiments, the deeper-tone frequency fd was kept fixed, at fd = 132, 264, 528, or 1056 Hz. Each experiment was done twice, at sound-pressure levels of 50 and 70 dB (SPL). The resulting consonance curves (sensory consonance versus higher-tone frequency fd) exhibit consonance minima at beat rates

\[
\text{beat rate } \text{bd}_{	ext{H}} = \text{fd} - \text{fd} \text{ ("most dissonant") ranging from 13 Hz (at fd = 132 Hz) to 39 Hz (at fd = 1056 Hz).}
\]

In Section 15.1 of the above-mentioned book, these most dissonant beat rates are shown to agree well with the following empirical law: \(\text{bd}_{	ext{H}} = 1.07\times 0.15 \times \sqrt{\text{f}_{\text{avg}}} = \text{fd} + \text{bd}_{\text{H}}/2\). The present study was prompted by the comments of a reader: the just described empirical law is unsatisfactory because in the underlying experiments the deeper-tone frequency fd [rather than the average frequency (fd + favg)/2] was kept constant. It was found that the data agree.
equally well with the following modified empirical law: $b_{\text{d,n}} = (1.09s^{-0.5}) * \sqrt{\text{r}_d}$. This modification does not affect the validity of the complex-tone consonance theories described in Chapters 15 and 16 of the mentioned book.

1pPPb21.Dependency of tonality perception on frequency, bandwidth, and duration. Armin Taghipour, Bernd Edler, Masoumeh Amirpour, and Jürgen Herre (Int. Audio Lab. Erlangen, Am Wolfsmantel 33, Erlangen 91058, Germany, armin.taghipour@audiolabs-erlangen.de)

Psychoacoustic studies show that a narrowband noise masker exhibits a stronger simultaneous masking effect than a tonal masker with the same signal power placed at the noise center frequency. Consequently, perceptual audio codecs commonly incorporate some sort of tonality estimation as part of their perceptual model. However, common tonality estimation techniques do not necessarily reflect the perception of tonality by human listeners. As long as the tone and narrowband noise signals are long enough, they are easily distinguishable for normal hearing listeners. However, if the stimulus duration decreases, both signal types approach the shape of impulses, and therefore, at some point become audibly identical. Consequently, at a given frequency and noise bandwidth, there is a duration threshold below which the signals cannot be distinguished. A series of so-called “2-AFC 3-step up-down” psychoacoustic tests are designed and carried out to investigate the frequency and bandwidth dependency of these duration thresholds. The test results, collected from 32 listeners, are statistically evaluated and confirm a decreasing threshold for increasing center frequency and bandwidth. These results can be used to improve psychoacoustic models for audio codecs by using tonality estimators with frequency and bandwidth adapted temporal resolution.

1pPPb22. Reflection orders and auditory distance. Catarina Mendonça (Dept. of Signal Process. and Acoust., Aalto Univ., Otakaari 5, Espoo FI-02150, Finland, mendonca.catarina@gmail.com), João Lamas (Centro Algortim, Univ. of Minho, Guimaraes, Portugal), Tom Barker (Dept. of Signal Process., Tampere Univ. of Technol., Tampere, Finland), Guilherme Campos, Paulo Dias (Departamento de Electrónica, Telecomunicacções e Informática, Univ. of Aveiro, Aveiro, Portugal), Ville Pulkki (Dept. of Signal Process. and Acoust., Aalto Univ., Espoo, Finland), C. Silva, and Jorge Santos (Centro Algortim, Univ. of Minho, Guimaraes, Portugal)

The perception of sound distance has been sparsely studied so far. It is assumed to depend on familiar loudness, reverberation, sound spectrum, and parallax, but most of these factors have never been carefully addressed. Reverberation has been mostly analyzed in terms of ratio between direct and indirect sound, and total duration. Here we were interested in assessing the impact of each reflection order on distance localization. We compared sound source discrimination at an intermediate and at a distant location with direct sound only, one, two, three, and four reflection orders in a 2AFC task. At the intermediate distances, normalized psychophysical curves reveal no differentiation between direct sound and up to three reflection orders, but sounds with four reflection orders have significantly lower thresholds. For the distant sources, sounds with four reflection orders yielded the best discrimination slopes, but there was also a clear benefit for sounds with three reflection orders. We discuss the results in terms of direct-to-reflected ratio, reflection directionality, and spectral information.

1pPPb23. Ventriloquism effect and aftereffect in the distance dimension. L’uboi Hládek, Christophe C. Le Dantec, Norbert Kopčo (Inst. of Comput. Sci., P. J. Safarik Univ., Jesená 5, Košice 04001, Slovakia, lubos.hladek@student.upjs.sk), and Aaron R. Seitz (Dept. of Psychol., Univ. of California, Riverside, CA)

When an auditory target is presented simultaneously with a spatially displaced visual target, the perceived auditory target location shifts toward the visual target. This effect, known as the ventriloquism effect or visual capture, has been extensively studied in the horizontal dimension, but not in distance. Here, we measured distance localization performance in a reverberant room. Stimuli were either audio-visual (AV) 300-ms broadband noise bursts presented synchronously with spatially congruent or incongruent visual stimuli/LEDs, or auditory-only (A-only) noise bursts. One of eight speakers (distance 70 cm to 203 cm directly ahead of the listener) presented a stimulus on each trial. During adaptation runs, the AV stimuli were presented with the V-component closer or further by 30% than the A-component (displacement direction fixed within session). The ventriloquism effect was observed for both V-closer and V-further AV stimuli, with slightly stronger shifts induced by the V-closer stimuli. Ventriloquism aftereffect, assessed by presenting A-only trials interleaved with the adaptation-AV trials, was also observed, but was weaker than the ventriloquism effect. The results suggest that visual targets do capture auditory targets in the distance dimension, but visual modulation might be asymmetric with respect to distance. [Work supported by EU FP7-247543, VEGA 1-04092/12, NSF (BCS-1057625).]

1pPPb24. An assessment of virtual auditory distance judgments among blind and sighted listeners. Andrew J. Kolarik (Dept. of Psychol., Cambridge Univ., Downing St., Cambridge, CB2 3EB, United Kingdom, ak771@cam.ac.uk), Silvia Cirstea, Shahina Pardhan (Vision and Eye Res. Unit, Anglia Ruskin Univ., Cambridge, United Kingdom), and Brian Moore (Dept. of Psychol., Cambridge Univ., Cambridge, United Kingdom)

Auditory distance perception is a crucial component of blind listeners’ spatial awareness. Many studies have reported supra-normal spatial auditory abilities among blind individuals, such as enhanced azimuthal localization [Voss et al. (2004)] and distance discrimination [Kolarik et al. (in press)]. However, it is not known whether blind listeners are better able to use acoustic information to enhance judgments of distance to single sound sources, or whether lack of visual spatial cues prevents calibration of auditory distance information, leading to worse performance than for sighted listeners. Blind and sighted listeners were presented with single, stationary virtual sound sources between 1.22 and 13.79 m away in a virtual anechoic environment simulated using an image-source model. Stimuli were spoken sentences. Sighted listeners systematically underestimated distance to remote virtual sources, while blind listeners overestimated the distance to nearby virtual sources and underestimated it for remote virtual sources. The findings suggest that blind listeners are less accurate at judging absolute distance, and experience a compression of the auditory world, relative to sighted listeners. The results support a perceptual deficiency hypothesis for absolute distance judgments, suggesting that compensatory processes for audition do not develop among blind listeners when estimating the distance to single, stationary sound sources.
Structural Acoustics and Vibration: Measurement and Modeling of Structures with Attached Noise Control Materials II

Franck C. Sgard, Cochair

IRSSST, 505 Boulv de Maisonneuve O, Montreal, QC H3A3C2, Canada

Noureddine Atalla, Cochair

GAUS Mech. Eng., Univ. of Sherbrooke, Sherbrooke, QC J1K 2R1, Canada

Invited Papers

1:00

1pSA1. Visco-thermal dissipations in heterogeneous porous media. Fabien Chevillotte, Luc Jaouen, and François-Xavier Bécot (Matelys, 1 rue Baumer, Vaulx-En-Velin 69120, France, fabien.chevillotte@matelys.com)

Semi-phenomenological models have been widely used since the 1990’s for modeling visco-thermal dissipations of acoustical energy through porous media. These dissipations are taken into account by two complex frequency-dependent functions (the dynamic density \( \rho_{\text{eq}}(\omega) \) and the dynamic bulk modulus \( K_{\text{eq}}(\omega) \)), which are analytically derived from macroscopic parameters. Other models were derived for modeling perforated plates [J. Sound Vib. 303 (2007)], double porosity media [J. Acoust. Soc. Am. 114(1) (2003)] or, more recently, porous composites made of porous inclusions in a substrate porous media [Acta Acoust. 96 (2010)]. So far, this latter model is not able to consider the shape of the host and the client media. This model can neither be extended to limiting cases of perforated plate model nor double porosity model. Based on a modified equivalent fluid model, this work proposes a unified model which accounts, analytically, for the shape of the inclusions, might they be porous or not. This model enables to describe the acoustic behavior of any kind of composite media from perforated plates to arbitrarily shaped porous composites including configurations of porous inclusions in solid matrix or double porosity media. In addition, possible pressure interactions between the substrate material and the inclusions are accounted for.

1:20

1pSA2. Prediction of acoustic properties of parallel assemblies by means of transfer matrix method. Kévin Verdière, Raymond Panneton, Said Elkoun (GAUS, Université de Sherbrooke, 2500 bd de l’université, Sherbrooke, QC J1K2R1, Canada, kevin.verdier@usherbrooke.ca), Thomas Dupont, and Philippe Leclaire (DRIVE, ISAT, Université de Bourgogne, Nevers, France)

The Transfer Matrix Method (TMM) is used conventionally to predict the acoustic properties of laterally infinite homogeneous layers assembled in series to form a multilayer. In this work, a parallel assembly process of transfer matrices is used to model heterogeneous materials such as patchworks, acoustic mosaics, or a collection of acoustic elements in parallel. In this method, it is assumed that each parallel element can be modeled by a 2x2 transfer matrix, and no diffusion exists between elements. The method is validated by comparison with finite element (FE) simulations and acoustical tube measurements on different configurations at normal and oblique incidence. Then, an overview of the possibilities, such as the combination of series and parallel matrices, the sound absorption coefficient, and the transmission loss of a parallel array of resonators or three-dimensional geometries is presented and discussed.

1:40

1pSA3. Investigations on the sensitivity of the relationships between sound absorption characteristics and microstructure related parameters for polyurethane foams. Morvan Ouisse (Appl. Mech., FEMTO-ST Univ. of Franche-Comté, 24 rue de l’épitaphe, Besançon 25000, France, morvan.ouisse@univ-fcomte.fr), Olivier Doutres, Noureddine Atalla (GAUS, Dept. of Mech. Eng., Université de Sherbrooke (QC), Sherbrooke, QC, Canada), and Mohamed Ichchou (LTDS, Ecole Centrale de Lyon, Ecully, France)

Straightforward semi-phenomenological models have been developed for highly porous polyurethane foams to predict the macroscopic non-acoustic parameters involved in the classical Johnson-Champoux-Allard model (i.e., porosity, airflow resistivity…) from microstructure properties (i.e., strut length, strut thickness, and reticulation rate). These microstructure properties are measured using sophisticated optical methods (i.e., optical microscope, SEM) and a large variability can be observed due to great complexity of the 3D microstructure; variability also depends on the precision of the measurement device. This work investigates how the variability associated with the model inputs affects the model outputs (i.e., non-acoustic parameters, surface impedance, and sound absorption coefficient). The sensitivity analysis is based on the Fourier Amplitude Sensitivity Test (FAST). It helps quantify the correlation between the input parameters and identify the parameters contributing the most to output variability, thus requiring precise measurement. This study illustrates the preponderant impact of the reticulation rate (i.e., open pore content) on acoustic performances and guides the user on the required optical measurement device.
1pSA4. Multi-scale acoustics of partially open cell poroelastic foams. Minh Tan Hoang (Fauercia Interior System, Marne-la-Vallée, France), Guy Bonnet, and Camille Perrot (Laboratoire Modélisation et Simulation Multi Echelle, MSME UMR 8208 CNRS, Université Paris-Est, 5, Boulevard Descartes, Bâtiment Lavoisier, Bureau D13, Champs-sur-Marne 77454, France, camille.perrot@univ-paris-est.fr)

The present paper reports on the modeling of linear elastic properties of acoustically insulating foams with unit cells containing solid films or membranes at the junction between interconnected pores from a numerical homogenization technique. It combines fluid-flow induced microstructure identification with simulations of the effective Young’s modulus and Poisson ratio from a mixture of routinely available laboratory measurements (porosity, permeability, cell size) and finite element calculations when the boundary conditions of the periodic unit cell take particular symmetric forms. This combination results in microstructural determination of the macroscopic coefficients entering into the Biot-Allard theory of wave propagation and dissipation through porous media. Precise control over pore morphology and mechanical properties of the base material renders this multi-scale approach particularly suitable for various advanced applications.

2:00

1pSA5. Modeling of the acoustic absorption of bi-modal polyactide foams. Shahraz Ghaffari Mosanenzadeh (Mech. and Industrial Eng., Univ. of Toronto, No. 5, King’s College Rd., Toronto, ON M5S 3G, Canada, shahraz.ghaffari@yahoo.com), Olivier Doutres (Groupe d’Acoustique de Vibrations, Univ. of Sherbrooke, Sherbrooke, QC, Canada), Hani E. Naguib, Chul B. Park (Mech. and Industrial Eng., Univ. of Toronto, Toronto, ON, Canada), and Noureddine Atalla (Groupe d’Acoustique de Vibrations, Univ. of Sherbrooke, Sherbrooke, QC, Canada)

In this study, highly porous bi-modal structures were designed and fabricated from polylactide (PLA) as the main structure and utilizing polyethylene glycol (PEG) to form micro pores by compression molding combined with particulate leaching technique. The pore size of the foam structure was controlled by salt particulates and higher interconnectivity was achieved by the co-continuous blending morphology of PLA matrix with water-soluble PEG. This fabrication method makes it possible to control pore geometry and interconnectivity closely and therefore is an ideal approach to study the relation between microstructure and acoustic properties of the foams. PLA is a bio-based thermoplastic polymer derived from renewable resources. Therefore, the resulting acoustic foams are benign and environmentally friendly. Fabricated foams were characterized based on cellular, acoustic, and mechanical properties. The acoustic performance of the foams was studied by measuring the normal incident absorption coefficient in accordance with the ASTM E1050 standard. An analytical model based on Johnson–Champoux–Allard model was used to numerically simulate the acoustic performance of foams under study. Numerical results predict the absorption behavior of PLA foams with high accuracy. Through this research, open porosities close to 90% were achieved, and the effect of water soluble polymer on cellular properties, acoustic and mechanical performance of polyactide foams was studied.

2:20

1pSA6. Improving the sound absorbing efficiency of closed-cell foams using shock waves. Olivier Doutres, Noureddine Atalla (GAUS, Université de Sherbrooke, 2500 Boul. de l’Université, Sherbrooke, QC J1K 2R1, Canada, olivier.doutres@usherbrooke.ca), Martin Brouillette, Christian Hébert (Dept. of Mech. Eng., Shock wave Lab., Sherbrooke, QC, Canada), and David Begg (Woodbridge Foam Corp., Woodbridge, ON, Canada)

Producing closed-cell foams is generally cheaper and simpler than open-cell foams. However, the acoustic efficiency of closed-cell foam materials is poor because it is very difficult for the acoustic waves to penetrate the material. A method to remove the membranes closing the cell pores (known as reticulations) and thus to improve the acoustic behavior of closed-cell foam material is presented. The method is based on the propagation of shock waves inside the foam aggregate where both the shock wave generator and the foam are in air at room conditions. Various shock treatments have been carried out on a polyurethane foams, and the following conclusions were drawn: (1) the reticulation rate increases and thus the airflow resistivity decreases while increasing the amplitude of the shock treatment; (2) the softness of the foam increases; (3) the process is reliable and repeatable; (4) obtained acoustic performance is comparable to classical thermal reticulation; and (5) the process can be used to control the reticulation rate along the thickness.

2:40

1pSA7. Full-band exact homogenization of one-dimensional elastic metamaterials. Min Yang, Zhiyu Yang, and Ping Sheng (Physics, Hong Kong Univ. of Sci. and Technol., Dept. of Phys., HKUST, Clear Water Bay, Kowloon, Hong Kong 852, Hong Kong, erwinsta@ust.hk)

Metamaterials extend the realm of materials’ properties by carefully designed structural inclusions. By targeting the extraction of effective properties from composite materials, homogenization theory plays an important role for metamaterials in their design and characterization. However, conventional homogenization methods are limited to the long wavelength limit. Here, we introduce an exact homogenization scheme valid for one-dimensional metamaterials over the full frequency band. In this scheme, with the aid of eigenstates’ characterization, a set of explicit formulas for effective mass density and effective elastic modulus are obtained by matching the surface responses properties of a metamaterial’s single structural unit with a piece of effectively homogenized material. In the frequency regimes beyond the conventional homogenization theory, new features, such as the imaginary parts of the effective parameters, have been found. Applying this scheme on a layered structure, the predicted transport properties and displacement fields from the effective parameters show excellent agreement with numerical simulations.

3:00


Metamaterials have emerged as promising solutions for manipulation of sound waves in a variety of applications. Negative dynamic mass has been explored in metamaterial applications to improve sound insulation in both three-dimensional (ball-in-rubber), and two-dimensional (membrane-type) approaches. Noise control utilizing locally resonant acoustic materials (LRAM) resulted in improved...
sound insulation by 500% over acoustic mass law predictions at peak transmission loss (TL) frequencies. The LRAM contribute minimal added mass, making them appealing for weight-critical applications such as aerospace structures. In this study, an overview of LRAM for noise control applications will be presented, including potential issues associated with scale-up of the structure. TL of single-celled and multi-celled LRAM was measured using an impedance tube setup with systematic variation in geometric parameters to understand the effects of each parameter on acoustic response. Finite element analysis (FEA) was also performed to predict TL as a function of frequency for structures with varying complexity, including stacked structures and multi-celled arrays. [Work supported by the Office of Naval Research.]

3:40

IpSA9. Omnidirectional acoustic absorber with a porous core—Theory and measurements. Olga Umnova, Andy Elliott, and Rodolfo Venegas (Univ. of Salford, The Crescent, Salford M5 4wt, United Kingdom, o.umnova@salford.ac.uk)

An omni-directional acoustic absorber consisting of a porous core and the impedance matching metamaterial layer has been designed and tested in the laboratory. Semi-analytical and numerical models have been developed and validated. The numerical model takes into account the viscous losses in the matching layer. A 1.5 m demonstrator has been built and tested under acoustic and weak shock excitation. Testing with acoustic excitation showed good agreement between measurement and model, with near perfect absorption between 400 and 1000 Hz. Testing against weak single-pulse shock in an anechoic chamber also confirmed a significant reduction in peak pressure levels when compared to a conventional porous absorber without matching layer. The findings suggest that structure is equally effective when wrapped around an object like a column, pipeline, or the underside of a vehicle, as it would be when entirely filled with an absorbing porous material.

4:00

IpSA10. Reflexion of flexural waves at the end of a tapered beam of quadratic profile covered with a thin viscoelastic layer. Vivien Denis, Julien Poitevin, Adrien Pelat, Benjamin Elie, and Francois Gautier (Laboratoire d’Acoustique de l’Université du Maine, Université du Maine, Avenue O. Messiaen, Le Mans 72000, France, francois.gautier@univ-lemans.fr)

Flexural waves propagating in a beam can be efficiently absorbed if one extremity is tapered with a power law profile and covered by a very thin viscoelastic layer [Krylov, JSV 274, 605–619 (2004)]. Such a terminaison induces an effect known as “the acoustic black hole effect” (ABH), which is resulting from properties of propagation of flexural wave in beams having non homogeneous thicknesses: if the thickness decreases locally, flexural waves slow down and the amplitude of the displacement field increases, leading to efficient energy dissipation if an absorbing layer is placed where the thickness is minimum [Georgiev et al., JSV 330, 2497–2508 (2011)]. Absorption of the ABH terminaison is estimated, thanks to the direct measurement of the reflexion coefficient, using a wave decomposition technique. Experimental modal analysis of an ABH beam can be performed using a “high resolution” technique, which permits to estimate the modal density. Analysis of these experimental results is performed, thanks to a model based on the finite difference method. It is shown that local transverse modes are playing an important role in the absorption properties of ABH.

4:20


Research testing has been conducted of a development of an innovative damping treatment, called Enidamp™. This treatment can add considerable damping to a structure by leading a vibration through a rigid connection, to a set of elastomer particles, which behaves as a damper. It is of interest to study the parameters involved in this mechanism of energy dissipation and to achieve optimal performance of the Enidamp™ system. Particularly, this paper experimentally analyzes the importance of the container geometry which houses the elastomer particles. For this purpose, the fluidization point at which the elastomeric particles become optimally excited to maximize damping is found for different depths and widths of the Enidamp™ container keeping the volume constant. Important conclusions from this experiment guide future studies for prototype improvements.

4:40

IpSA12. Structural-borne sound mitigation in small wind turbines using constrained viscoelastic layer. Baruch Pletner (Intelligent Dynam, Canada, LTD, 11 Acadia St., Dartmouth, NS B2Y 2N1, Canada, baruch.pletner@iptrade.com), Nic Strum, David Sampson, and Ali Kheirabadi (Seaforth Energy, Inc., Halifax, NS, Canada)

As the growing acceptance of small wind turbines operating in suburban and rural communities coincides with increasingly stringent regulations on the sound emitted by these turbines, the need for sound mitigation solutions becomes urgent. Small turbines need to be affordable for small business use, and thus, proposed solutions must be cost-effective and low maintenance. Easy retrofit to existing turbines is also desirable. Wind turbines generate sound via two main mechanisms: structural borne sound generated by the gearbox and generator and transmitted through the nacelle structure and aeroacoustic sound generated by the interaction of the airstream with the rotating blades and other turbine components. Current study focused on the mitigation of structural-borne sound in a 50 kW wind turbine using a constrained viscoelastic layer. The viscoelastic layer comprised of multiple tiles with normal force to the nacelle structure provided by ratcheting bands. Optimal value for the normal force was empirically determined, and the resulting reductions in generated sound were documented both in the laboratory and on a working turbine under a number of operating conditions. The result is a cost-effective solution with zero cost of ownership and easy installation on a wide range of small to medium-size wind turbines.
Session 1pSCa

Speech Communication: Mixed Effects Modeling: Applications and Practice in Speech Research

Christian DiCanio, Chair
Haskins Lab., 300 George St., Ste. 900, New Haven, CT 06511

Chair’s Introduction—12:55

Invited Papers

1:00

1pSCa1. Modeling multi-level factors using linear mixed effects. Cynthia G. Clopper (Ohio State Univ., 222 Oxley Hall, 1712 Neil Ave., Columbus, OH 43210, clopper.1@osu.edu)

Linear mixed-effects models of 2x2 designs are readily interpretable using treatment contrast coding, although their interpretation is not directly comparable to the interpretation of more traditional ANOVAs. In particular, the interpretation of the “main effect” term for one factor holds only for the baseline level of the other factor. Interpreting models of designs involving factors with more than two levels and/or interactions involving more than two factors is more complex and even less comparable to familiar interpretations of ANOVAs. Alternative methods for analyzing these more complex designs include using different contrast coding (e.g., sum, Helmert, or custom), selecting specific baseline levels for the factors, and running multiple models of the same data set with different baseline levels of comparison. These methods may return quite different results, however, such that a significant factor with treatment contrast coding may not be significant with sum contrast coding or a significant interaction term in one model may not be significant when the baseline levels of the relevant factors are changed. Thus, although linear mixed effects provide an opportunity to model complex designs with multiple sources of variability, this modeling requires careful consideration of model parameters to achieve the most appropriate interpretation of the data.

1:20

1pSCa2. Multilevel models, covariates, and controlled factors in experimental speech research: Unified analyses of highly structured data. Noah H. Silbert, Jared A. Linck (Ctr. for Adv. Study of Lang., Univ. of Maryland, 7005 52nd Ave., College Park, MD 20742, nsilbert@umd.edu), and Mark VanDam (Speech & Hearing Sci., Washington State Univ., Spokane, WA)

Experimental speech research often makes use of complex experimental designs, but even when multiple experimental factors are manipulated, measured outcomes may be influenced by non-controlled and incompletely controlled factors. Multilevel models (of which mixed-effect models are a special case) enable unified analysis of the relationships between, on the one hand, trial-level data and, on the other, experimental factors and potentially important non-controlled variables. Fitted multilevel models allow us to draw inferences simultaneously about group-level experimental effects and covariates (the typical focus of experimental work) as well as individual subject and item properties (both of which can be important in applied research). The utility of multilevel models will be illustrated with analyses of data from a number of studies. We present models of phonological structure, gender differences, and within-gender subject variability in the acoustics of spoken English consonants; simultaneous modeling of experimental factors, subject and item variability, and second language proficiency in bilingual lexical processing; and modeling of the effects of age, hearing loss, phonological/lexical properties, subject and item variability, and multiple vocabulary-related covariates in early language development.

1:40

1pSCa3. Experimentally elicited productions: Differences and similarities between mixed effects and ANOVA analyses. Matthew Goldrick (Linguistics, Northwestern Univ., 2016 Sheridan Rd., Evanston, IL 60208, matt-goldrick@northwestern.edu)

Currently, many experimental studies of speech production use fully counterbalanced designs to examine variation in categorical (e.g., correct/incorrect) or relatively continuous measures (e.g., reaction times, voice onset times). These data present several challenges to ANOVA analyses. Some of these issues are well known to the speech community; for example, the non-normality of dependent variables such as proportion correct. Others have been less extensively addressed; for example, many speech studies account for participant-but not item-specific contributions to variance. I’ll discuss the opportunities and challenges in using linear mixed effects models to address these issues. I’ll review some of the common issues that arise in using such models and discuss how to interpret and report their results.

2:00

1pSCa4. The use of mixed effects models in quantifying the dynamics of speech. Khalil Iskarous (Linguistics, Univ.of Southern California, 301P Grace Ford Salvatory, USC, Los Angeles, CA 90089-1693, kiskarou@usc.edu)

Mixed-effects models have been used often in quantifying the variability in data from experiments in speech and language. In most of these experiments, the dependent variable is measured at some landmark of a kinematic or decision process. However mixed-effects models are increasingly being used to quantify the variability of dependent variables that vary in time, such as articulator movements, formant transitions, and eye tracking data. This presentation will first provide a tutorial introduction to the use of the mixed-effects model, especially the growth-curve variant, for quantifying variability where time is an essential independent variable. It will then be argued that the model coefficients can be interpreted as dynamic coefficients of differential equations that describe the dynamics of the underlying processes.

2:20–2:40 Panel Discussion
Chair's Introduction—12:55

Invited Papers

1:00


A model of primary sensations and spatial sensations is proposed by Ando (2001). The model of the auditory-brain system includes the autocorrelation function (ACF) and the interaural cross-correlation function (IACF) mechanisms. At present, environmental noises are evaluated by sound level such as equivalent continuous A-weighted sound pressure level (LAeq). However, we sometimes feel annoyed with sound with low sound level because of the quality. Sound quality can be characterized by factors obtained from ACF and IACF of sound. For example, pitch and pitch strength can be characterized by delay time and amplitude of the maximum peak of the ACF. Directional sensation can be characterized by delay time and amplitude of the maximum peak of the IACF. To verify the model, we investigated how ACF and IACF factors are coded in our human brain. The results indicated that delay time and amplitude of the maximum peak of the ACF and IACF are coded by the latency and strength of brain activity. In addition, we applied the model to analyze a Buddhist sutra chanted in temples. The results indicated that some characteristics of the sutra could be characterized by the ACF and IACF factors.

1:20

1pSCb2. Autocorrelation-based features for speech representation. Yoichi Ando (Kobe Univ., 1-4-132-105 Hiyodoridai, Kobe Kita 657-1123, Japan, andoy@cameo.plala.or.jp)

This study investigates autocorrelation-based features as a potential basis for phonetic and syllabic distinctions. The work comes out of a theory of auditory signal processing based on central monaural autocorrelation and binaural crosscorrelation representations. Correlation-based features are used to predict monaural and binaural perceptual attributes that are important for the architectural acoustic design of concert halls: pitch, timbre, loudness, duration, reverberation-related coloration, sound direction, apparent source width, and envelopment (Ando, 1985, 1998; Ando and Cariani, 2009). The current study investigates the use of features of monaural autocorrelation functions (ACFs) for representing phonetic elements (vowels), syllables (CV pairs), and phrases using a small set of temporal factors extracted from the short-term running ACF. These factors include listening level (loudness), zero-lag ACF peak width (spectral tilt), $\tau_1$ (voice pitch period), $\phi_1$ (voice pitch strength), $\tau_e$ (effective duration of the ACF envelope, temporal repetitive continuity/contrast), segment duration, and $\Delta \phi_1 / \Delta \tau$ (the rate of pitch strength change, related to voice pitch attack-decay dynamics). Times at which ACF effective duration $\tau_e$ is minimal reflect rapid signal pattern changes that usefully demarcate segmental boundaries. Results suggest that vowels, CV syllables, and phrases can be distinguished on the basis of this ACF-derived feature set.

1:40

1pSCb3. Synthesis of the speech signals by using autocorrelation function. Shin-ichi Sato and Alejandro Bidondo (Ingeniería de Sonido, Universidad Nacional de Tres de Febrero, Varentín Gómez 4752, Caseros, Provincia de Buenos Aires 1678, Argentina, ssato@untref.edu.ar)

The running autocorrelation function (r-ACF) is obtained by the FFT method based on the Wiener–Khinchine theorem after obtaining the power density spectrum for a signal. This study attempted to reconstruct the original speech signal by using a part of its r-ACF. First, the stationary part of the vowel signals were investigated to determine until which delay time of the ACF (maximum time lag) is necessary to recognize the reconstructed signals as the original ones. Then, the continuous speech signals were investigated to determine the appropriate integration interval as well as the maximum time lag.
Nevertheless, human speech recognition is effectively size invariant across average pitch and mean formant frequency decrease as speaker size increases. Specifically, av-
temts Eng., Wakayama Univ., Wakayama, Japan) and Toshio Irino (Faculty of Sys-
Univ. of Cambridge, Downing Site, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire CB22

tion (\(\tau_e\) [ms]) of the ACF was correlated with the averaged percent articulations among the consonants (\(r = 0.87, p < 0.01\)). The \(\tau_e\) indicates temporal fluctuation of speech signals including its fundamental frequency. The deteriorated perceptual function for temporal fluctuation may reduce the recognition ability of the consonants, so the application of the ACF analysis for a hearing aid may help the hearing of patients with sensorineural hearing loss.

Contributed Paper

3:20

1pSCb7. The role of normalization in phoneme recognition and speaker definitio
Roy D. Patterson (Physiology, Development and Neurosci., Univ. of Cambridge, Downing Site, Cambridge, Cambridgeshire CB2
SLW, United Kingdom, rdp1@cam.ac.uk) and Toshio Irino (Faculty of Systems Eng., Wakayama Univ., Wakayama, Japan)

There is size information in speech sounds because the vocal tract and the vocal cords both grow as a child develops into an adult. Specifically, average pitch and mean formant frequency decrease as speaker size increases. Nevertheless, human speech recognition is effectively size invariant across the full range of sizes in the normal population of speakers and well beyond.

It is also the case that listeners can discriminate speaker size with great accuracy; indeed, with greater accuracy than they can discriminate the loudness of sound or the brightness of light. The first part of this talk describes how the peripheral auditory system normalizes speech sounds automatically to produce a size invariant representation for speech recognition. The second part presents a model of how the central auditory system transforms information in the cochlea into our perception of who is speaking and what they are saying. The model suggests that the system combines information about vocal resonator size with a small amount of contextual information to determine what the person is saying (at the phonological level), and then it adds voice pitch information to determine who is speaking (in the sense of the sex and size of the speaker).

3:40–4:00 Panel Discussion
In a forensic-voice-comparison (FVC) case, one speaker (A) was talking on a mobile telephone, and another (B) was standing a short distance away. Later, B moved closer to the telephone. Shortly thereafter, there was a section of speech where the identity of the speaker was disputed. All material for training an FVC-system could be extracted from this single recording, but there was a near-far mismatch: Training data for A were near, training data for B were far, and the disputed speech was near. We describe a procedure for addressing the degree of validity and reliability of an FVC system under such conditions, prior to it being applied to the casework recording.

Sections of recordings of pairs of speakers of known identity are used to train an A and B model; multiple other sections from each of the A and B recordings are used as test data; a likelihood ratio is calculated for each test section; and system validity and reliability are assessed. Prior to training and testing, the A and B recordings were played through loudspeakers and rerecorded via a mobile-telephone network, B was rerecorded twice, once

...
This study investigates the fusion of multiple formant-trajectory- and fundamental-frequency-trajectory-based forensic voice comparison systems: Chinese /ei1/, /ai2/, and /iau1/. Cuiling Zhang (Dept. of Forensic Sci. & Technol., China Criminal Police Univ., Tianan St. NO.83, Huanggu District, Shenyang, Liaoning 110854, China, cuiling-zhang@forensic-voice-comparison.net) and Ewald Enzinger (Forensic Voice Comparison Lab., School of Elec. Eng. & Telecommunications, Univ. of New South Wales, Sydney, NSW, Australia).

This study investigates the fusion of multiple formant-trajectory- and fundamental-frequency-trajectory-based (f0-trajectory-based) forensic voice comparison systems. Each system was based on tokens of a single phoneme: tokens of Chinese /ei1/, /ai2/, and /iau1/ (numbers indicate tones). Human-supervised formant-trajectory and f0-trajectory measurements were made on tokens from a database of recordings of 60 female speakers of Chinese. Discrete cosine transforms (DCT) were fitted to the trajectories and the DCT coefficients used to calculate likelihood ratios via the multivariate kernel density (MVKD) formula. The individual-phoneme systems were fused with each other and with a baseline mel-frequency cepstral-coefficient (MFCC) Gaussian-mixture-model universal-background-model (GMM-UBM). The latter made use of the entire speech-active portion of the recordings. Tests were conducted using high-quality recordings as nominal suspect samples and mobile-to-landline transmitted recordings as nominal offender samples. Fusion of the phoneme-systems with the baseline system via logistic regression did not lead to any substantial improvement in validity and reliability deteriorated.

Contributed Papers

1:20

1pSPa2. Quasi-holographic processing as an alternative to synthetic aperture sonar imaging, David J. Zartner, Daniel S. Plotnick (Phys. and Astronomy Dept., Washington State Univ., Pullman, WA 99164-2814, zartner.david@gmail.com), Timothy M. Marston (Naval Surface Warfare Ctr., Panama City Div., Panama City, FL), and Philip L. Marston (Phys. and Astronomy Dept., Washington State Univ., Pullman, WA).

By limiting attention to supersonic-like wavevectors, time-resolved holographic imaging was demonstrated to be helpful for identifying transient elastic responses of targets contributing to far field scattering [Hefner and Marston, Acoust. Res. Lett. Online 2, 55–60 (2001); 3, 101–106...
A hybrid transient acoustic holography (HTAH) is presented to visualize the two-dimensional transient sound fields radiated from planar sources with unknown locations and dimensions, by combining the time reversal source localization with the near-field acoustic holography (NAH) based on the interpolated time domain equivalent source method (TDESM). Based on the near-field measurements with a microphone array, the time reversal source focusing algorithm is used to find out the hotspots of the sound sources on the equivalent source plane, which suggests the collocation of equivalent sources. The interpolated TDESM based NAH is then employed to reconstruct and image the transient sound field on the reconstruction plane. The proposed HTAH technique can reduce the elements number of microphone array by only collocating the equivalent sources in the vicinity of the “real” sound sources. The visualization of the transient sound fields radiated from single-planar-piston and dual-planar-piston model is studied by numerical simulations, respectively. The experiments are performed in a semi-anechoic chamber by using two baffled loudspeakers. Both the simulation and experimental results revealed that this hybrid scheme can realize a better two-dimensional imaging of transient sound fields than the original interpolated TDESM based NAH in the measurement using same amount of microphones.

A hybrid transient acoustic holography (HTAH) has been shown to be a useful tool for visualizing jet noise fields. It has been applied to a full-scale jet on an installed military aircraft with promising results, but the source characteristics in the extreme near field have been difficult to characterize because of the interference of acoustic reflections off the rigid reflecting plane beneath the jet. To provide accurate sound field reconstructions, a modified approach to statistically optimized near-field acoustic holography (SONAH) is implemented. In conventional SONAH, the sound field is represented by a matrix of elementary wave functions at all desired spatial locations. In this modified approach, advantage is taken of the property that arbitrary, user-defined functions can be selected for this matrix. Here, two sets of cylindrical wave functions, one centered on the jet centerline and one on the image source centerline, are used to obtain an accurate near-field reconstruction.
Signal Processing in Acoustics: Acoustic Feature Extraction and Characterization

Edmund J. Sullivan, Chair
Prometheus Inc., 46 Lawton Brook Lane, Portsmouth, RI 02871

Contributed Papers

3:20
IpSPb1. Classifying sonar signals with varying signal-to-noise ratio and bandwidth. Stefan Murphy (Underwater Sensing, Defence Res. and Development Canada, 9 Grove St., Dartmouth, NS B2Y 3Z7, Canada, stefan.murphy@drdc-rddc.gc.ca)

An automatic aural classifier developed at Defence Research and Development Canada has demonstrated the ability to distinguish target echoes from clutter using perceptual-based features inspired by sonar operators. Initially, the classifier was tested with echoes from explosive sources, but more recent research involved transmitting broadband waveforms from sonar transducers. In sonar transducer operation, there is a trade off between source level and bandwidth, and the goal of this paper is to study how these factors affect echo classification. Source level relates to signal-to-noise ratio (SNR), which inherently affects classification since signals with low enough SNR cannot be distinguished from noise, let alone other signals. The dependence of classification performance on bandwidth is less obvious; however, the aural classification technique is based on a sub-band type of processing that mimics the basilar membrane in the human auditory system, and this model is not well adapted for narrow bands. Performance of the aural classifier is therefore expected to degrade as bandwidth is decreased. In this paper, the effect of SNR and signal bandwidth on echo classification is examined using echoes of varying SNR, and in various bands selected using band-pass filters.

3:40

Proposed is an automated framework for the extraction and characterization of the arriving echo in ultrasonic signals embedded in high noise. Commonly, in order to correctly characterize the first echo hidden within a noise-ridden signal, multiple traces are stacked in a gather to improve the SNR, hence facilitating easier extraction and characterization of the recorded echo. Such first order statistical methods require multiple traces and usually fall short in the accuracy of the echo estimate when the variance of the noise does not belong to a known distribution. To mitigate this problem, a framework has been developed comprised of a multi-step procedure, i.e., pre-processing, localization, gating, and finally parameterization of the given echo. This automatic framework operates on single traces and does not require the setting of processing parameters. By means of this method, the true echo can be extracted in one-shot from other overlapping noise components. Furthermore, because the method operates on a trace-by-trace basis, it is insensitive to large non-stationarities in the baseline. Experiments conducted using synthetic as well as aluminum reflector pulse-echo lab data demonstrate the effective extraction of the true echo under the presence of noise and ringing at varying levels of severity.

4:00
IpSPb3. Extract voice information using high-speed camera. Mariko Akutsu, Yasuhiro Oikawa, and Yoshio Yamasaki (Dept. of Intermedia Art and Sci., Waseda Univ., 3-4-1 Ohtkubo, Shinjuku, Tokyo, Japan, yoikawa@waseda.jp)

Conversation is one of the most important channels for human beings. To help communications, speech recognition technologies have been developed. Above all, in a conversation, not only contents of utterances but also intonations and tones include important information regarding a speaker’s intention. To study the sphere of human speech, microphones are typically used to record voices. However, since microphones have to be set around a space, their existences affect a physical behavior of the sound field. To challenge this problem, we have suggested a recording method using a high-speed camera. By using a high-speed camera for recording sound vibrations, it can record two or more points within the range of the camera at the same time and can record from a distance, without interfering with the sound fields. In this study, we extract voice information using high-speed videos, which capture both a face and a cervical part of the subject. This method allows recording skin vibrations, which contain voices with individuality and extrapolating sound waves by using an image processing method. The result of the experiment shows that a high-speed camera is capable of recording voice information.

4:20
IpSPb4. Multi-stage identification for abnormal/warning sounds detection based on maximum likelihood classification. Kohei Hayashida, Junpei Ogawa, Masato Nakayama, Takeshi Nishiura, and Yoichi Yamashita (Grad. School of Information Sci. and Eng., Ritsumeikan Univ., 1-1-1 Nohigashi, Kusatsu 525-8577, Japan, cm012063@ed.ritsumei.ac.jp)

In recent years, the methods utilizing environmental sounds have been increasingly employed for monitoring the safety of the elderly who lives in distant place. Environmental sounds should consist of various sounds in daily life, and identified ones enables to detect abnormality. To detect abnormality, it is therefore required that abnormal/warning sounds are accurately identified among environmental sounds. In the past, environmental sound identification methods have generally utilized acoustic models constructed by each sound source for all environmental sounds. In our former research, we proposed multi-stage identification for detecting abnormal/warning sounds accurately. However, these methods design individual acoustic models from similar sounds. Therefore, the sound identification performance is degraded. To overcome this problem, in this study, we proposed environmental sound classification based on acoustic features for model construction. The proposed method classifies environmental sounds based on the difference of acoustic likelihood and designs acoustic models are constructed by classification results. Moreover, the proposed method detects the abnormal/warning sounds more accurately by combining them with the multi-stage identification. We carried out the evaluation experiment with environmental sound database. Experimental results of this experiment demonstrate that the identification performance for the proposed method is higher than that for the conventional methods.
For a bandwidth $B$, the required order $M_{\text{min}}$ was found to be $M_{\text{min}} = \frac{B}{600}$ Hz for the anechoic (worst) case scenario. The presence of reverberation introduced natural room response variations across different source-receiver locations, suggesting that the acceptable HOA error can be increased. Hence, in reverberant environments, the required HOA order is reduced, and at least 2D HOA reproduction can be used for evaluation of HA technologies.

Pipelines have become the principal means of oil and gas transportation. However, pipeline leakage takes place due to some natural or artificial damages, which may cause loss of life and properties along with the environmental pollutions. A new pipeline detection and pre-warning system based on distributed optical fiber sensor is proposed, and the hardware has been accomplished. Now, its following key problem is how to recognize and classify the abnormal events, such as oil stealing, construction, artificial excavation, motor work, and train passing. This paper involves a study on this and proposes a solution method. First, original vibration signal is pre-processed and segmented according to threshold of energy within a narrower bandwidth. Then, event features in time and frequency domain are analyzed through statistical analysis and short-time Fourier transform (STFT). The energy coefficients at some bandwidth can distinguish different type of abnormal events, which are chosen as feature vectors. At classification, abnormal events are first divided into discrete and continuous events with single classifier, which can decrease classified event sets and improve recognition accuracy. Then, BP artificial neural network is applied to identify the type of abnormal events. Finally, proposed method will be verified with actual collection data sets.

The problem of localization of underground sources from seismic measurements detected by several geophones located on the ground surface is addressed. Two main approaches to the solution of the problem are considered—a beamforming approach that is derived from the linearized inversion problem, and the Bayes nonlinear inversion method. The travel times used in the beamformer are derived from solving the Eikonal equation. In the
linearized inversion method, we assume that the elastic waves are predominantly acoustic waves, and the acoustic approximation is applied. For the nonlinear inverse method, we apply the Bayesian framework where the misfit function is the posterior probability distribution of the model space. The model parameters are the location of the seismic source that we are interested in estimating. The forward problem solver applied for the nonlinear inverse method is a finite difference elastic wave-field numerical method. In this paper, the accuracy and performance of the linear beamformer and nonlinear inverse methods to localize a underground seismic source are checked and compared using computer generated synthetic experimental data.

IpSPc3. B-format for binaural listening of higher order Ambisonics. Ryouchi Nishimura (National Inst. of Information and Commun. Technol., 2-2-2 Hikaridai, Seika-cho, Soraku-gun, Kyoto 619-0288, Japan, ryou@nict.go.jp) and Kotaro Sonoda (Nagasaki Univ., Nagasaki, Japan, 2-2-2 Hikaridai, Seika-cho, Soraku-gun, Kyoto 619-0288, Japan, ryou@nict.go.jp) and Kotaro Sonoda (Nagasaki Univ., Nagasaki, Japan)

B-format is a four-channel signal capable of rendering a sound scene with spatial information. It can be regarded equivalent to first order ambisonics. Ambisonics requires a high order to contain precise spatial information, and higher order ambisonics requires an exponentially large amount of data. This limitation comes from the fact that the original aim of ambisonics is to reproduce the whole sound field. However, as mobile devices are prevalent, users often listen to sound media through earphones. Because nowadays users can hold sound contents individually, one can assume that sound contents could be produced adaptively to each user. Here we propose a way to make B-format signals more suitable for individual binaural listening. We assume that the production side can capture a sound scene with higher order ambisonics, because it may be processed for enterprise applications. Under this assumption, the binaural signal is once generated from the higher order ambisonics, and then its B-format signal is obtained by inversely processing the signal, assuming the first order ambisonics. Computer simulations show that interaural phase differences (IPDs) are improved at a frequency region where IPD dominantly affects sound localization. Results of hearing tests are also discussed.

IpSPc4. Steering for listening area of reflective audio spot with parametric loudspeaker array. Shohei Masunaga, Daisuke Ikefuji, Masato Nakayama, and Takanobu Nishiura (Grad. School of Information Sci. and Eng., Ritsumeikan Univ., 1-1-1 Nojihigashi, Kusatsu 525-8577, Japan, is037089@ed.ritsumei.ac.jp)

A parametric loudspeaker has a high directivity by utilizing ultrasound waves as a carrier wave. Therefore, a parametric loudspeaker can form a specific listening spot called “audio spot.” Furthermore, a parametric loudspeaker can form the “reflective audio spot” by utilizing the reflected sound. The listeners in the listening area may perceive the acoustic sound image on the reflector. However, it has the problem that the reflective audio spot with a single parametric loudspeaker is narrow area. Therefore, it is difficult for several listeners to perceive the reflective audio spot at the same time. Thus, in this paper, we attempt to steer the area of the reflective audio spot with parametric loudspeaker array. We carried out objective and subjective evaluation experiments to confirm the effectiveness of the proposed system in a conference room. As a result, we confirmed the proposed system can expand the area of the reflective audio spot.

IpSPc5. Steerable parametric loudspeaker with preprocessing methods. Chuang Shi and Woon-Song Gan (School of Elec. & Electron. Eng., Nanyang Technolog. Univ., 50 Nanyang Ave., S2-B4a-03, DSP Lab, Singapore 639798, Singapore, shichuang@ntu.edu.sg)

The emerging applications of the parametric loudspeaker, such as 3D audio, require both directivity control and high fidelity at the audible frequency (i.e., the difference frequency of the primary frequencies generated by the parametric loudspeaker). Although the phased array techniques have been applied and proved adequate to adjust the steering angles of the parametric loudspeaker, and preprocessing methods have been studied to reduce the harmonic distortions, there is no published work on the effectiveness of the combination of the beamsteering method and the preprocessing methods for the broadband steerable sound beam system. This paper aims to investigate on this unexplored problem. First, the relation between the phases of the primary waves and the difference frequency wave is explored to prove the feasibility of achieving a broadband steerable sound beam from the parametric loudspeaker with preprocessing methods. Second, based on the derived relation, the beamsteering structure is proposed. Lastly, preprocessing methods are proposed for the steerable parametric loudspeaker using double sideband modulation (DSBAM) and square root amplitude modulation (SRAM) methods. Spatial performances of the steerable parametric loudspeaker with preprocessing methods are presented in this paper.


The adoption rate of multi-channel audio systems has dramatically increased in recent years. It is common to find 5.1- or 7.1-channel systems in typical home theaters. However, most users do not setup the satellite loudspeakers at the prescribed positions for aesthetic reasons or due to space constraints. Recently, we introduced a technique to optimize multi-channel contents for reproduction over non-ideal loudspeaker setups. Our proposal improves localization accuracy for sound sources reproduced by horizontal loudspeaker arrays. It can also be extended to handle full 3D contents, like those of the upcoming 22.2-channel standard. The proposed method works by applying a set of spatial windows centered at the loudspeaker positions and interpolating along the angles using the spherical harmonics. We now extend our previous results by evaluating the performance of six different spatial window functions. We consider the 5-channel distribution of ITU recommendation BS.775-2, as well as four variations that end-users are likely to deploy. Apparent sound source locations are estimated from the energy and velocity vectors at the sweet spot. Our study found that using the Slepian window with our proposal and a non-ideal loudspeaker layout leads to a reproduced sound field that is closer to that of the ideal configuration.

IpSPc7. Including frequency-dependent attenuation for the deconvolution of ultrasonic signals. Ewen Carcreff, Sébastien Bourguignon, Jérôme Idier (IRCCyN, 1 rue de la Noé, Nantes 44321, France, ewen.carcreff@irc-ccy.cn-nantes.fr), and Laurent Simon (LAUM, Le Mans, France)

Ultrasonic non-destructive testing (NDT) is a standard process for detecting flaws or discontinuities in industrial parts. A pulse is emitted by an ultrasonic transducer through a material, and a reflected wave is produced at each impedance change. In many cases, echoes can overlap in the received signal and deconvolution can be applied to perform echo separation and to enhance the resolution. Common deconvolution techniques assume that the shape of the echoes is invariant to the propagation distance. This can cause poor performances with materials such as plastics or composites, in particular because acoustic propagation suffers from frequency-dependent attenuation. In geophysics, biomedical imaging or NDT, various frequency-dependent attenuation models have been proposed under different formulations. This communication compares the related possible constructions in order to account for attenuation in deconvolution methods. Especially, we introduce a discrete model for the data, that includes an attenuation matrix in the standard convolution model. Experimental data acquired from Plexiglas plates show that, for this material, attenuation varies roughly linearly with frequency, leading to a unique parameter identification. Finally, we show that such an advanced model manages a better fitting of the data, and promises improvement for the deconvolution of complex ultrasonic data.


The goal of this paper is to investigate a transient problem using several digital signal processing techniques. First, a simple linear mathematical model, where a point mass is connected to a roller through a contact interface, is developed and the dynamic interfacial force is analytically calculated as a function of the speed. In this model, the contact interface is
described with a linear spring and viscous damper, and the system is excited with a base excitation, as defined by the undulations on the roller surface. Due to the time-varying speed characteristics of the roller, the resulting response is transient. Second, the dual-domain analyses of the calculated system response is carried out by using short-time Fourier and wavelet transforms, since single-domain representation leads to a loss of information due to signal’s transient characteristics. Third, the Hilbert transform is applied and the envelope curves of the interfacial force response are successfully obtained. Finally, this problem is briefly linked to brake judder phenomenon and its source regimes are briefly explained.

IqSPc9.East Bayesian hierarchical inference via sparsity enforcing a priori for aeroacoustics source imaging. Ning Chu, Ali Dajafari (Groupe de problème inverse, Laboratoire des signaux et systèmes (I2a), SUPELEC, SUPELEC, plateau de Moulon, 3 rue Joliot-Curie, 91192 Gif-SUR-YVETTE Cedex (France), Gif sur yvette, Paris 91192, France, chuning1983@gmail.com), José Piscoral (Dept. Signal et Systèmes Electroniques, SUPELEC, Paris, France), and Nicolas Gac (Groupe de problème inverse, Laboratoire des signaux et systèmes (I2a), SUPELEC, Paris, France)

Aeroacoustic imaging is a technique for mapping the positions and powers of aeroacoustic sources. We propose a novel inverse solution by applying Bayesian hierarchical inference via sparsity enforcing a priori. We model the sparse prior of source powers by using the double exponential distribution, which can greatly improve the spatial resolution and robustness to background noise. Hyperparameters and source powers can be alternatively estimated based on the joint maximum a priori optimization. To accelerate the optimization, we improve the forward model of aeroacoustic power propagation by exploring the convolution operator. Finally, our approach is compared with some classical methods on simulated and real data. And our approach is feasible to apply for aeroacoustic imaging with the 2D non-uniform microphone array in wind tunnel tests, especially for near-field monopole and extended source imaging.

IqSPc10. Low latency audio coder design for high quality audio service on server-client environment. Han-gil Moon, Nam-suk Lee, and Hyun-wook Kim (DMC R&D Ctr., Samsung Electron., 416, Maetan 3-dong, Yeongtong-gu, Suwon 443-742, South Korea, hangil.moon@samsung.com)

Low latency audio coding attracts increasing attention among high quality communication applications such as video conferencing system and server-client media applications such as cloud computing based interactive AV service. This paper presents a low latency audio coding scheme which can achieve both low delay and high subjective audio quality at the same time. In order to guarantee low delay, the proposed coding system incorporates low overlap window while preserving the window size as same as that of conventional (AAC) long window. The supplementary signal processing tool is incorporated to enhance the audio quality. The proposed coding scheme achieves the delay of 24 ms in 48 kHz and the MUSHRA score, which is comparable to that of commercialized AAC.

IqSPc11. Security screening using ultrasound. David Hutchins, Lee Davis, and Sheldon Tsien (School of Eng., Univ. of Warwick, Gibbet Hill Rd., Coventry CV4 7AL, United Kingdom, D.A.Hutchins@warwick.ac.uk)

This work will demonstrate that it is possible to produce images of hidden objects, using ultrasound transmitted through air. For example, it can be shown that a knife can be imaged, when hidden behind a layer of clothing fabric. To achieve this, it is necessary to use coded waveforms and signal recovery techniques, in order to retrieve small signals in the presence of a much larger reflection from the outer fabric surface. In addition, ultrasound can be used in through-transmission to detect hidden objects within thin packages. This and other examples of the use of air-coupled ultrasound for security work will be demonstrated.

IqSPc12. Articulatory-based speaker recognition. Luis Rodrigues (Concordia Univ., 1515 St. Catherine W, EV12.111, Montreal, QC H3G2W1, Canada, luisrod@encs.concordia.ca) and John Kroeker (Eliza Corp., Beverly, MA)

This paper presents a new methodology for computational speaker recognition based on a mathematical model of articulatory speech production. The method, based on articulatory phonology is tested on the MOCHA database for recognizing a male speaker and a female speaker. From an engineering perspective, in articulatory phonology one is interested in the trajectories over time of a set of articulators. These time trajectories are associated with the production of speech. The basic phonological unit in articulatory phonology is the articulatory gesture, which is defined as a dynamic system specified by a characteristic set of parameters. This dynamic system receives as inputs a target state and a set of parameters that tune the system to the desired action. The output is the solution of the state equation, i.e., the state trajectory, where the state is formed by the x-y positions of the important articulators that describe human speech. The state trajectory is then mapped to the output speech waveform by emulating the human vocal tract, through the observation equation and the MFCCs frequency description. A simplification of this model will be used in this paper for speaker recognition with 100% success in recognizing a male and a female speaker.

IqSPc13. A dynamic automatic noisy speech recognition system for a single-channel hybrid noisy industrial environment. Sheuli Paul (Univ. of Kaiserslautern, Kaiserslautern, Kaiserslautern 67663, Germany, paul@eit.uni-kl.de)

A dynamic noisy speech recognition system is developed to recognize single-channel small spoken commands in a hybrid noisy industrial environment. This hybrid system has three parts: (a) hybrid pre-processing to enhance noisy speech, (b) feature extraction for perceptual speech features, (c) classification and recognition for the DANSR’s result. Here, the single-channel is only one microphone, and the hybrid noise is environmental mixed noise distinguished as: (i) strong, (ii) time varying steady-unsteady, and (iii) mild. A new adaptive feature extraction technique based on local trigonometric transformation (LT T) is introduced and examined. This is adapted with psychoacoustic quantities such as Bark scaled critical band spectrum, loudness scale, and perceptual entropy. Here the spectral analysis is done by rising cut-off function, folding operation, and discrete cosine transformation (DCT-IV) instead of Fourier transform. Then, inverse DCT-IV and unfold operation result in perceptual LTT (PLTT) features. These are recognized by hidden Markov model (HMM). The new PLTT features are more efficient and perceptually meaningful than the standard feature extraction techniques. The DANSR system is a novel solution for small commands to a long existing hybrid noise problem.

IqSPc14. A novel noise-reduction algorithm for real-time speech processing. Frederic E. Theunissen and Tyler Lee (Psychology and Neurosci., UC Berkeley, 3120 Tolman Hall, Berkeley, CA 94720, theunissen@berkeley.edu)

We developed a new noise-reduction algorithm based on a joint spectro-temporal representation of signals. The algorithm was inspired by the discovery in our laboratory of higher-level avian auditory cortical neurons that showed invariant responses to communication signals. The algorithm consists of an analysis step and a synthesis step. In the analysis step, the sound is first decomposed into narrow band signals by a frequency filter bank. These time-frequency waveforms are then further analyzed using a spectro-temporal modulation filter bank to obtain a representation that is akin to the one generated by cortical neurons. In our algorithm, this modulation filter bank was obtained from the principal component analysis of the speech signal in the time-frequency representation. We then learned which subset of the modulation filters provided the best information to extract the signal from the noise. In the synthesis step, we then used this subset of spectral-temporal modulation feature detectors to generate a set of time-varying frequency gains that could be applied directly to the original time frequency decomposition. In this manner, we were able to perform noise reduction in real time and with minimal delay. Our algorithm yielded similar noise reduction but better quality speech quality than current state-of-the-art algorithms.

IqSPc15. Causal binary mask estimation for speech enhancement using sparsity constraints. Abigail A. Kressner, David V. Anderson, and Christopher J. Rozell (School of Elec. and Comput. Eng., Georgia Inst. of Technol., 3505 Ga Tech Place NW, Atlanta, GA 30339-0245, abbiekre@gatech.edu)

While most single-channel noise reduction algorithms fail to improve speech intelligibility, the ideal binary mask (IBM) has demonstrated substantial intelligibility improvements for both normal- and impaired-hearing listeners. However, this approach exploits oracle knowledge of the target and interferer signals to preserve only the time-frequency regions that are target-dominated. Single-channel noise suppression algorithms trying to approximate the IBM using locally estimated signal-to-noise ratios without oracle knowledge have had limited success. Thought of in another way, the
IBM exploits the disjoint placement of the target and interferer in time and frequency to create a time-frequency signal representation that is more sparse (i.e., has fewer non-zeros). In recent work (in preparation for ICASSP 2013), we have introduced a novel time-frequency masking algorithm based on a sparse approximation algorithm from the signal processing literature. However, the algorithm employs a non-causal estimator. The present work introduces an improved de-noising algorithm that uses more realistic frame-based (causal) computations to estimate a binary mask.

IpsPc16. Objective and subjective evaluation of complementary Wiener filter for speech dereverberation. Kento Ohtani, Tatsuya Komatsu (Grad. School of Information Sci., Nagoya Univ., Furo-cho, Chikusa-ku, Nagoya, Aichi 464-8601, Japan, ohtani.kento@g.sp.m.is.nagoya-u.ac.jp), Kazunobu Kondo (Corporate Res. & Development Ctr., Yamaha Corp., Nagoya, Japan), Takehito Nishino (Information Eng., Grad. School of Eng., Mie Univ., Nagoya, Japan), and Kazuya Takeda (Grad. School of Information Sci., Nagoya Univ., Nagoya, Japan)

Acoustic distortion caused by reverberation can degrade speech quality and performance of speech-based systems. Several dereverberation techniques have been proposed in the literature. For example, a dereverberation method using a complementary Wiener filter can suppress late reverberation with few computational resources. As a method for dereverberation, the method using a complementary Wiener filter has been proposed, and for the exponential decay impulse response model, it is shown theoretically that we can suppress reverberation with few computational resources. In this report, we approximate expectation of the power spectrum. Which is necessary to calculate a complementary Wiener filter as exponential moving average. We conducted dereverberation experiments using actual environment room impulse response. The results of the objective evaluation show that the suppression performances of the actual environment room impulse response can approximate from the results of the exponential decay impulse response model. Additionally, we investigated the relationship between the results of objective evaluation and the results of subjective evaluation. In a small reverberation environment, we can see strong correlation between the results of objective and subjective evaluation.

IpsPc17. Evaluation of human-phonatory radiation characteristics with a polyhedron loudspeaker. Naoki Yoshimoto, Kota Nakano, Masato Nakayama, and Takeanobu Nishiura (Grad. School of Information Science and Eng., Ritsumeikan Univ., 1-1-1 Noji-higashi, Kusatsu 525-8577, Japan, is046081@ed.ritsumei.ac.jp)

Spoken dialog systems have been studied for car navigation systems and voice search systems. For evaluating these systems, a loudspeaker is used instead of a human because these systems require various kinds of speech samples. However, the sounds radiated by loudspeaker cannot reproduce human-phonatory radiation characteristics. Therefore, the mouth simulator is utilized to reproduce human-phonatory radiation characteristics. Although it is based on the average mouth shapes, shapes of mouth are different among phonemes. Therefore, due to the hardware structure, it cannot accurately reproduce various human-phonatory radiation characteristics affected by shapes of mouth. In this study, we developed a polyhedron loudspeaker to solve this problem. It consists of 11 loudspeakers, which are independently controlled. Controlling eleven loudspeakers makes it possible to reproduce desired radiation characteristics. By utilizing this method, we try to reproduce human-phonatory radiation characteristics of Japanese five vowels and typical consonants with digital filters which were adaptively designed. We carried out an evaluation experiment in various measuring points to verify the effectiveness of the proposed method. As a result, it was confirmed that human-phonatory radiation characteristics with the proposed method could be accurately approximated compared with the conventional mouth simulator.

IpsPc18. Optimized hermetic transform beam-forming of acoustic arrays via cascaded spatial filter arrangements derived using a chimerical evolutionary genetic algorithm. Harvey C. Woodsum and Christopher M. Woodsum (Sci. and Technol., Nericet System Dynam., LLC, 3700 N. Charles St., Unit 903, Baltimore, Maryland 21218, cwwoodso1@jhu.edu)

Hermetic transforms are complex matrices, having particular mathematici- cal properties, that have recently been introduced to the field of acoustic array signal processing. Cascade sequences of Hermetic transform matrices have been shown to have direct utility in accomplishing spatial filtering and beam-forming of data from oversampled arrays. The present work details the adaptation of techniques previously shown to be successful in the processing of radio-wave phased-array antenna systems [Woodsum et al., 16th Inter- national Conference on Cognitive and Neural Systems (2012)] to the processing of sampled digital data from acoustic arrays. As in our earlier work, the use of Chimerical, Evolutionary, Genetic Algorithm, having a “feature seeking” function, is retained, for deriving optimal multiplicative arrangements of non-commuting elemental transform matrices. Each elemental matrix represents a spatial “pole” or “zero,” and cascaded arrangements of these are utilized to create a desired spatial pattern response for the array. In terms of acoustic reception, the technique is especially successful in dealing with null placement in order to mitigate large numbers of interfering signals, and in achieving super-resolution beams for arrays that are “acoustically small.” Experimental results are compared to theoretical predictions of performance.

IpsPc19. A study on acoustic imaging based on beamformer to range spectra in the phase interference method. Ryota Miyake, Kohei Hayashi, Masato Nakayama, and Takanobu Nishiura (Grad. School of Information Sci. and Eng., Ritsumeikan Univ., 1-1-1 Noji-higashi, Kusatsu 525-8577, Japan, is0041ki@ed.ritsumei.ac.jp)

Information on the distance to the target is very important to achieve the practical use of hands-free speech interfaces and nursing-care robots. Many distance measurement methods, which use the time-of-flight (TOF) of a reflected wave measured to the target, have been proposed. However, these methods cannot measure short distances because the transmitted wave, which has not attenuated sufficiently at the time of a reflected wave reception, suppresses reflected waves for short distances. We previously proposed an acoustic distance measurement method based on interference between the transmitted and reflected waves, which can be used for distance measurement over a short range using single microphone. This method is referred to the phase interference method. It can estimate the distance to target, but cannot estimate the direction of target. In the present paper, therefore, we propose to achieve acoustic imaging with the phase interference method by using microphone-array instead of single microphone. More specifically, we apply the beamformer to the range spectra calculated from observed signals at each microphone of microphone-array to obtain the spatial information. Finally, we confirm the effectiveness of the proposed method through evaluation experiments in real environments.

IpsPc20. Investigations into the human pinna shapes on head-related transfer functions in the median plane. Hajime Komatsu, Kota Nakano, Masato Nakayama, and Takeanobu Nishiura (Grad. School of Information Sci. and Eng., Ritsumeikan Univ., 1-1-1 Noji-higashi, Kusatsu 525-8577, Japan, is0016rv@ed.ritsumei.ac.jp)

The binaural reproduction system requires many accurate measurements of head-related transfer functions (HRTFs) to achieve the high-precision sound localization. However, the actual measurement of HRTFs has a heavy burden for subjects. To solve this problem, personalize HRTFs have been proposed. In the personalize HRTFs, the interaural level difference (ILD) and the interaural time difference (ITD) are utilized on the sound localization in the horizontal plane, and the spectral envelope of HRTFs is utilized on the sound localization in the median plane. In the present paper, we focus on the human pinna shapes as listener’s anthropometric parameters on the sound localization in the median plane. In order to reveal the effect of human pinna shapes on HRTFs in the median plane, we investigate the relationship between human pinna shapes and the spectrum envelope of HRTFs. More specifically, we craft the dummy pinna for the dummy head. Also, we investigated the spectrum envelope of HRTFs in various shape conditions of the dummy pinna in the median plane. As a result of investigations, we confirmed correspondence relationship between human pinna shapes and the spectrum envelope of HRTFs.

IpsPc21. Acoustic echo cancelation in discrete Fourier transform domain based on adaptive combination of adaptive filters. Luis A. Azpi- cueta-Ruiz, Aníbal Figueras-Vidal, and Jeronimo Arenas-Garcia (Dept. of Signal Theory and Commun., Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, Av Universidad 30, Leganes, Madrid 28911, Spain, azpicueta@tsc.uc3m.es)

Acoustic echo cancellers (AECs) are vital to many of communication systems, including hands-free telephone and videoconference, among others. Recently, adaptive combination of adaptive filters has been presented
1pSpC22. Active adaptive control of free space acoustic noise. Iman Tabatabaei Ardekani and Waleed H. Abdulla (Elect. and Comput. Eng., The Univ. of Auckland, Private Bag 92019, Auckland CBD, Auckland, New Zealand, i.ardekani@auckland.ac.nz)

This paper concerns adaptive active control of acoustic noise in free space. Traditional adaptive active noise control algorithms are efficient in acoustic ducts; however, they are very unstable and sensitive when being used in free space. An efficient adaptive active noise control algorithm for free space noise is derived based on a root locus analysis on the adaptation process performed in adaptive active noise control. The traditional algorithm and the proposed algorithm are fully implemented by using a high performance embedded controller. The controller is then used for active control of acoustic noise in a duct and, also, in free space. Different experiments show that the traditional active noise control algorithm is not stable when the setup is used in free space. However, the proposed algorithm is stable and converges at a high convergence rate until reaching steady state conditions.

1pSpC23. A detection of danger sounds based on variable-state hidden Markov models. Asako Okamoto, Kohei Hayashida, Masato Nakayama, and Takanobu Nishiura (Grad. School of Information Science and Eng., Ritsumeikan Univ., 1-1-1 Noji-higashi, Kusatsu 525-8577, Japan, is0009sv@ed.ritsumei.ac.jp)

To detect hazardous situations with danger sounds, the acoustic surveillance system is an ideal candidate. The conventional systems recognize environmental sounds with hidden Markov model (HMM) in order to detect dangerous sounds; however, they are very unstable and sensitive when being used in free space. An efficient adaptive active noise control algorithm for free space noise is derived based on a root locus analysis on the adaptation process performed in adaptive active noise control. The traditional algorithm and the proposed algorithm are fully implemented by using a high performance embedded controller. The controller is then used for active control of acoustic noise in a duct and, also, in free space. Different experiments show that the traditional active noise control algorithm is not stable when the setup is used in free space. However, the proposed algorithm is stable and converges at a high convergence rate until reaching steady state conditions.

1pSpC24. Sound source measurement of magnetic resonance imaging driving sound for feedforward active noise control system. Shohei Nakayama, Kenji Muto (Elect. and Comput. Sci., Shibaura Inst. of Technol., 3-7-5, toyosu, kouto-ku, Tokyo 135-8548, Japan, m.m2077@siba.sib-baura-it.ac.jp), Kazuo Yagi (Dept. of Radiol. Sci., Tokyo Metropolitan Univ., Tokyo, Japan), and Guoyue Chen (Dept. of Electron. and Information Systems, Akita Prefectural Univ., Akita, Japan)

We proposed the active noise control (ANC) system reduce the loud MRI sound. It was important for performance improvement of the system. Therefore, we estimated the sound source of MRI driving sound. The position of the sound source of MRI driving sound was between the center and the edge in the gantry of MRI equipment. MRI equipment is important for the medical inspection, which gets the tomography of the body without x-ray. The patient of the MRI inspection needs to use the ear protector because the MRI equipment generated the loud sound, which the sound pressure level was around 100 dB. Here, our study was to make good acoustical environment using the ANC system for the MRI patient. The ANC system used the feedforward type because the MRI driving sound have unsteady pulsed sound. We made the ANC system using non-magnetic devices, ear protectors, and optical microphones. Because the MRI room had high magnetic environment. We measured the sound source of MRI driving sound to set the reference microphone. In this case, we showed the reduction effect of the ANC system of the sound by the computer simulation. As a result, the system reduced the MRI driving sound by around 50 dB.

1pSpC25. Parametric loudspeaker for speech signal based on the combination of amplitude and frequency modulations. Toru Iwasaki, Daisuke Ikufuji, Masato Nakayama, and Takanobu Nishiura (Grad. School of Information Sci. and Eng., Ritsumeikan Univ., 1-1-1 Noji-higashi, Kusatsu 525-8577, Japan, is0009sv@ed.ritsumei.ac.jp)

A parametric loudspeaker has been used for audio guidance to a specific area because it has a sharper directivity compared with the conventional electrodynamic loudspeakers. The parametric loudspeaker emits an ultrasound as a carrier wave, which is modulated with an audio signal and has large amplitude. An audible sound is reproduced by the modulated ultrasound with large-amplitude distorted by the nonlinearity on the air. The conventional modulations have been proposed as the amplitude modulation and the frequency modulation. In the sound quality, the amplitude modulation is superior to the frequency modulation. However, in the sound pressure level, the frequency modulation is superior to the amplitude modulation. In the present paper, we especially focus on that the parametric loudspeaker will emit the speech signals for the audio guidance. Therefore, we propose a novel modulation method based on the combination of amplitude and frequency modulations, which are specialized for speech signals. More specifically, we apply the amplitude and frequency modulations to the divided frequency bands of speech signals, respectively. In order to confirm the effectiveness of the proposed method, we carried out evaluation experiments. As a result of evaluation experiments, we confirmed the effectiveness of the proposed method compared with conventional methods.


A typical microphone array system consists of a number of microphones connected to the digitization hardware and central processing unit in a parallel fashion. Such radial, hub-and-spoke architecture has multiple points of failure, suffers from electromagnetic interference, and does not scale well. In this paper, an alternative, chain-like architecture is described. In such setup, the microphones in a system are organized in a single chain. Each individual microphone board has an ADC chip and is connected to the previous and to the next microphones in the chain with short multi-wire cables carrying digital signals. A buffer board at the end of the chain converts the digital data stream into the industry-standard USB 2.0 format. In this way, the individual microphone boards become the building blocks for a quick and easy arbitrary-configuration microphone array assembly with minimal amount of wiring involved. A hardware implementation of the chain architecture was developed and is described. Accompanying drivers and software allow the user to perform on-the-fly data acquisition and processing in C and in MATLAB. As an example, a 64-microphone array was built, and several source localization and beamforming algorithms were implemented in MATLAB. Experimental results using the data gathered from the array are presented.
A design of audio spot based on separating emission of the carrier and sideband waves. Tadashi Matsui, Daisuke Ikifuji, Masato Nakayama, and Takanobu Nishiura (Grad. School of Information Sci. and Eng., Ritsumeikan Univ., 1-1-1 Nojihigashi, Kusatsu 525-8577, Japan, is0039f@ed.ritsumei.ac.jp)

Parametric loudspeaker, which utilizes an ultrasonic of non-linear interaction, is developed to achieve audio spot. The parametric loudspeaker has sharper directivity, but reflections and intercepts by emitted sounds become severe problems. This is because reflections and intercepts lead to an invasion of privacy, and become noise to other listeners except a target listener. Principle of the parametric loudspeaker can formulate as non-linear interaction of carrier and sideband waves in emitted ultrasonic sounds on air. This suggests that we can design audio spot by individually emitting the carrier and sideband waves. In the present paper, therefore, we propose the design method of audio spot with the separating emission of the carrier and sideband waves. More specifically, the audible sound is demodulated at an area where the carrier and sideband waves individually emitted from each parametric loudspeaker are overlapped. We carried out evaluation experiments to measure sound pressure level (SPL) of demodulated audible sound. In addition, we evaluated the speech articulation of the demodulated audible sound with the proposed method. As a result of evaluation experiments, we confirmed the effectiveness of the proposed method.
In this work, the resolution results of complete synthetic geoaoustic inversions at varying geometries and array configurations are compared with resolution results at various candidate seabottom profiles, initially using standard techniques of linearized inverse theory. Singular value decomposition is used to interpret the tie between geometry and regularization in the inverse problem, which directly affects the resolution. Then, additional comparisons and analysis address the nonlinearity of the problem, which causes a dependence of the resolution results on the bottom profile being solved for—which is unknown, and Monte Carlo analysis is used to show where the linearity approximation breaks down in the resolution results. [Work partially funded by ONR.]

Inversion of seabed acoustic parameters in shallow water using the warping transform. Juan Zeng (Inst. of Acoust., CAS, No.21 BeiShuan XiLai, Bei Jing, China, Bei Jing 100190, China, zengjuan01@yahoo.com.cn), N.Ross Chapman (School of Earth and Ocean Sci., Univ. of Victoria, Victoria, BC, Canada), Li Ma, and Yan Chen (Inst. of Acoust., CAS, Bei Jing, China)

In this paper, a method is described for inverting geoaoustic parameters of the seabed from short range field data recorded by single hydrophone. The original data in time domain are processed by a warping operator at first, and then, the dispersion curve and the mode amplitude ratios are extracted separately from the warped data. The velocity and the density in the bottom are inverted from the dispersion curve, and the attenuation from the mode amplitude ratios, respectively. The performance of the method is examined using simulated data and then experimental data from the North Sea of China. The source used in the experiment was a small explosive charge that provided good signal to noise ratio over the frequency band from 200 Hz to 1 kHz. The depth of the water was about 30 m, and the water sound speed was nearly constant with depth. The seabed geoaoustic parameters are inverted from the data received at different ranges from 2 to 14 km. The results from the different ranges are consistent with a simple half space model of the bottom. The seabed velocity is about 1600 m/s.

Determination of grain size distribution in water-saturated granular medium using p-wave attenuation dispersion. Haesang Yang, Keunhwa Lee, and Woojae Seong (Dept. of Ocean Eng., Seoul National Univ., Bd. 34, Rm. 306, Underwater Acoust. Lab.,1, Gwanak-ro, Gwanak-gu, Seoul 151-744, South Korea, coupon3@snu.ac.kr)

P-wave attenuation in the water-saturated granular medium depends on both the frequency and the grain size. In this study, the use of the attenuation dispersion for the determination of grain size distribution in the water-saturated granular medium is discussed. For the dense granular medium, mathematical model considering multiple scattering is used for regression algorithm by fitting model predictions to the measured attenuation data. Inversion of grain size distribution is carried out numerically, and the results are discussed and compared to measured data for the water-saturated glass beads with unimodal and bimodal distributions.
Contributed Papers

4:00

IpUW10. Geo-acoustic parameter estimation using a multistep inversion technique based on normal mode method. Lin Wan, Mohsen Badiey (College of Earth, Ocean, and Environment, Univ. of Delaware, 003 Robinson Hall, Newark, DE 19716, wan@udel.edu), and David Knobles (Appl. Res. Lab., The Univ. of Texas at Austin, Austin, TX)

The geo-acoustic parameters are of great importance in determining how the sea bottom affects sound propagation in the ocean. Many inversion techniques have been developed to estimate geo-acoustic parameters. One-step inversion algorithms using a cost function defined only by energy loss may not result in a unique solution of geo-acoustic inversion problem because of the correlation between seabed sound speed and attenuation. The present paper utilizes different characteristics of normal modes, including modal dispersion, modal attenuation, and modal based spatial coherence, to define appropriate cost functions in a multistep inversion algorithm for geo-acoustic parameter estimation. This inversion scheme is applied to the long-range broadband acoustic data obtained from L-shaped arrays in the Shallow Water 2006 experiment. The seabed sound speed and attenuation are estimated by minimizing the cost function at each step. The results show a nonlinear frequency dependence of attenuation, which is similar to the seabed attenuation derived from measured time series and transmission loss data at the same experimental site [Knobles et al., J. Acoust. Soc. Am. 124, 2008]. The uncertainties caused by the range dependent water column variability and bathymetry are discussed. [Work supported by ONR322OA.]

4:20


A basic mud model contains thin mineral (kaolinite and smectite) particles, roughly hexagonally shaped platelets, with diameters typically 1 micron. Isomorphous substitution causes each platelet to carry a net negative charge per unit area. Because the ions in the surrounding water respond so that there is a net positive charge on both sides of the platelet, each platelet is modeled as a sheet of longitudinal electric quadrupoles aligned perpendicular to the surface. The electrical interaction between platelets is responsible for the card-house structure, whereby the edge of one platelet touches a central line along the surface of another platelet, with the platelets being at right angles to each other. When the perpendicular arrangement is perturbed, a restoring torque attempts to return the platelets to their original state. Electrostatic analysis is used to explain why the restoring torque is formally singular at the joining line when one platelet is slightly tilted from perpendicular. The singular behavior appears to arise when the corners of one platelet touch the edge of another. This singularity requires imposition of the cantilever boundary condition in order to consider the shear resistance of mud, with each platelet bending as an elastic plate. [Research supported by SMART Fellowship and ONR.]