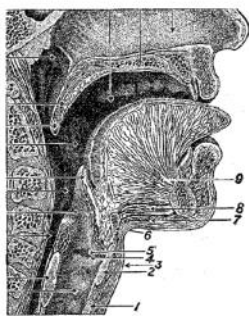


# Infocommunication Sound, hearing and speech

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## Copyright

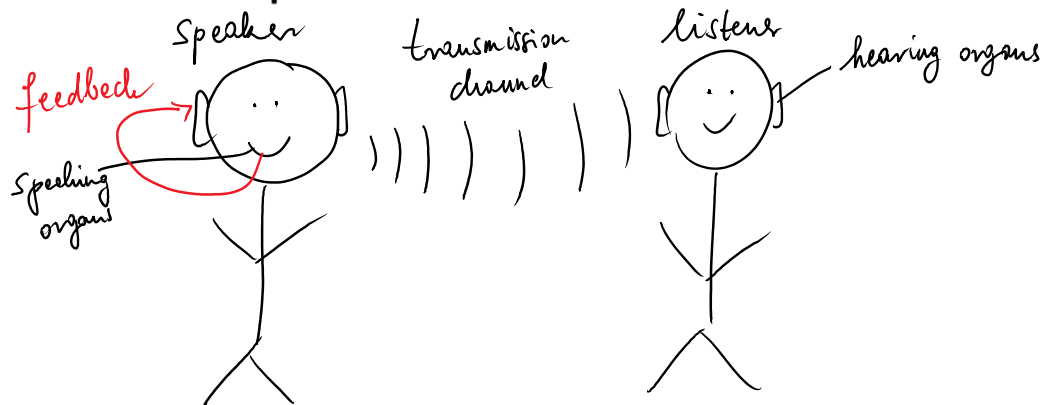
- This lecture material was created by Tamás Gábor CSAPÓ from the Budapest University of Technology and Economics. Using the materials without explicit permission is considered copyright infringement.

## Topics

- Basic signal processing
- Sampling and quantization
- Analog modulation
- Digital baseband modulation
- Digital carrier modulation
- Error Detection Coding
- Error Correction Coding
- Radio, guided waves
- **Sound, hearing and speech**
- Light and vision
- Radio Communication
- Video Broadcasting
- GSM, Mobile communication

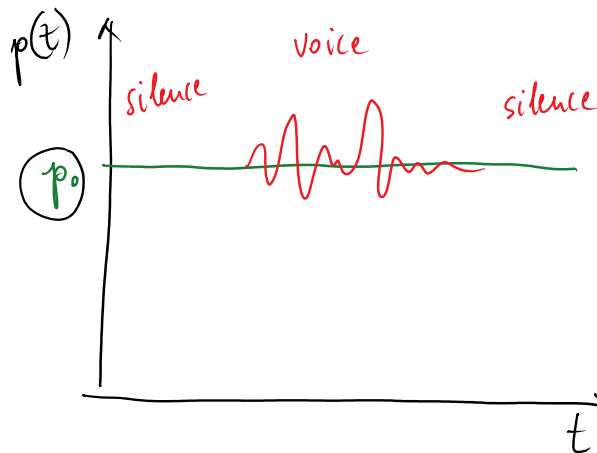
3

## Natural speech communication chain



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# Physical modelling of sounds



Sound . mechanical  
vibration of an elastic medium

- Solid
- liquid
- gaseous air

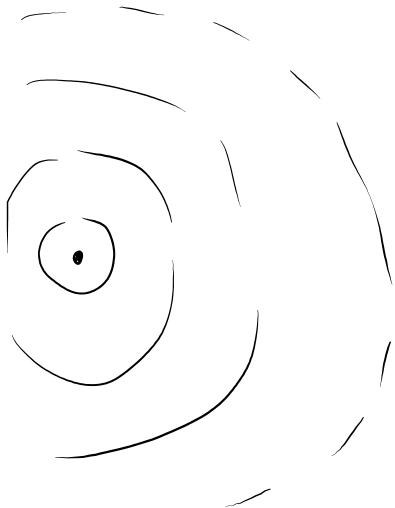
Sound pressure change

$$P(t) = p_0 + p(t)$$

$$p = \frac{F}{A} \left[ \frac{N}{m^2} \right] = [P_2] \sim \frac{1}{r} \text{ decreasing}$$

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## Propagation in short distance / long distance



spherical sound waves

$$c_{\text{sound}} = f \cdot \lambda = 340 \text{ m/s}$$

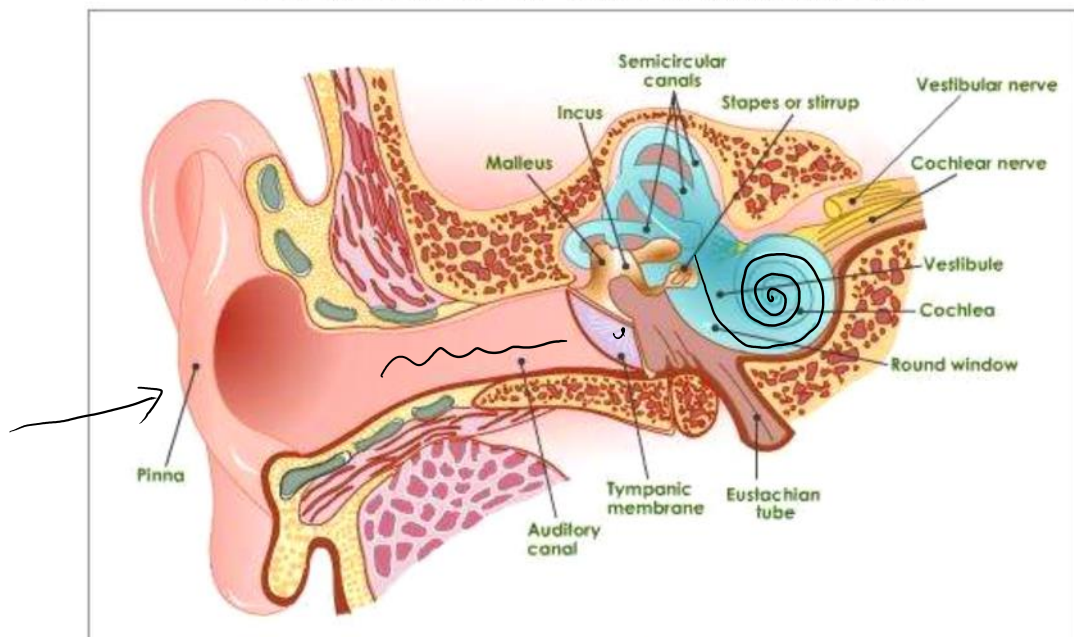
plane waves

$$\frac{P}{V} = S_0 \cdot c =$$

$$410 \frac{\text{kg}}{\text{m}^2 \text{ s}}$$

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## Structure of the human ear



Source: <http://www.tutorvista.com/content/science/science-i/sound/structure-ear.php>

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## Békésy György / Georg von Békésy

Nobel prize in 1961 (function of the cochlea)



Source: <http://braintour.harvard.edu/archives/portfolio-items/von-bekesy-experiments-hearing>

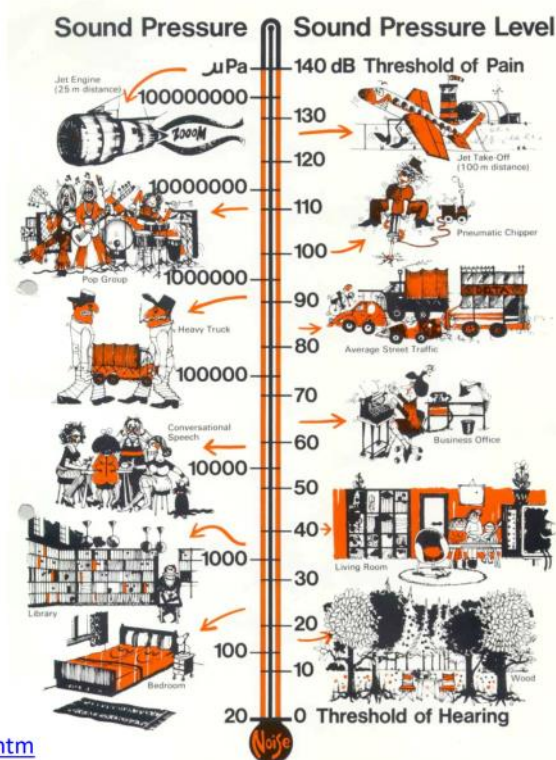
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- Intensity:  $I = \frac{P}{A} \left[ \frac{W}{m^2} \right] \sim \frac{1}{r^2}$  decreasing
  - Volume: (sound pressure level)  

$$L = 20 \cdot \lg \frac{p}{p_0} = 10 \cdot \lg \frac{I}{I_0} \text{ [dB]}$$
  - SPL:  
 ↓  
 sound pressure  
 relative to the reference in acoustic decibels
- $p_0 = 20 \mu Pa$  reference       $I_0 = 10^{-12} W/m^2$

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## Sound pressure level



Source:  
<http://personal.cityu.edu.hk/~bsapplec/sound.htm>

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# Sound pressure level

- 440 Hz tone (A4 on musical scale)

- reduced in 1 dB steps
- reduced in 3 dB steps
- reduced in 5 dB steps



Source: <http://www.ece.uvic.ca/~elec499/2003a/group09/p/demos.htm>

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## Physiological & psychoacoustical properties of hearing

- Objective parameters

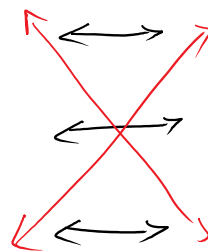
[ can be measured ]

- pressure / intensity level
- fundamental frequency / period
- spectrum

- Subjective parameters

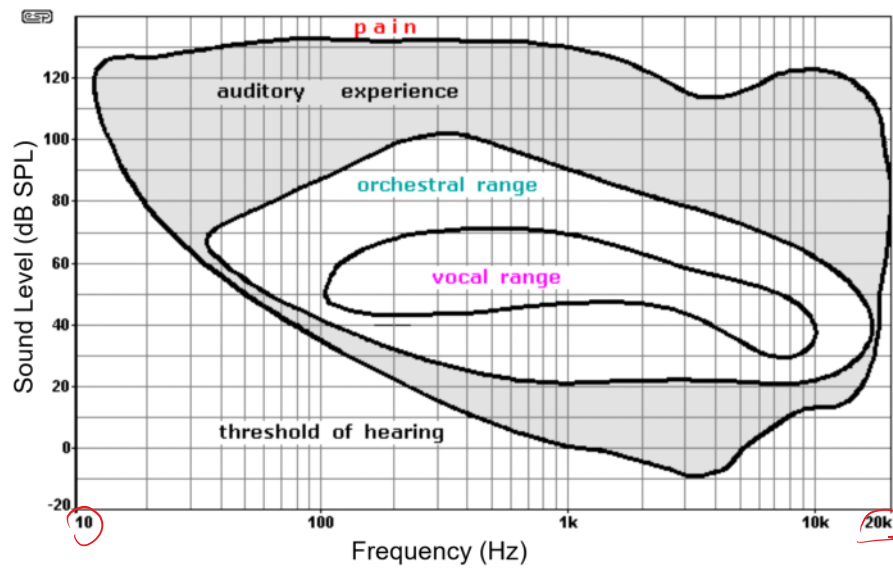
[ can be perceived ]

- loudness
- pitch
- tone, timbre



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# Limits of human hearing



Source: [https://people.ece.cornell.edu/land/courses/ece5030/FinalProjects/s2014/kkp37\\_rjs483/kkp37\\_rjs483/AudioGram.html](https://people.ece.cornell.edu/land/courses/ece5030/FinalProjects/s2014/kkp37_rjs483/kkp37_rjs483/AudioGram.html)<sup>13</sup>



# Equal loudness level contours

FM contours

- Def: loudness level of an arbitrary sound is as many phons as many dB SPL of the 1kHz sinusoidal sounds

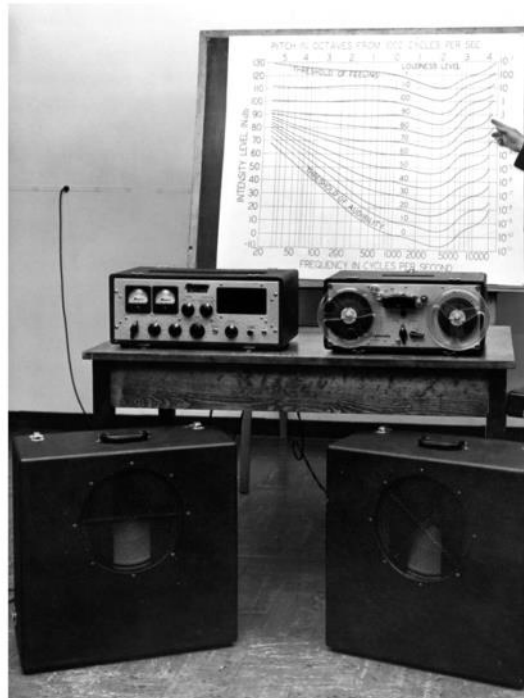
1933, Fletcher & Munson

1956, Robinson & Dadson

1961, ISO standard

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Fletcher &  
Munson  
1933  
experiment

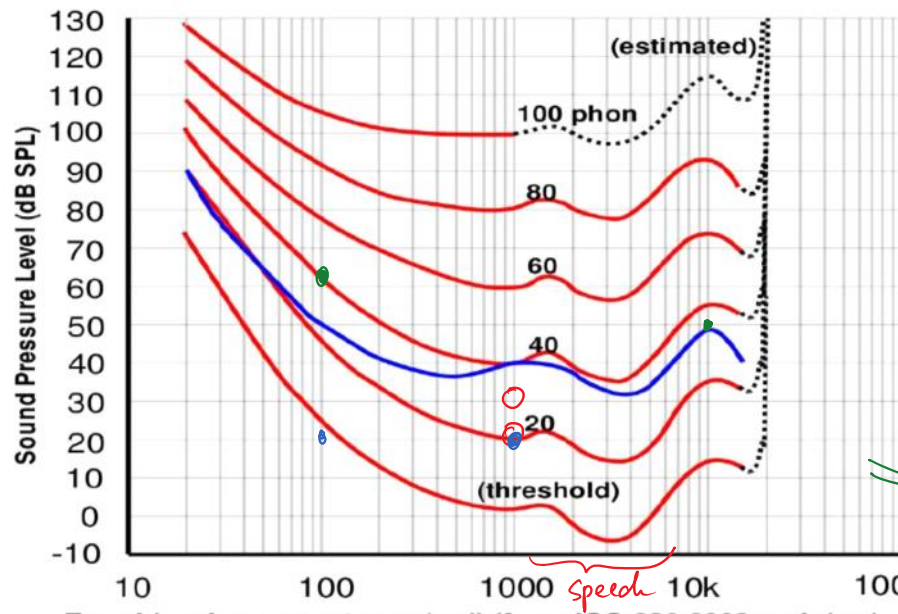


Source: [http://www.effectrode.com/wp-content/uploads/fletcher\\_munson\\_chart.jpg](http://www.effectrode.com/wp-content/uploads/fletcher_munson_chart.jpg)

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## Equal loudness contours



Equal-loudness contours (red) (from ISO 226:2003 revision)  
Original ISO standard shown (blue) for 40-phon

Source: OP

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Examples which is louder  
1 kHz, 20 dB < 1 kHz, 30 dB

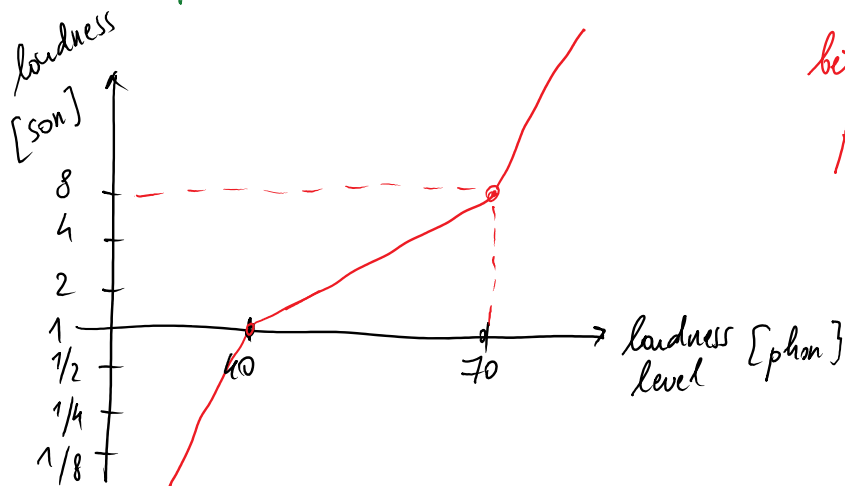
1 kHz, 20 dB > 100 Hz, 20 dB  
20 phon > 0 phon

100 Hz, 40 phon > 10 kHz  
50 dB  
37 phon

⇒ dB ↔ phon conversion  
f [Hz]

## Loudness

perceptual correlate of intensity



between 40-70 phon

$$N = 2^{\frac{L_N - 40}{10}}$$



relative loudness,  
loudness growth

40 phon → 1 son

70 phon → 8 son

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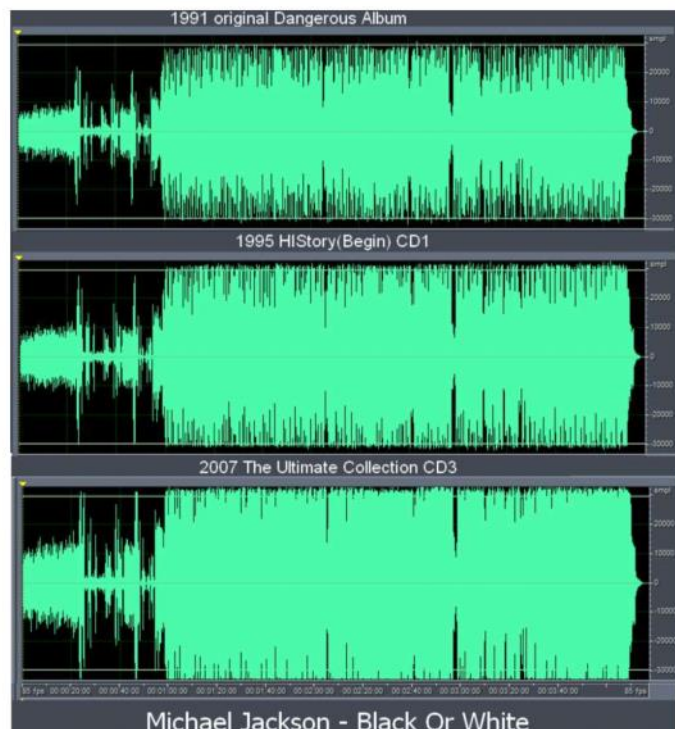
# Loudness

- various frequencies at a constant SPL  
(the perceived loudness of tones varies at equal sound intensity) 
- which tone sounds twice as loud as the reference tone?
  - reference tone + same tone 5 dB higher
  - reference tone + same tone 8 dB higher
  - reference tone + same tone 10 dB higher

Source: <http://www.ece.uvic.ca/~elec499/2003a/group09/p/demos.htm>

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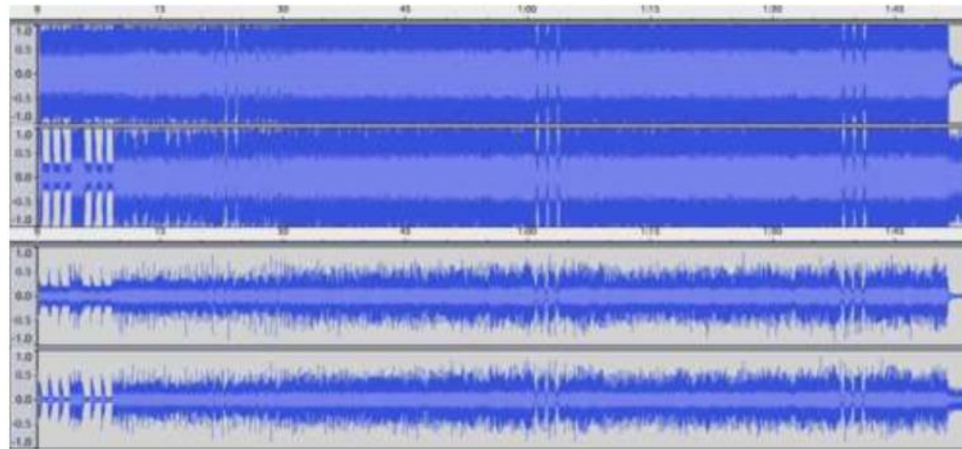
## Loudness war



Source:  
[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Loudness\\_war](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Loudness_war)

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## Loudness war Metallica: Death Magnetic



Source:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Loudness\\_war](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Loudness_war)

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## Loudness war



Source: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3Gmex\\_4hreQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3Gmex_4hreQ)

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## Loudness war

Some of the albums that have been criticized for their sound quality include the following:

Artist	Album
Arctic Monkeys	<i>Whatever People Say I Am, That's What I'm Not</i> <sup>[6]</sup>
Black Sabbath	<i>13</i> <sup>[57]</sup>
Bob Dylan	<i>Modern Times</i> <sup>[40]</sup> <i>Together Through Life</i> <sup>[40]</sup>
Christina Aguilera	<i>Back to Basics</i> <sup>[3]</sup>
The Cure	<i>4:13 Dream</i> <sup>[58]</sup>
Depeche Mode	<i>Playing the Angels</i> <sup>[59]</sup>
The Flaming Lips	<i>At War with the Mystics</i> <sup>[6]</sup> <sup>[note 3]</sup>
Led Zeppelin	<i>Mothership</i> <sup>[60]</sup>
Lily Allen	<i>Alright, Still</i> <sup>[61]</sup>
Los Lonely Boys	<i>Sacred</i> <sup>[3]</sup>
Nine Inch Nails	<i>Pretty Hate Machine (2010 Remaster)</i> <sup>[62]</sup>
Metallica	<i>Death Magnetic</i> <sup>[63]</sup> <sup>[note 4]</sup>
Miranda Lambert	<i>Revolution</i> <sup>[64]</sup>
Oasis	<i>(What's the Story) Morning Glory?</i> <sup>[6]</sup>
Paul McCartney	<i>Memory Almost Full</i> <sup>[65]</sup>
Paul Simon	<i>Surprise</i> <sup>[66]</sup>
Pearl Jam	<i>Ten (2009 remaster)</i> <sup>[67]</sup> <sup>[68]</sup> <sup>[69]</sup>
Queens of the Stone Age	<i>Songs for the Deaf</i> <sup>[6]</sup>
Red Hot Chili Peppers	<i>Californication</i> <sup>[3]</sup> <sup>[6]</sup>
Ghost	<i>Infestissumam</i> <sup>[70]</sup>
Rush	<i>Vapor Trails</i> <sup>[71]</sup>
The Stooges	<i>Raw Power (1997 remaster)</i> <sup>[66]</sup>

Source:

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Loudness\\_war](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Loudness_war)

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## Dynamic range compression artistic effect



Listen at around 0:43 for the bass drum; you'll hear the rest of the track's volume drop.

Source: <http://www.howtogeek.com/57903/htg-explains-how-does-dynamic-range-compression-work/>  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RIZdJT1472Y>

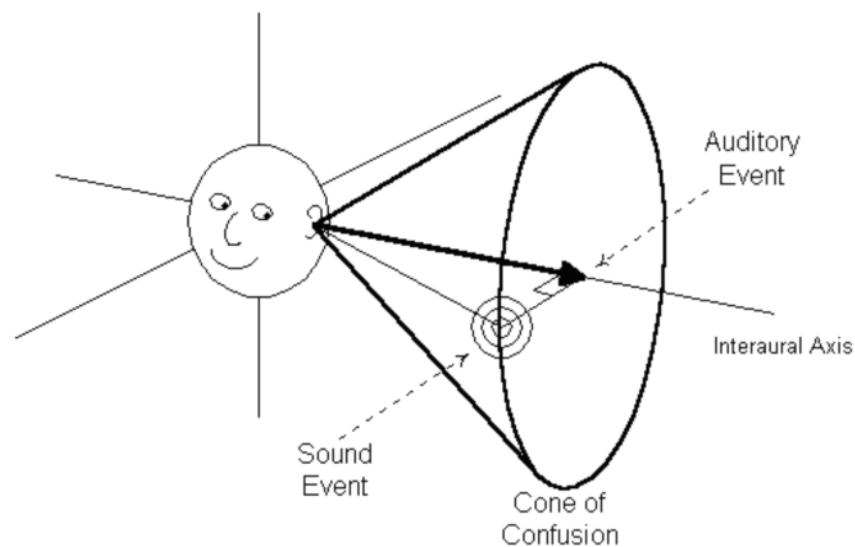
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## Spatial parameters, direction of sound

- horizontal plane
  - low freq. (wavelength  $<$  size of head) 50-1600Hz)  
phase difference
  - high freq.  
(w.l.  $>$  size of head) 1600Hz-...)  
intensity difference
- vertical plane

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## Cone of confusion



Source: [http://www.music.miami.edu/programs/mue/Research/jwest/Chap\\_2/Chap\\_2\\_Spatial\\_Hearing.html](http://www.music.miami.edu/programs/mue/Research/jwest/Chap_2/Chap_2_Spatial_Hearing.html)

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## Spatial hearing „hearing throne”



Source: <https://auditoryneuroscience.com/book/export/html/15>

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## ~~Critical bands /1~~

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## ~~Critical bands /2~~

29

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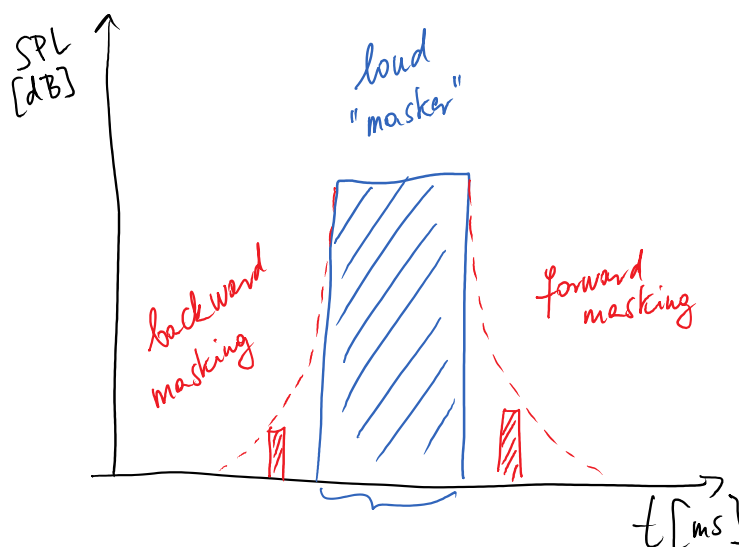


# Masking

- Time domain masking
- Frequency domain masking
- Directional masking

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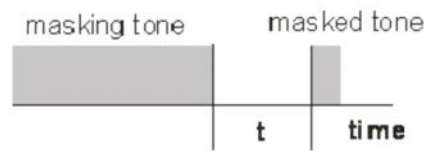
## Time domain masking



- a) forward: several 10ms
- b) backward: several ms

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## Time domain masking - Forward



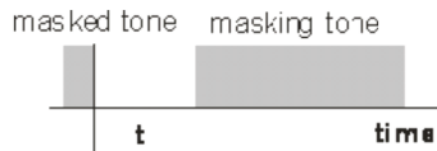
- masking tone + tone that is semitone down
  - with a 100 ms delay in between
  - with a 10 ms delay in between



Source: <http://www.ece.uvic.ca/~elec499/2003a/group09/p/demos.htm>

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## Time domain masking - Backward



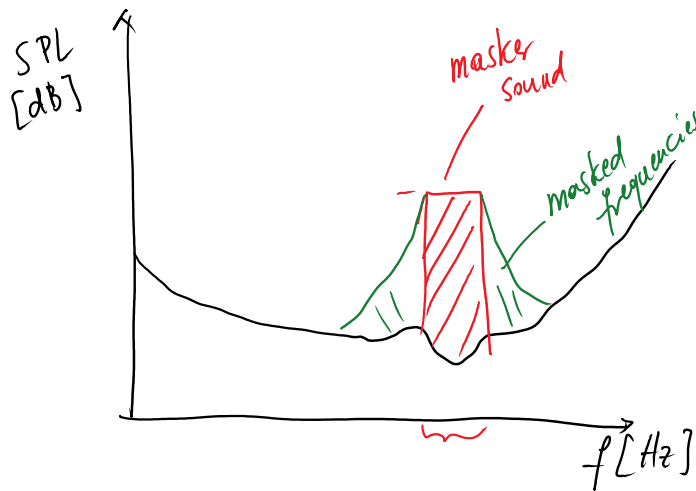
- initial tone is going to be masked by the tone that follows
  - delay: 100 ms
  - delay: above 10 ms
  - delay: below 10 ms



Source: <http://www.ece.uvic.ca/~elec499/2003a/group09/p/demos.htm>

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## Frequency domain masking



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## Frequency domain masking

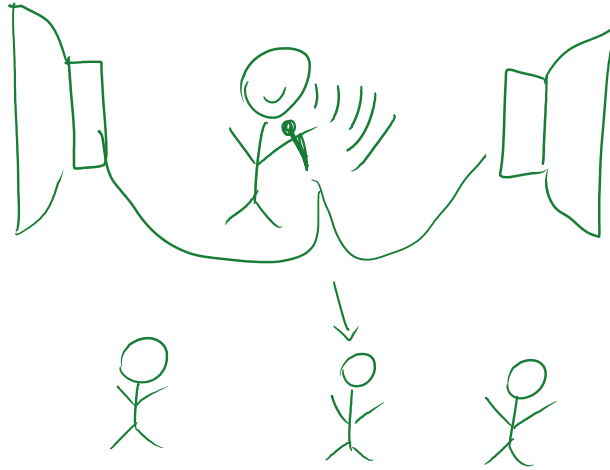
- Pure tones mask higher frequencies better than lower frequencies
  - Mask high freqs
  - Mask low freqs



Source: <http://www.ece.uvic.ca/~elec499/2003a/group09/p/demos.htm>

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## Directional masking

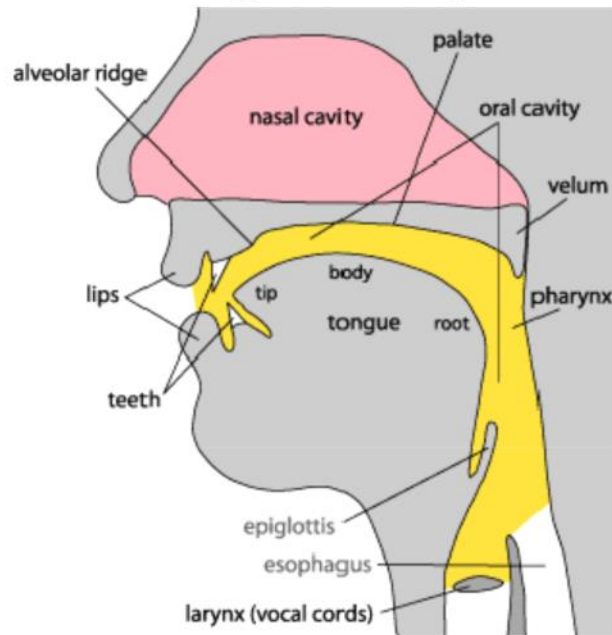


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~~Sum volume of sinusoidal sounds~~

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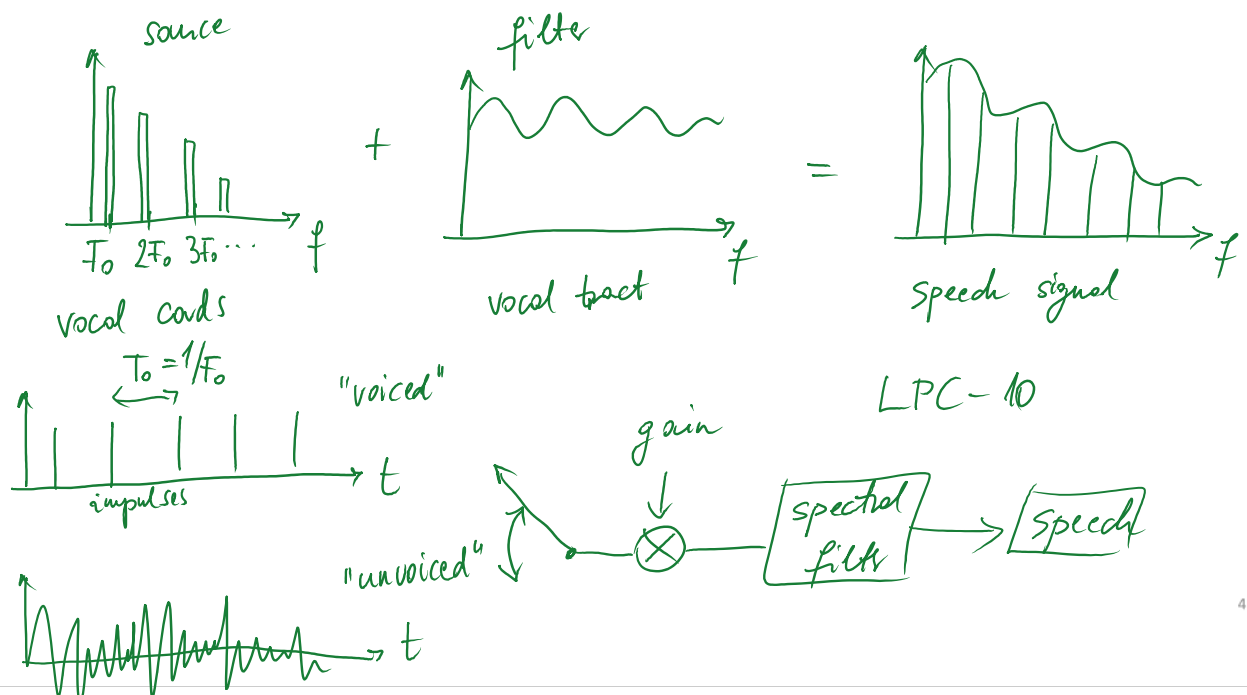
# The organs of speech



Source: [http://www.englishbaby.com/lessons/3201/member\\_submitted/vocal\\_organs\\_of\\_speech](http://www.englishbaby.com/lessons/3201/member_submitted/vocal_organs_of_speech)

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# Source-filter model of speech production



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## Waveform coding vs

- sampling & quant.
- any kind of signal
- store every sample
- e.g.  $f_s = 8 \text{ kHz}$ , 8 bit quantisation  
64 kbit/s

## Speech coding

LPC-10

GSM

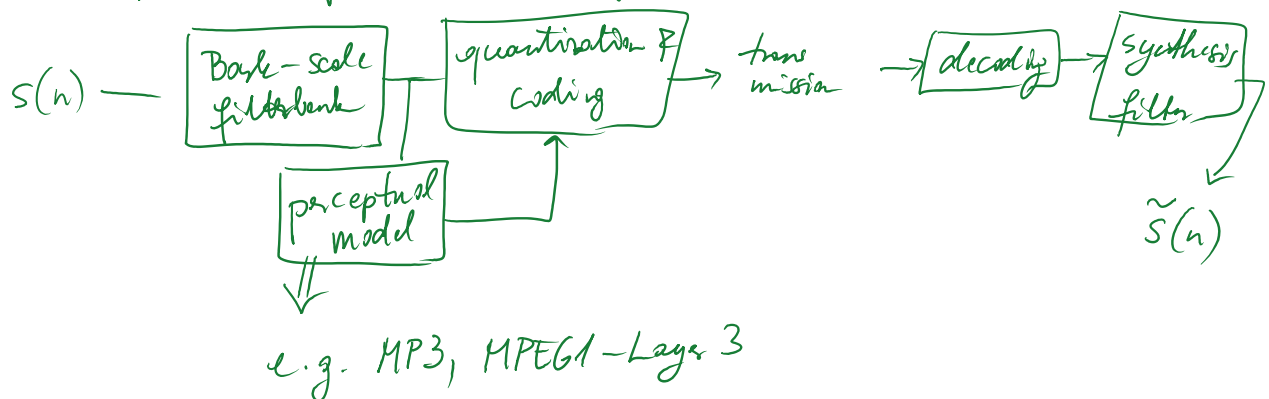
- analyse speech to spectral parameters
- use knowledge about speech production
- high compression as low as 2 kbit/s

20-30x compression

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## Perceptual / subband coding

- masked components can be left out



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# LPC

- Waveform coding
  - Original (64 kbps)
  - ADPCM (32 kbps)
- Linear Predictive Coding
  - CELP (4800 bps)
  - LPC-10 (2400 bps)



Source: <http://www.data-compression.com/speech.html>

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## The END

# Infocommunication

## Sound, hearing and speech

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