

# Communication, Experimentation & Applications 1 Laboratory Handbook.

Title: DIRECTIONAL NOISE

Ref Number: 13

Location: NATIONAL COLLEGE ACOUSTIC LAB

Supervisor: SALIH HASSAN Academic: SALIH HASSAN

*Team Size:* ∼**4** 

Environment: INDOORS

#### **OBJECTIVE**

To understand how the directivity of sound changes with source position in a room and with frequency.

### **APPARATUS**

- A room
- Sound Level Meter (CEL or B&K),
- Loudspeaker
- Random Noise Generator
- Filter Set
- Tripod
- Measuring Tape

### **PROCEDURE**

- 1. Turn on SLM- check battery level- calibrate the meter by applying a calibrator (approximately 94dB at 1kHz, read the instructions on the calibrator) Set the meter to 80, F, F(Lin) and SPL.
- 2. Connect the generator to filter set, connect output of generator (through amplifier if provided) to loudspeaker
- 1. Set CEL328 to on, F, FL (you must calibrate first, then switch to Frequency Linear, FL, in this experiment- Don't use Frequency + A weighting FA)
- 2. Set the filter control to 63 Hz.
- 3. Place the SLM on the tripod some 4m from the loudspeaker, at a height of 1.2m
- 4. Measure the octave band Sound Pressure Levels, SPL, in the range 63 Hz to 4 kHz in each of the following positions
  - a) 8m from the loudspeaker
  - b) 4m from the loudspeaker
  - c) 2m from the loudspeaker
  - d) 1m from the loudspeaker

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- 5. Investigate the change in SPL at 63 Hz and 4 kHz when the SLM is moved towards a surface, leave the loudspeaker where it is.
- 6. Investigate the change in SPL at 63 Hz and 4 kHz when the loudspeaker is moved from
  - a) the middle of the room
  - b) the centre of a wall/floor
  - c) the corner of a room

Please Note: a modern SLM will measure  $L_{eq}$  as well a bar chart of each octave band SPL. Record the Leq provided the measurement does not include any significant unwanted noise. If there is unwanted noise, press the reset button.

#### **DISCUSSION**

- Why does the meter needle (on digital displays the bar chart) fluctuate more at low frequencies than at high?
- Why does the octave band level at low frequency (125 Hz) change whilst at high frequency (4 kHz) it does not?
- Is it correct in (8) to refer to  $L_{eq}$  or should it be  $L_{AeqT}$ ?

NOTE: Do not change the output level on Generator or Amplifier during the experiment APPARATUS

## **RESULTS**

- 1. Plot the Sound Pressure Levels for the frequency 63 Hz to 4 kHz on separate graphs.
- 2. Plot the 125 Hz and 4 kHz measurement on the same graph and comment on the result for the various loudspeaker positions
- 3. Answer the discussion questions