

EXPERIMENTS ON THE SYNTHESIS OF VIRTUAL ACOUSTIC SOURCES IN AUTOMOTIVE INTERIORS

Yuvi Kahana, Philip A. Nelson, Seongho Yoon

Institute of Sound and Vibration Research, Southampton University, UK



yk@isvr.soton.ac.uk

<http://www.isvr.soton.ac.uk/FDAG/vap>

CONTENTS

- Virtual acoustics in automotive spaces - introduction
- Inversion strategies
- Measurements in an anechoic environment
- Measurements in a 'Ford Escort' car
- Subjective experiments (localisation tests) in the car
- Conclusions

VIRTUAL ACOUSTICS IN AUTOMOTIVE SPACES - INTRODUCTION

- **Disadvantages**

- loudspeaker positions
- small cavity
- reflections due to windows
- background noise

- **Advantages**

- ‘sweet-spot’ and geometry are known
- acoustic characteristics of the compartment are known
- loudspeakers can be equalised

- **Methods**

- time alignment, centre channel, Ambisonics
- cross-talk cancellation, HRTF, convolution

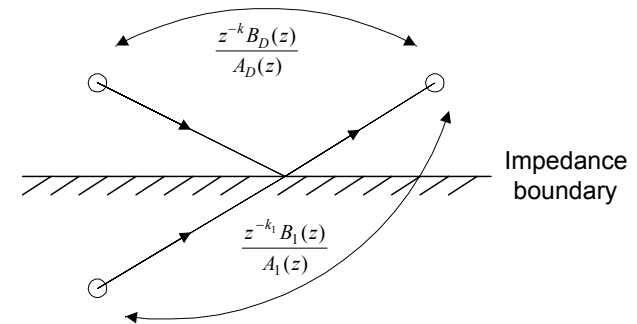
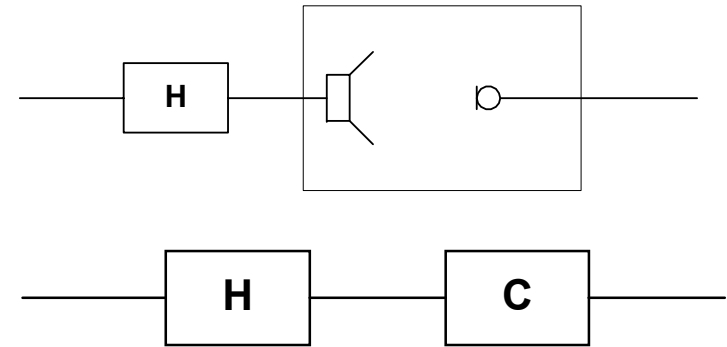
INVERSION STRATEGIES FOR A SINGLE CHANNEL ROOM ACOUSTIC RESPONSE

$$C(z) = \frac{z^{-k} B_c(z)}{A_c(z)}$$

$$C(z) = \frac{z^{-k} B_D(z)}{A_D(z)} + \frac{z^{-k_1} B_1(z)}{A_1(z)} + \frac{z^{-k_2} B_2(z)}{A_2(z)} + \dots + \frac{z^{-k_n} B_n(z)}{A_n(z)}$$

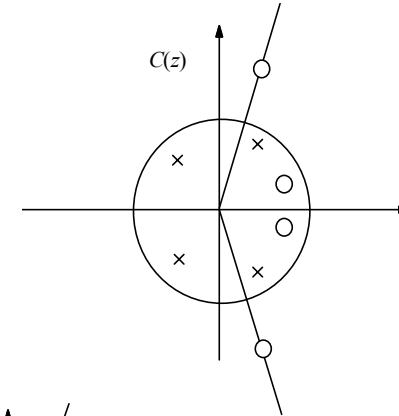
and in compact form

$$C(z) = \frac{z^{-k} B_D(z)}{A_D(z)} + \sum_{i=1}^I \frac{z^{-k_i} B_i(z)}{A_i(z)} = C_D(z) + C_R(z)$$

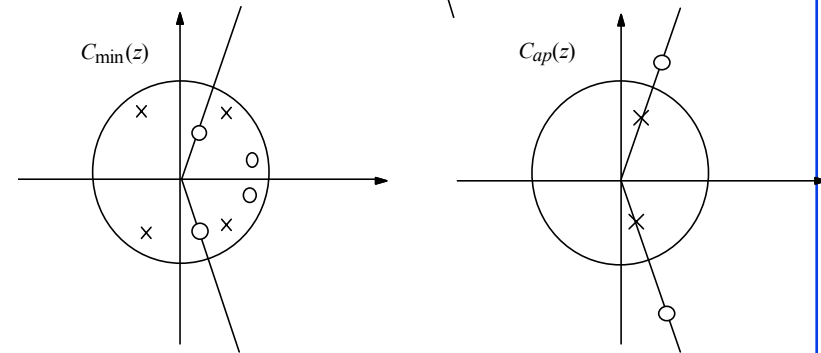


INVERSION STRATEGIES FOR A SINGLE CHANNEL ROOM ACOUSTIC RESPONSE (cont.)

$$C(z) = \frac{z^{-k} B_c^+(z) B_c^-(z)}{A_c(z)}$$



$$C(z) = z^{-k} \cdot \frac{B_c^+(c) z^{-N} B_c^-(z^{-1})}{A_c(z)} \cdot \frac{B_c^-(z)}{z^{-N} B_c^-(z^{-1})}$$

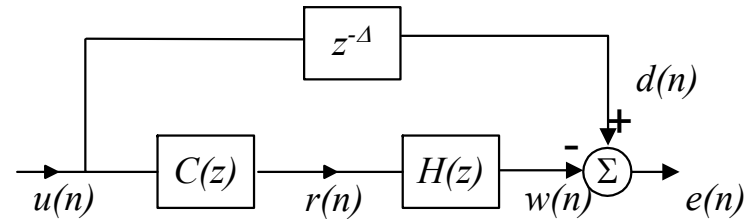


$$C_{min}(z) = \frac{B_c^+(z) z^{-N} B_c^-(z^{-1})}{A_c(z)}$$

$$C_{ap}(z) = \frac{B_c^-(z)}{z^{-N} B_c^-(z^{-1})}$$

SOLUTION FOR THE WIENER FILTER

The transfer function $H(z)$ that minimises the time averaged squared error $E[e^2(n)]$ is given by



$$H(z) = \frac{1}{S(z)} \left\{ \frac{S_{rd}(z)}{S(z^{-1})} \right\}_+ \quad \text{Where } \{ \}_+ \text{ denotes "the causal part of"}$$

$S_{rd}(z)$ is the cross power spectral density between the received and desired signals

$$S_{rd}(z) = S_{dr}(z^{-1}) = \frac{z^{k-\Delta} B(z^{-1})}{A(z^{-1})}$$

$S(z), S(z^{-1})$ are the spectral factors given by $S_{rr}(z) = S(z) S(z^{-1})$

$$S_{rr}(z) = C_{min}(z) C_{min}(z^{-1})$$

$S_{rr}(z)$ is the power spectral density of the received signal

$$H(z) = \frac{1}{C_{min}(z)} \left\{ \frac{z^{k-\Delta}}{C_{ap}(z)} \right\}_+$$

INVERSION STRATEGIES

- **Inversion strategy #1: inverse of minimum phase part**

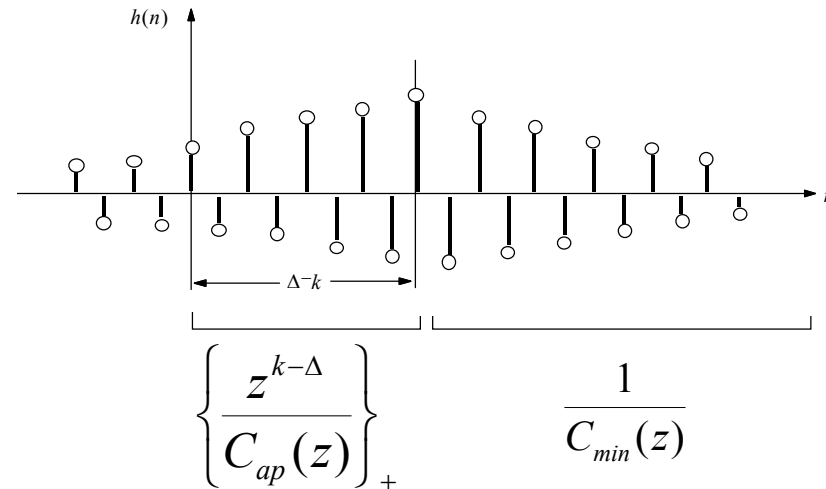
$$H(z) = \frac{C_{min}(z)}{I} \quad \longrightarrow \quad H(z) C(z) = z^{-k} C_{ab}(z)$$

- loudspeaker, HRTF, room (?)

- **Inversion strategy #2: least squares inversion**

$$H(z) = \frac{1}{C_{min}(z)} \left\{ \frac{z^{k-\Delta}}{C_{ap}(z)} \right\}_+$$

$$H(z) C(z) = z^{-k} C_{ap}(z) \left\{ \frac{z^{k-\Delta}}{C_{ap}(z)} \right\}_+$$



INVERSION STRATEGIES (cont.)

- **Inversion strategy #3: inverse of minimum phase part (direct path)**

$$\frac{z^{-k} B_D(z)}{A_D(z)} = z^{-k} C_{Dmin}(z) C_{Dap}(z)$$

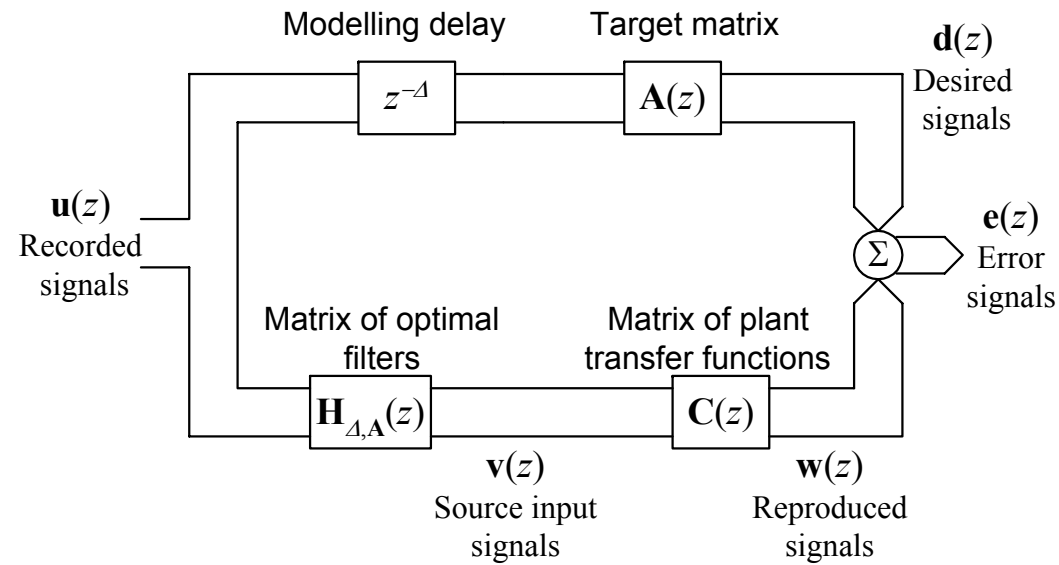
$$H(z) = \frac{1}{C_{Dmin}(z)} \quad \Rightarrow \quad H(z) C(z) = z^{-k} C_{Dap}(z) + \frac{C_R(z)}{C_{Dmin}(z)}$$

- **Inversion strategy #4: least squares inversion**

$$H(z) = \frac{1}{C_{Dmin}(z)} \left\{ \frac{z^{k-\Delta}}{C_{Dap}(z)} \right\}_+$$

$$H(z) C(z) = z^{-k} C_{Dap}(z) \left\{ \frac{z^{k-\Delta}}{C_{Dap}(z)} \right\}_+ + \frac{C_R(z)}{C_{Dmin}(z)} \left\{ \frac{z^{k-\Delta}}{C_{Dap}(z)} \right\}_+$$

MULTI-CHANNEL LEAST SQUARES INVERSION

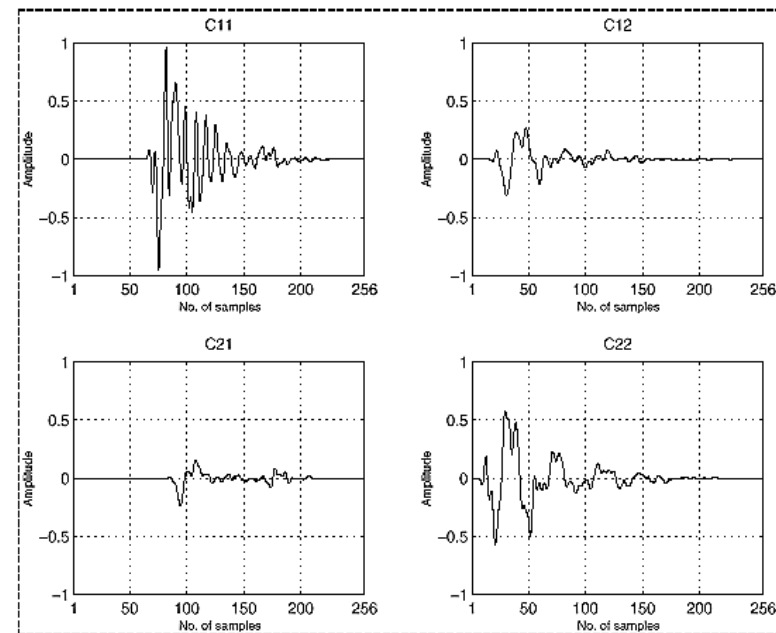
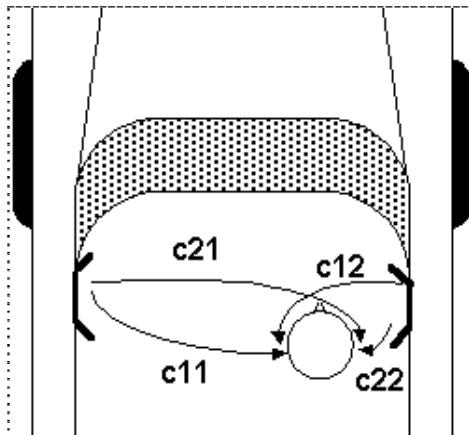


$$J(e^{j\omega}) = \mathbf{e}^H(e^{j\omega})\mathbf{e}(e^{j\omega}) + \beta \mathbf{v}^H(e^{j\omega})\mathbf{v}(e^{j\omega})$$

$$\mathbf{H}_{0,A}(z) = [\mathbf{C}^T(z^{-1})\mathbf{C}(z) + \beta \mathbf{I}]^{-1} \mathbf{C}^T(z^{-1})\mathbf{A}(z).$$

FILTER DESIGN AND MEASUREMENTS UNDER ANECHOIC CONDITIONS

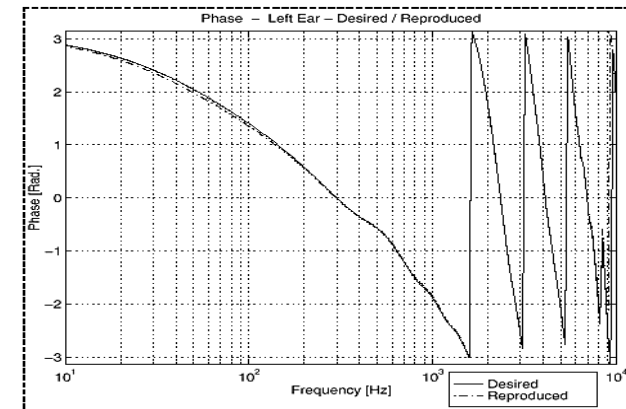
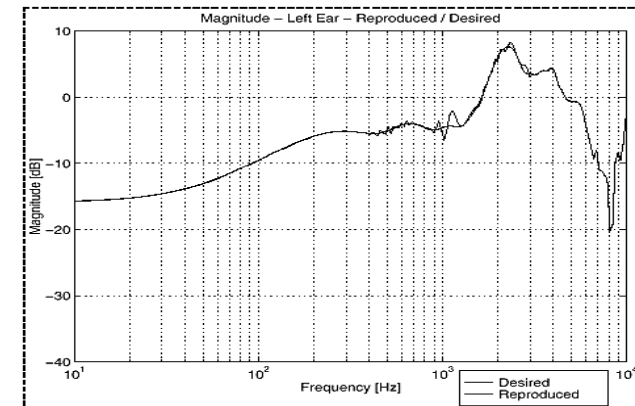
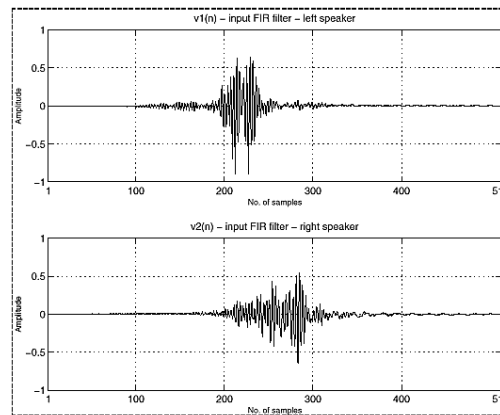
- ‘Free-field’ direct path in the car:
Doors, speakers, car-seat, KEMAR
- Non-minimum phase matrix
- Dynamic range



FILTER DESIGN AND MEASUREMENTS UNDER ANECHOIC CONDITIONS (cont.)

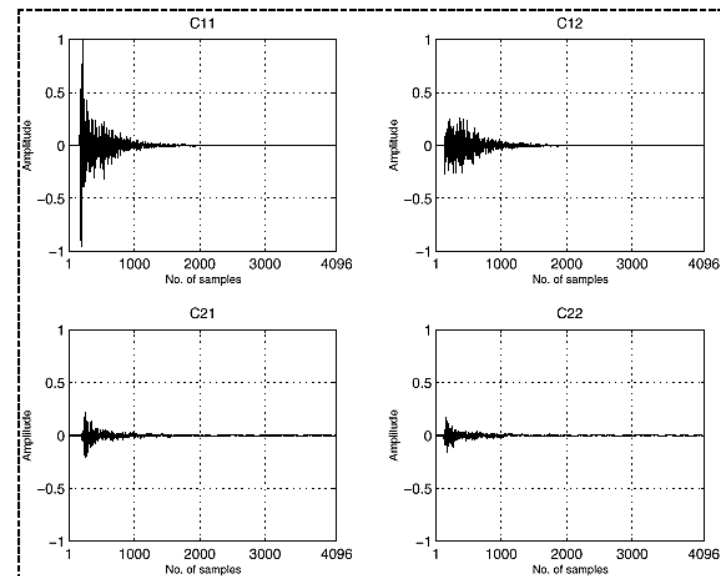
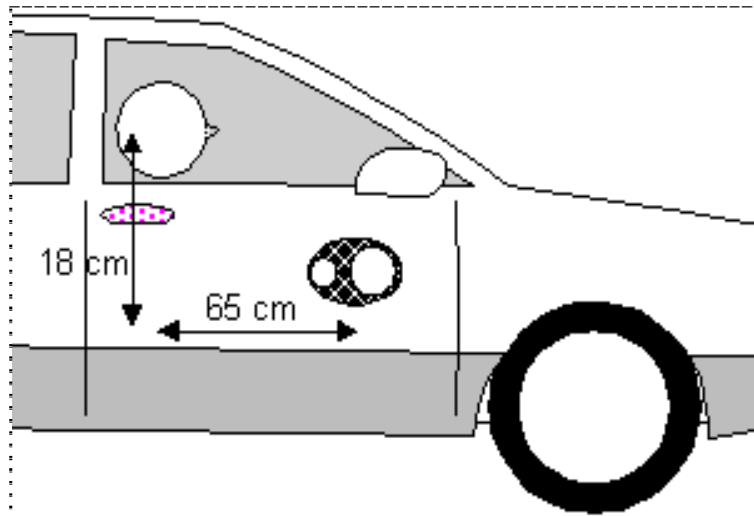
- Pilot study for ‘irregular’ loudspeaker arrangement
- Measurement of reproduced signals at dummy-head position for cross-talk cancellation and synthesis of virtual source
- Short FIR filters: 512 taps

Virtual source at 90°
(in front of the driver)



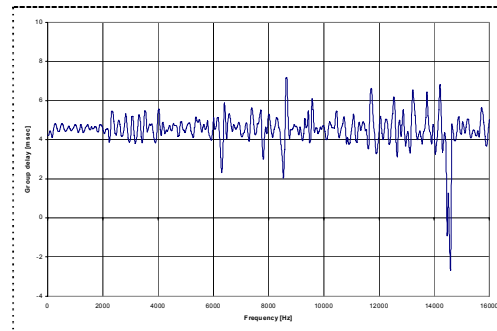
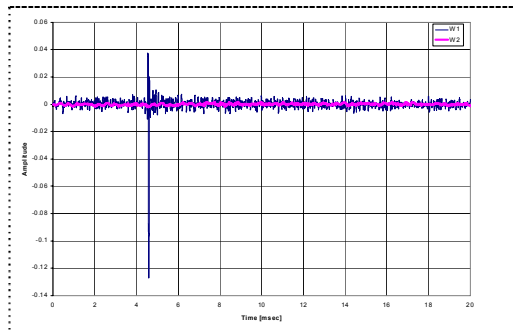
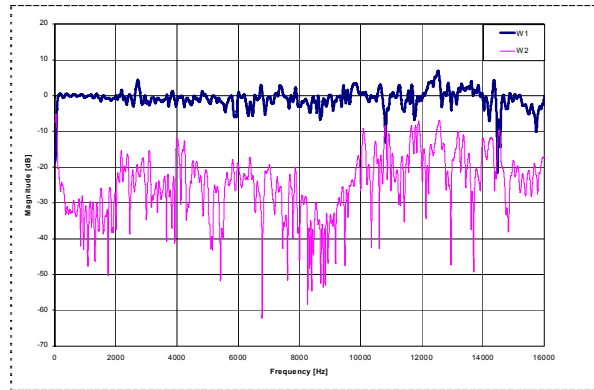
FILTER DESIGN AND MEASUREMENTS IN THE CAR

- IR - 50 msec
- Long inverse filters - 131,072 taps
- Loudspeakers - distortion at high frequencies, limited power handling



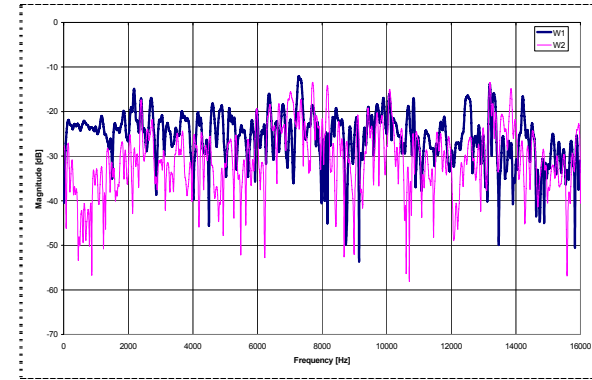
MEASUREMENT OF CROSS-TALK CANCELLATION IN THE CAR

Inversion under ideal conditions

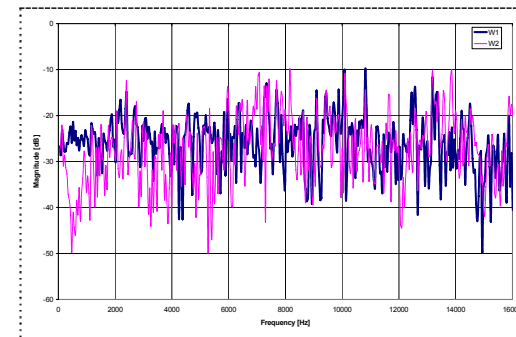


•10-30 dB reduction

Dummy-head 2cm to the right

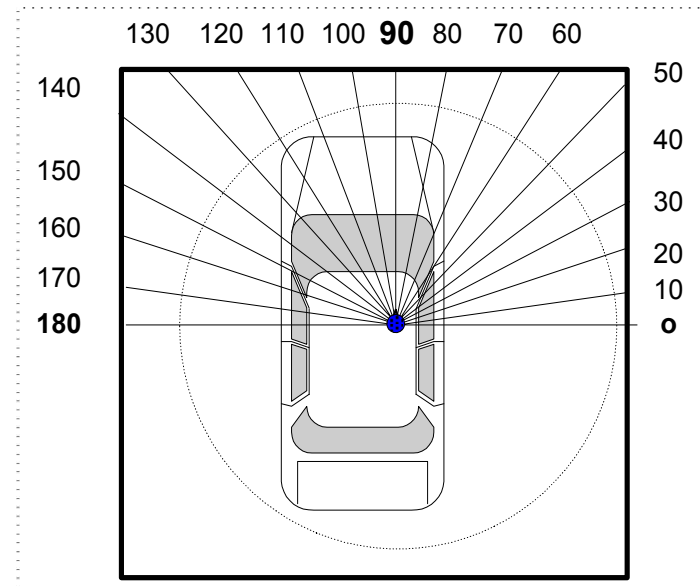


2cm above optimal point

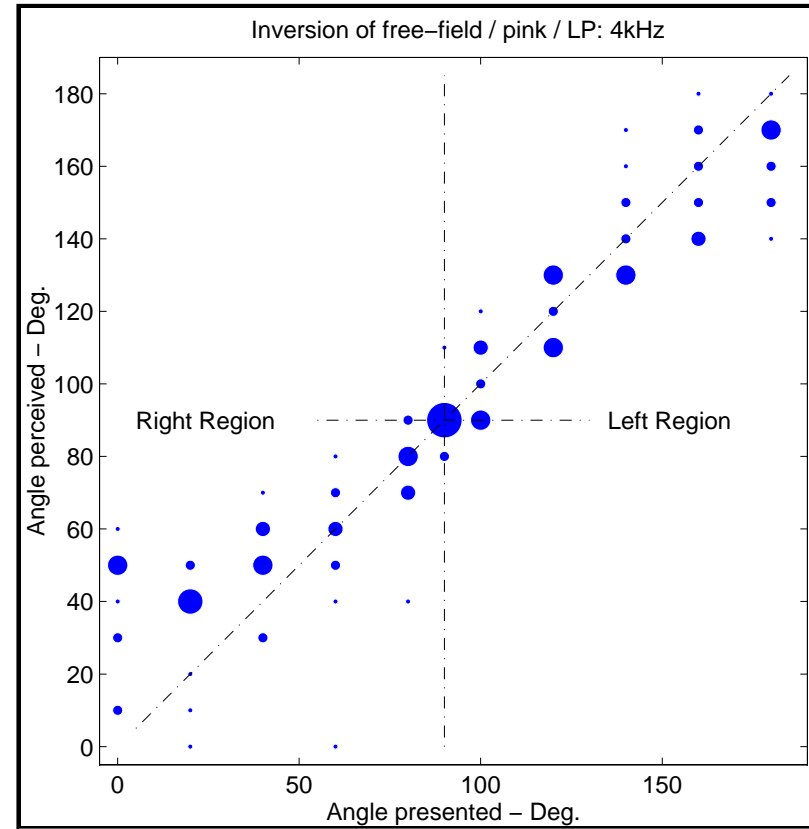
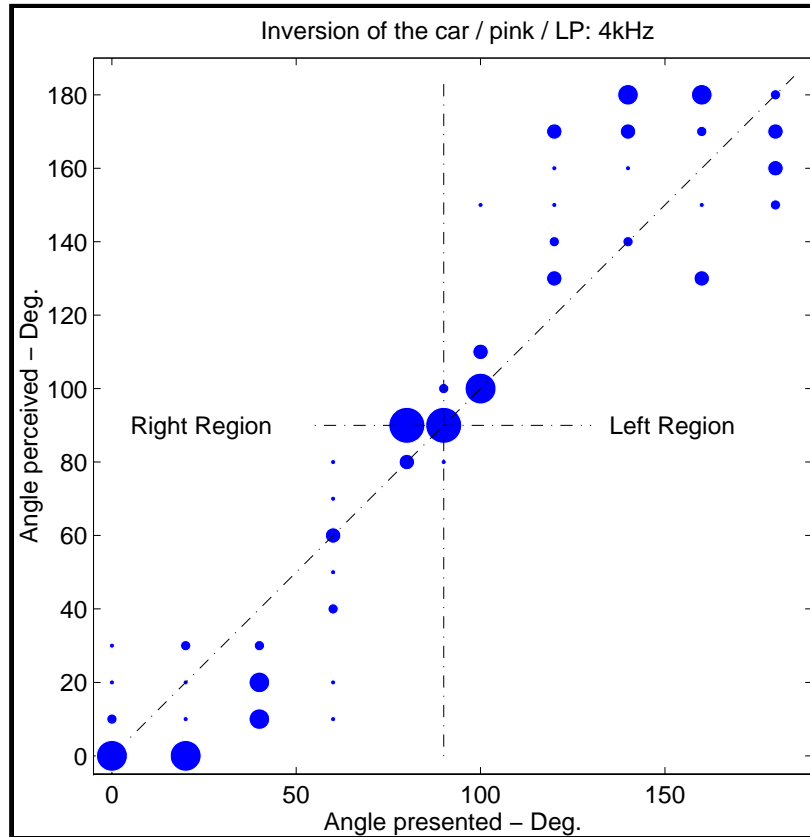


SUBJECTIVE EXPERIMENTS (LOCALISATION TESTS) IN A CAR

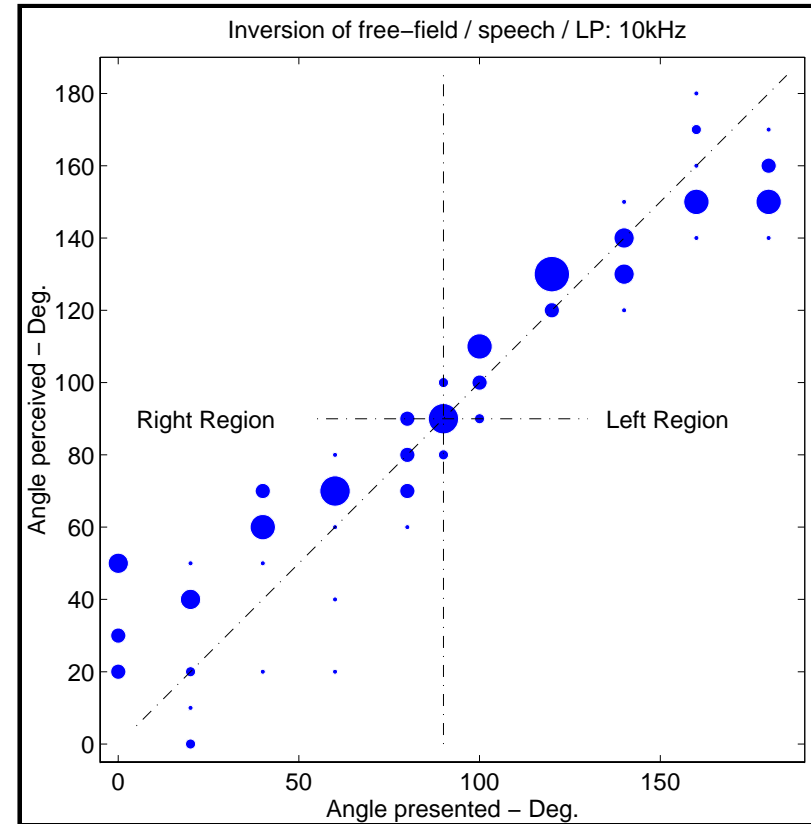
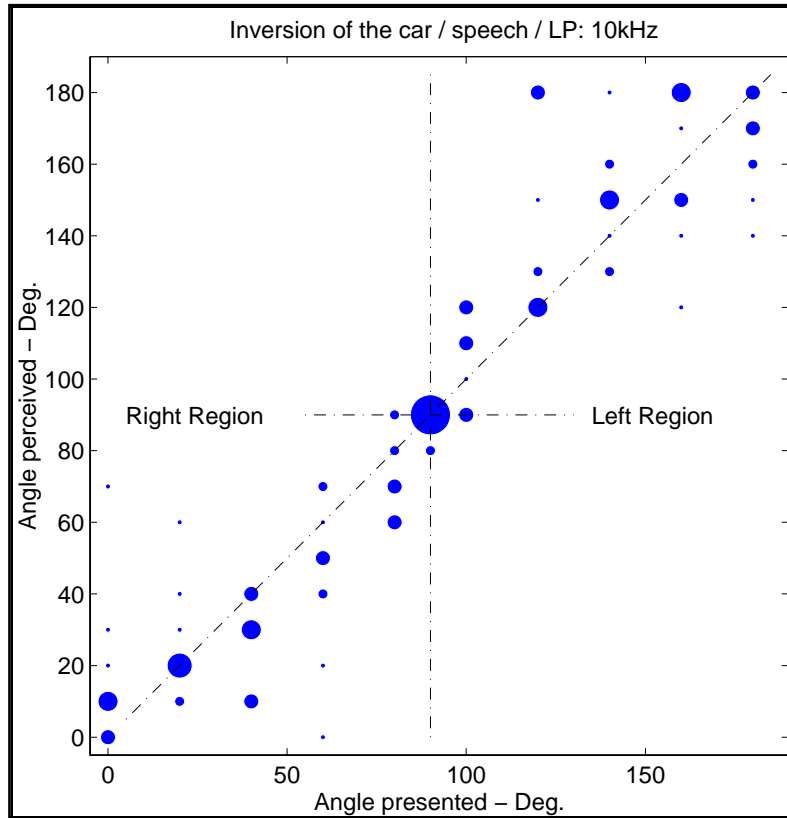
- **Set #1**: inversion of the entire response measured in the car.
- **Set #2**: inversion of the "free-field" response.
- **Set #3**: Inversion of the windowed response measured in the car. (The matrix C included only the first 256, 512 samples).
- All the above signals were filtered with a 4 kHz low pass filter, and also with a 10 kHz low-pass filter.



RESULTS - LOCALISATION TEST / PINK NOISE



RESULTS - LOCALISATION TEST / SPEECH



CONCLUSIONS

- Inversions of non minimum phase room responses are problematic, and can reproduce an accurate approximation of the desired signal only at a single point
- Although the electro-acoustic paths are known in advance, it is shown that only the inversion of the ‘free-field’ IR produces superior results both for localisation and sound quality
- The success of this method is based on the significant role of ITD at low frequencies
- Further work is required for the assessment of performance at high and very low frequencies