

Stereo recording in 3D: Concepts and Examples



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hauptmikrofon.de

Abstract:

- Stereophonic 3D-Audio formats offer great chances for sound engineers to deliver the full spatial and timbral fidelity of a performance to the listener. Recording principles based on stereophonic rules and experiences can perform even better now as the limitations of stereophony are further minimized.

The advantages of the stereophonic 3D-Audio format over WFS and Ambisonics can be quite apparent, e.g. with regard to spatial perception and channel efficiency. However, there are pitfalls, as well. More loudspeakers don't automatically create a better sound.

Examples of setups and recordings from ambience recording, sports and music recording are presented.

Contents:

- Stereophony Basics
 - 4 Spatial Sound reproduction principles
 - Psychoacoustics of Stereo
- Stereophonic Imaging for 3D
 - Directional Image
 - Room Image
- Array design for 3D-Audio
 - Δt and/or ΔL
 - ORTF-3D

Basics

Stereo Imaging

Array design
for 3D-Audio

Spatial sound reproduction techniques:

- Real sources
- Stereophony
- Sound field reconstruction
- Binaural

Basics

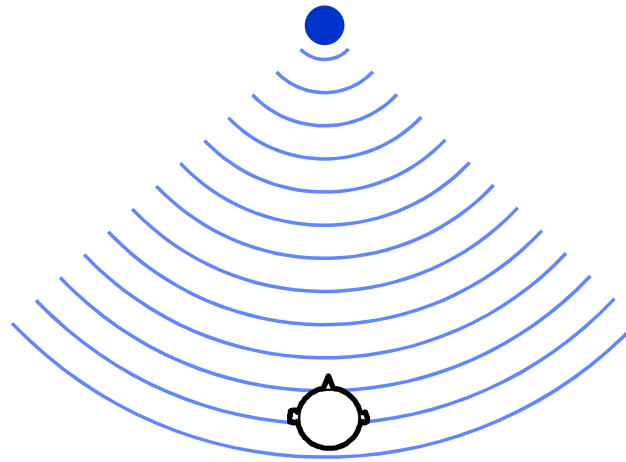
- 4 Spatial Sound reproduction principles
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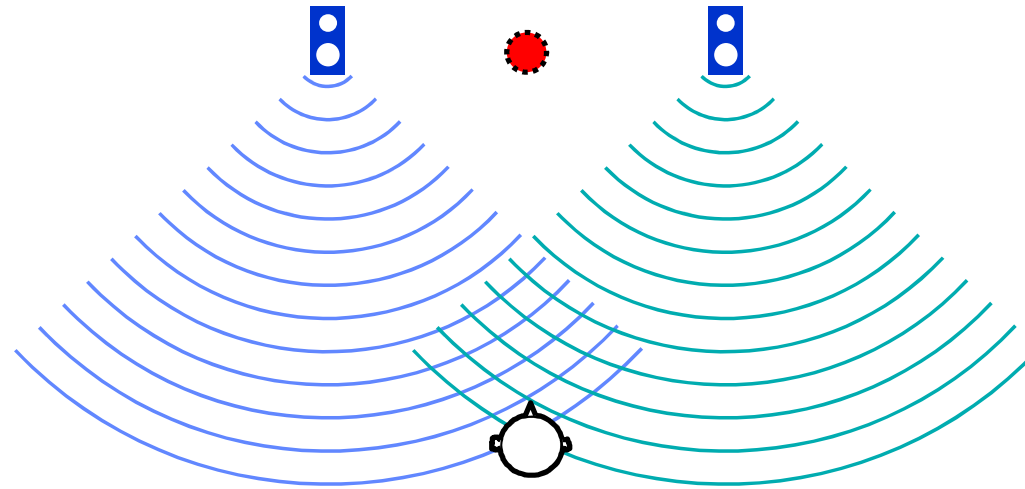
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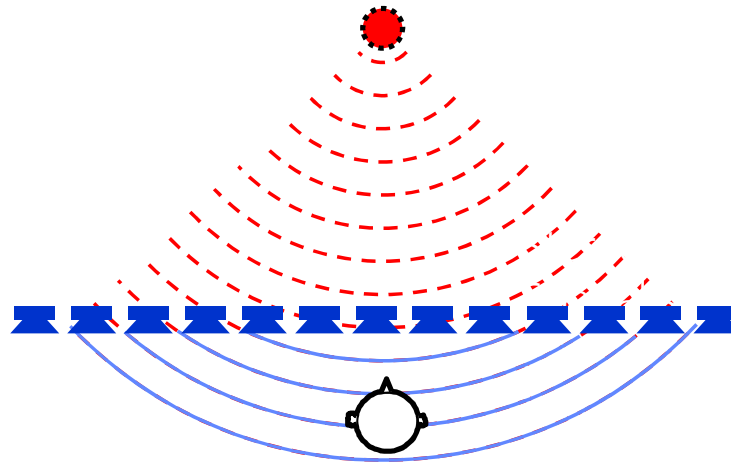
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- **Sound field reconstruction***
- Binaural



* The term „Sound field reconstruction“ includes techniques like WFS or HOA

Basics

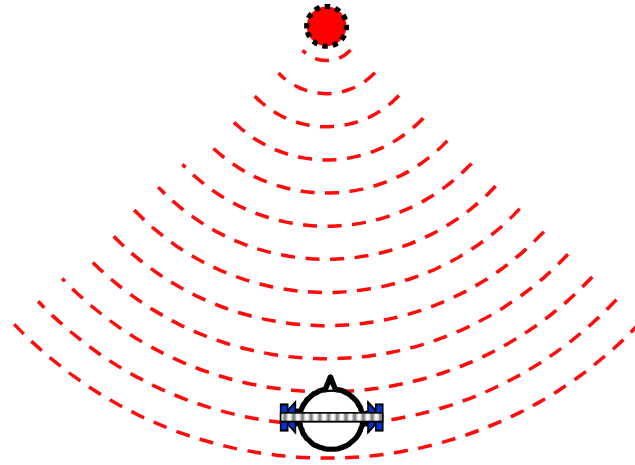
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Stereo Imaging

Array design for 3D-Audio

Spatial sound reproduction techniques:

- Real sources
- Stereophony
- Sound field reconstruction
- **Binaural**



Basics

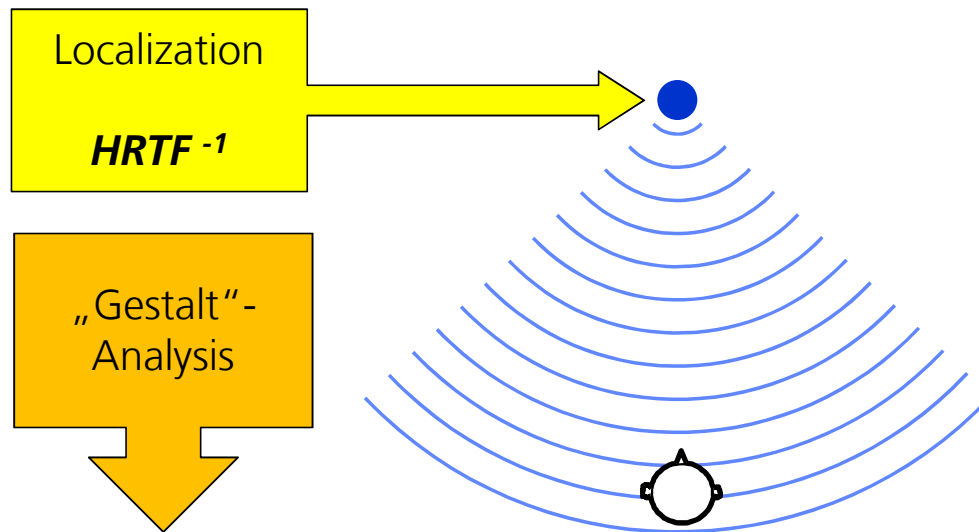
- 4 Spatial Sound reproduction principles
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Stereo Imaging

Array design for 3D-Audio

Localization and perception model:

- **Real source = Sound field reconstruction = Binaural**



Basics

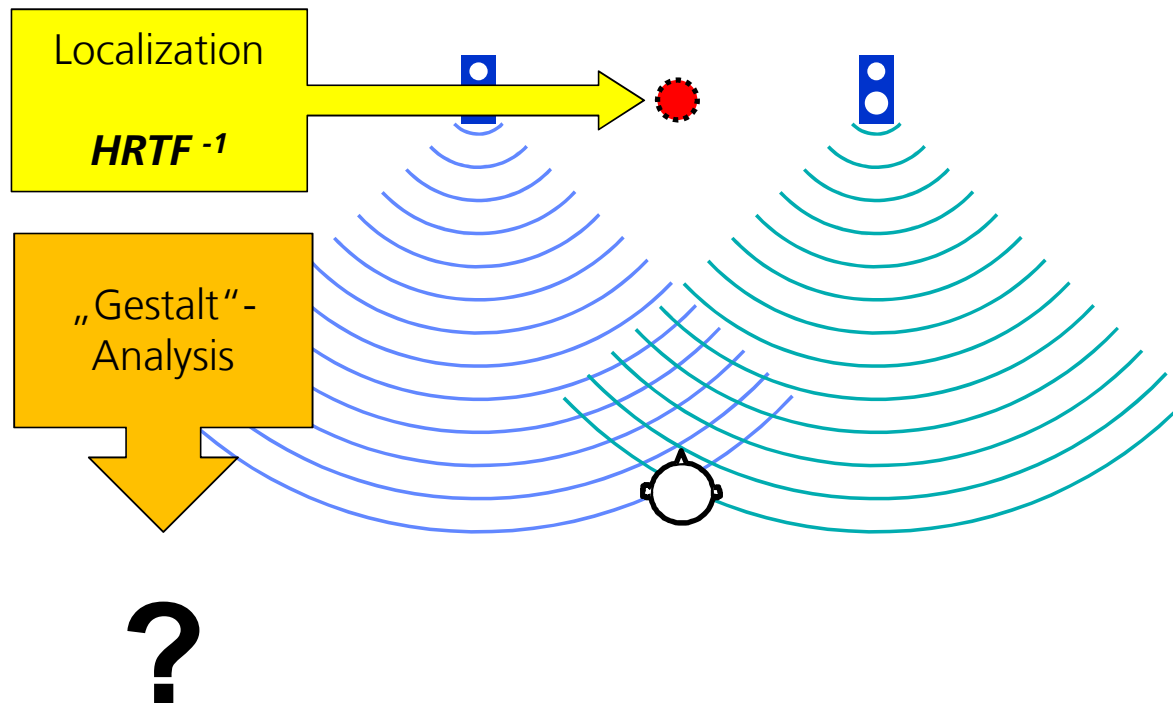
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Stereo Imaging

Array design for 3D-Audio

Localization and perception model:

- **Stereophony unexplained!** Summing localization with strong comb filtering



Basics

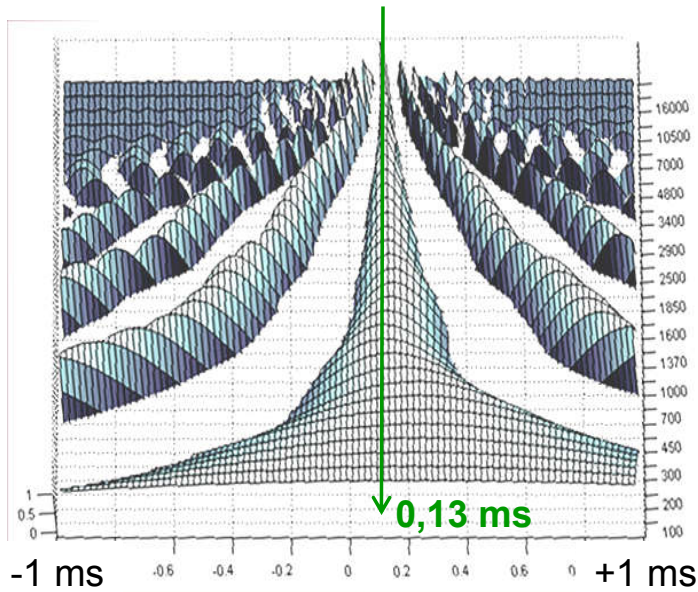
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Stereo Imaging

Array design for 3D-Audio

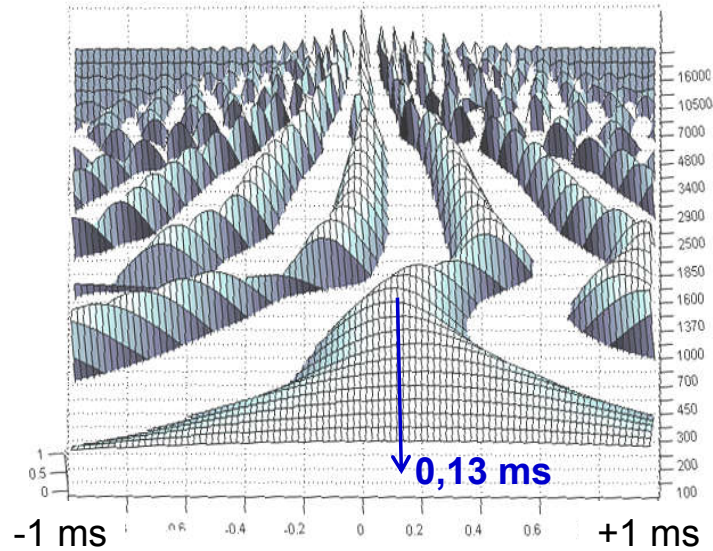
Stereophony unexplained!

- Interaural Cross Correlation

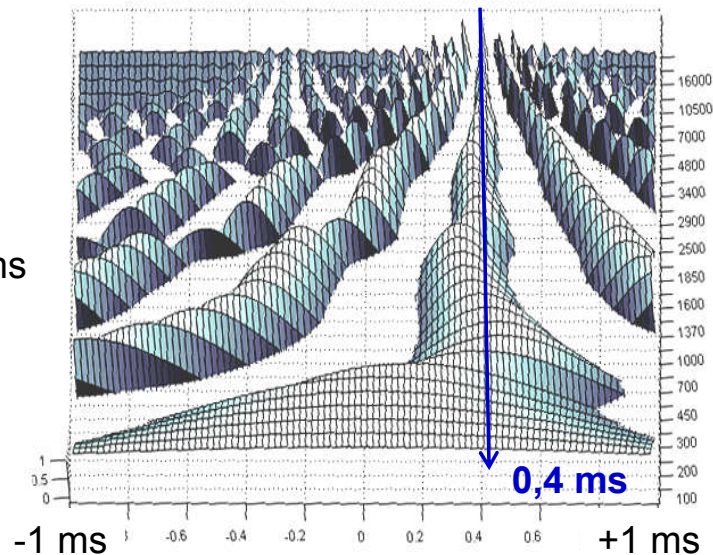


Real source, +15°

$\Delta L = 7\text{dB}$
 $\Delta t = 0\text{ ms}$



$\Delta L = 0\text{dB}$
 $\Delta t = 0.4\text{ ms}$



Phantom Source, perceived +15°

Basics

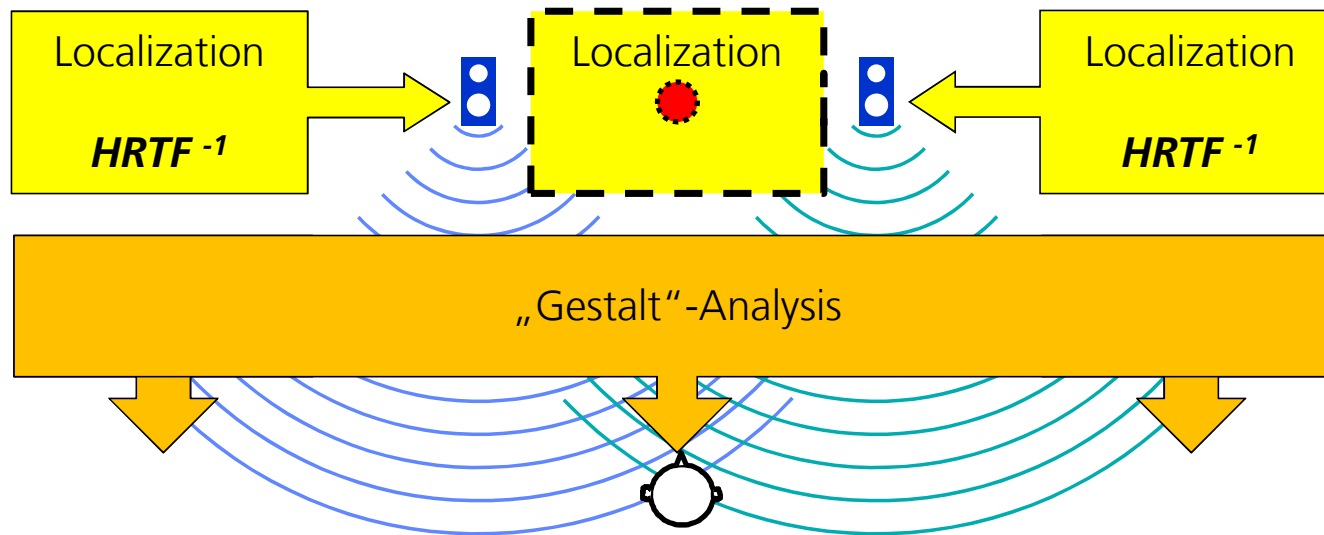
- 4 Spatial Sound reproduction principles
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Stereo Imaging

Array design for 3D-Audio

Localization and perception model:

- **Stereophony** after the „Association model“ of Theile



REF G.Theile: "On the Naturalness of Two-Channel Stereo Sound", JAES, Vol.39, 1991

Basics

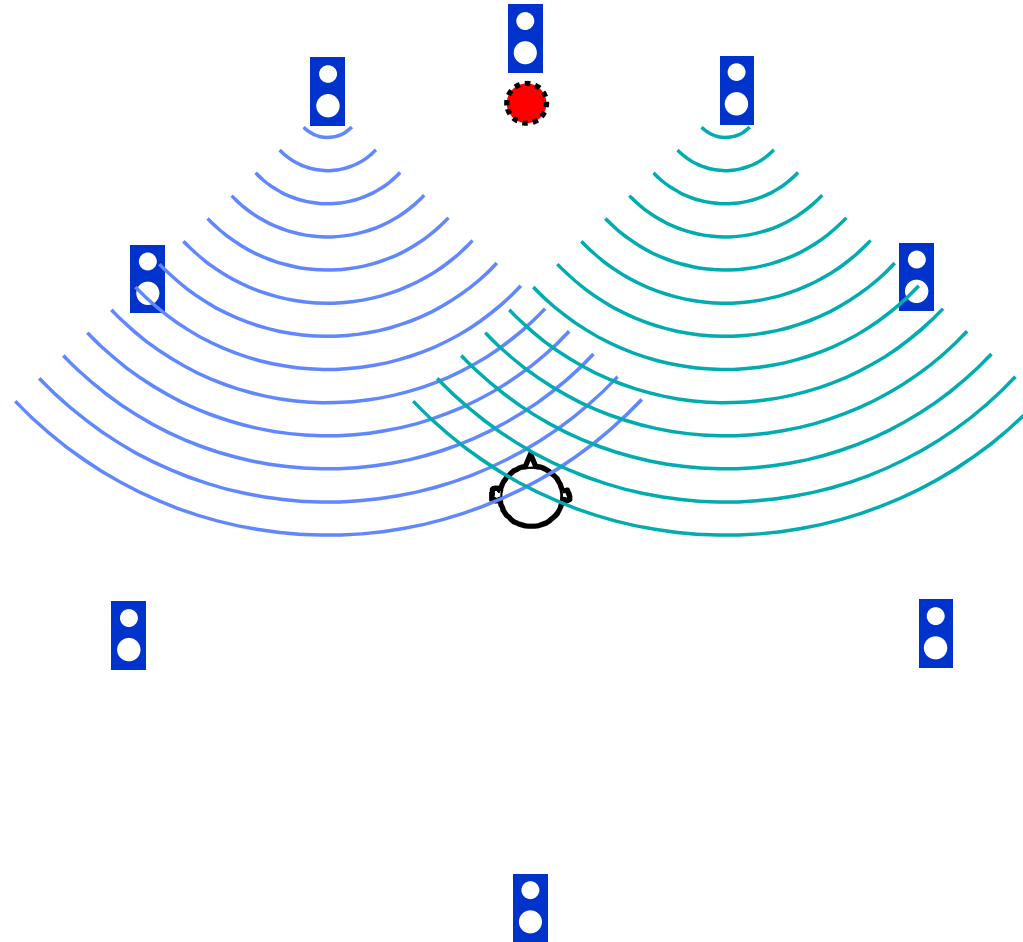
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Stereo Imaging

Array design for 3D-Audio

Spatial sound reproduction techniques:

- **Multichannel** Stereophony??



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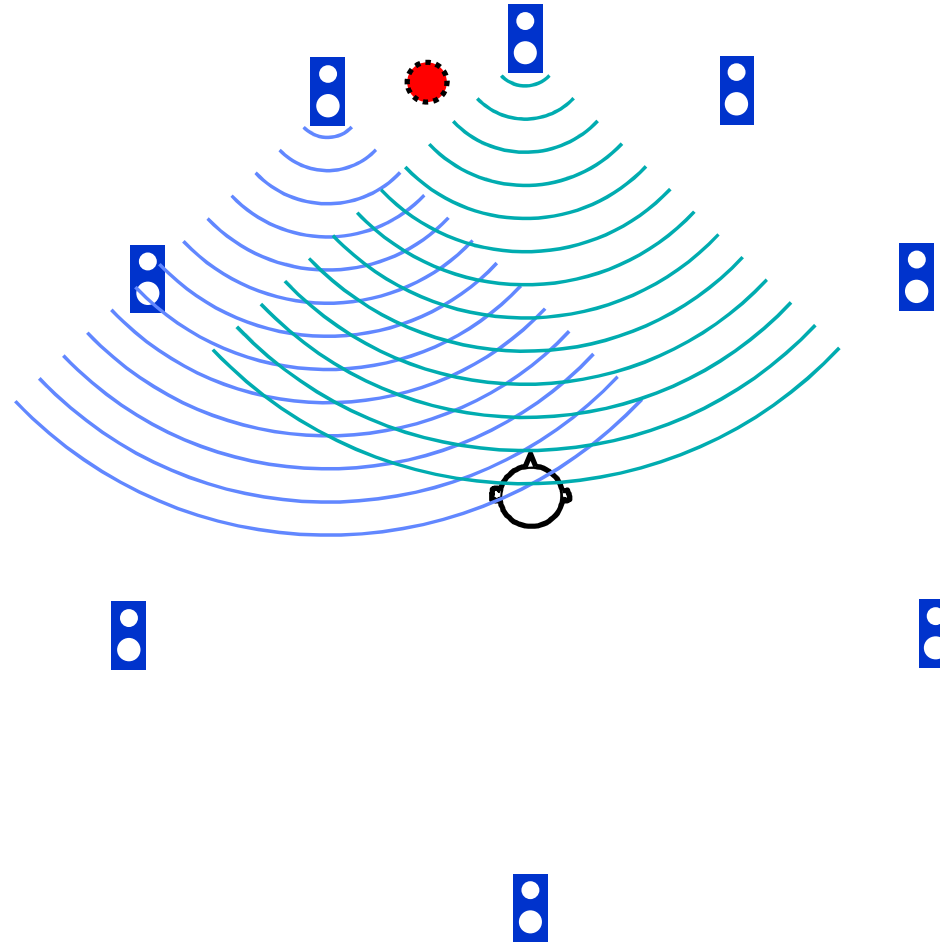
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Basics

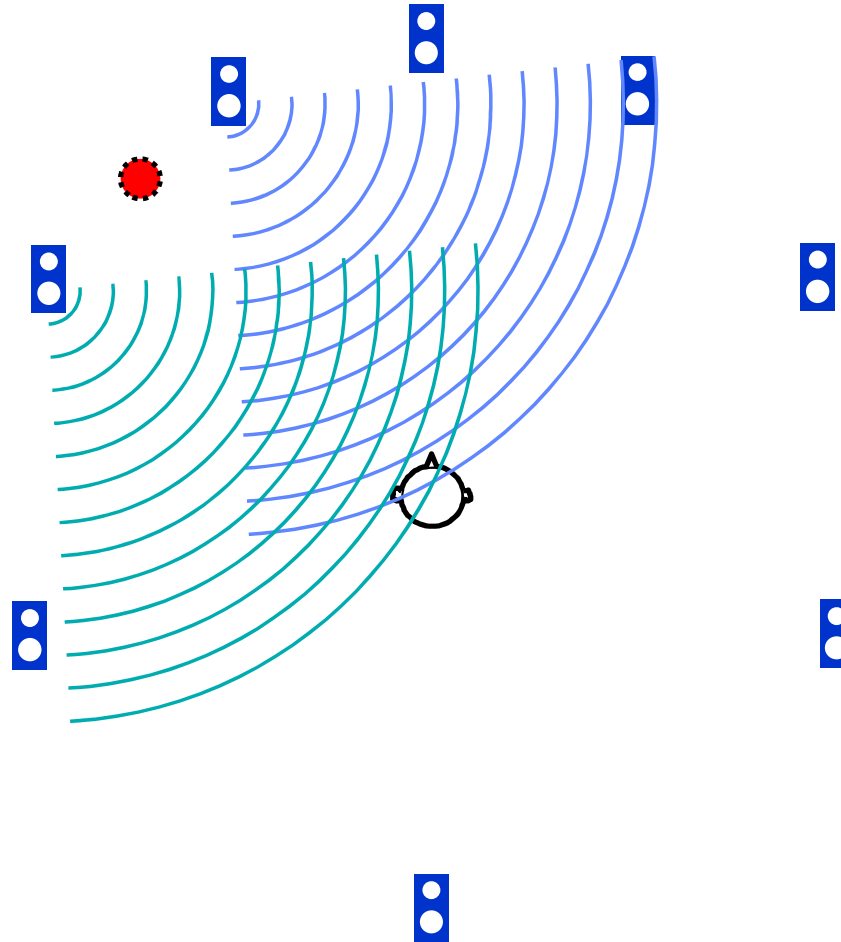
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Array design for 3D-Audio

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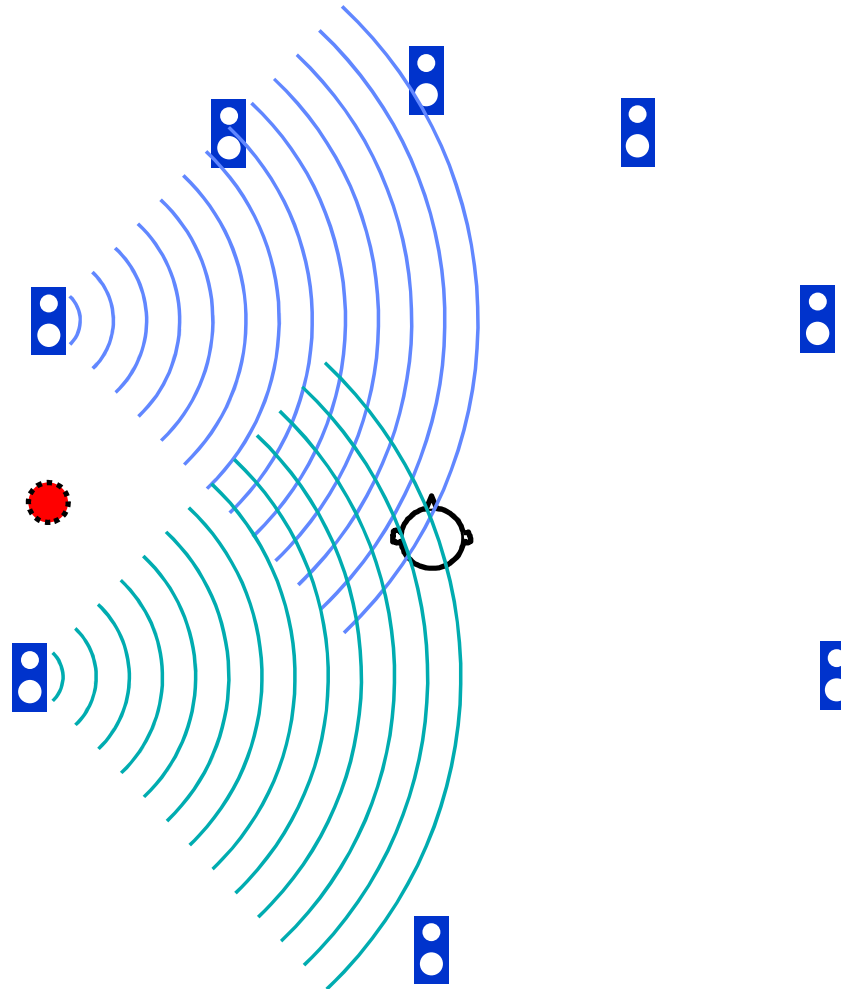
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Stereo Imaging

Array design for 3D-Audio

Spatial sound reproduction techniques:

- **Multichannel** Stereophony??

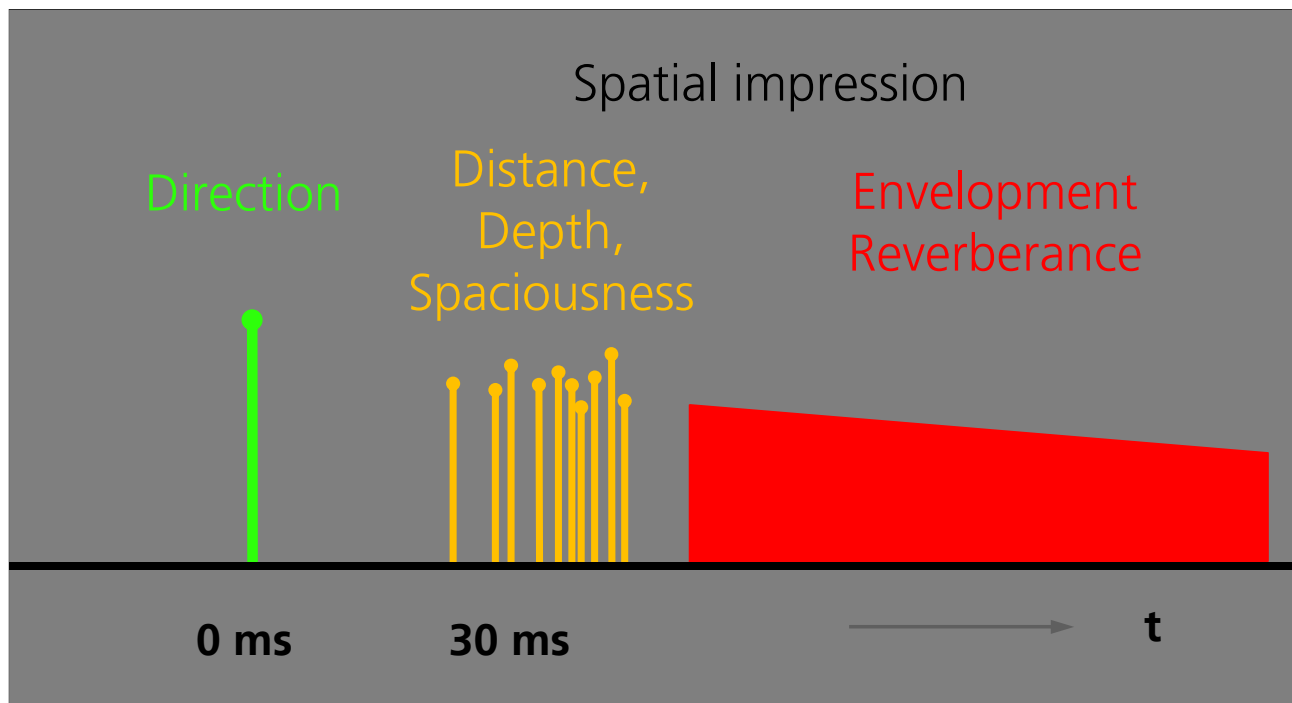


Basics

- 4 Spatial Sound reproduction principles
- Psychoacoustics of Stereo

Stereo Imaging

Array design for 3D-Audio



© Theile

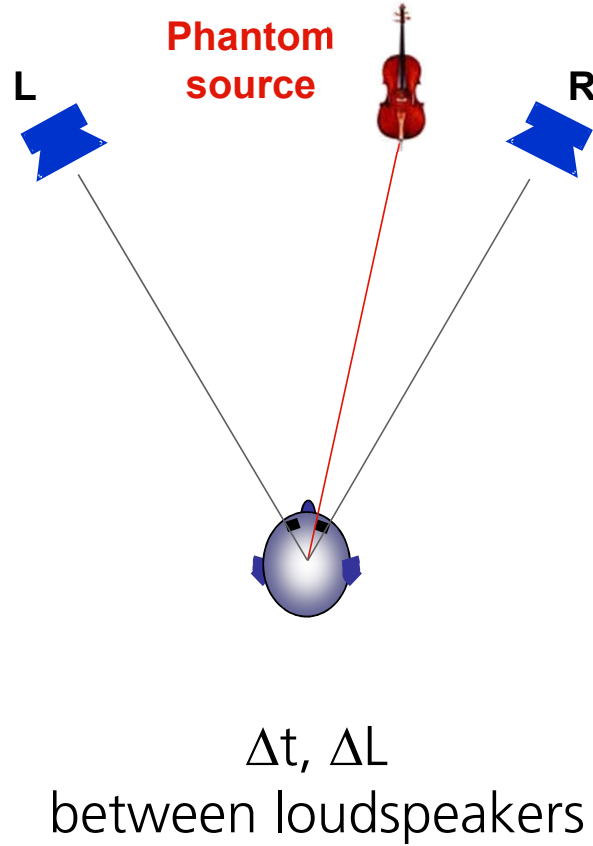
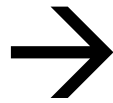
Basics

Stereo Imaging

- Directional Image
- Room Image

Array design
for 3D-Audio

- The Recording angle



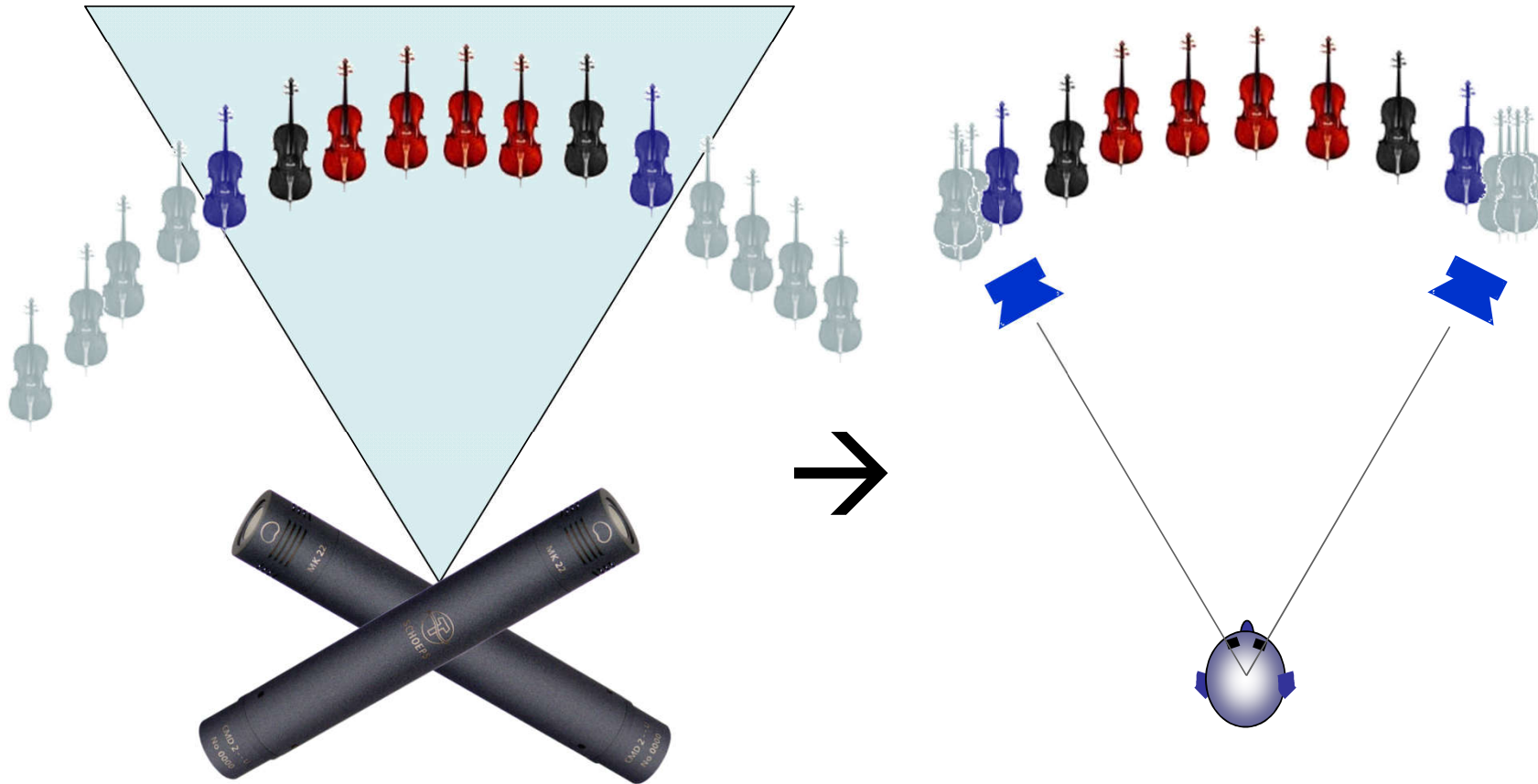
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Stereo Imaging

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Array design
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- The Recording angle



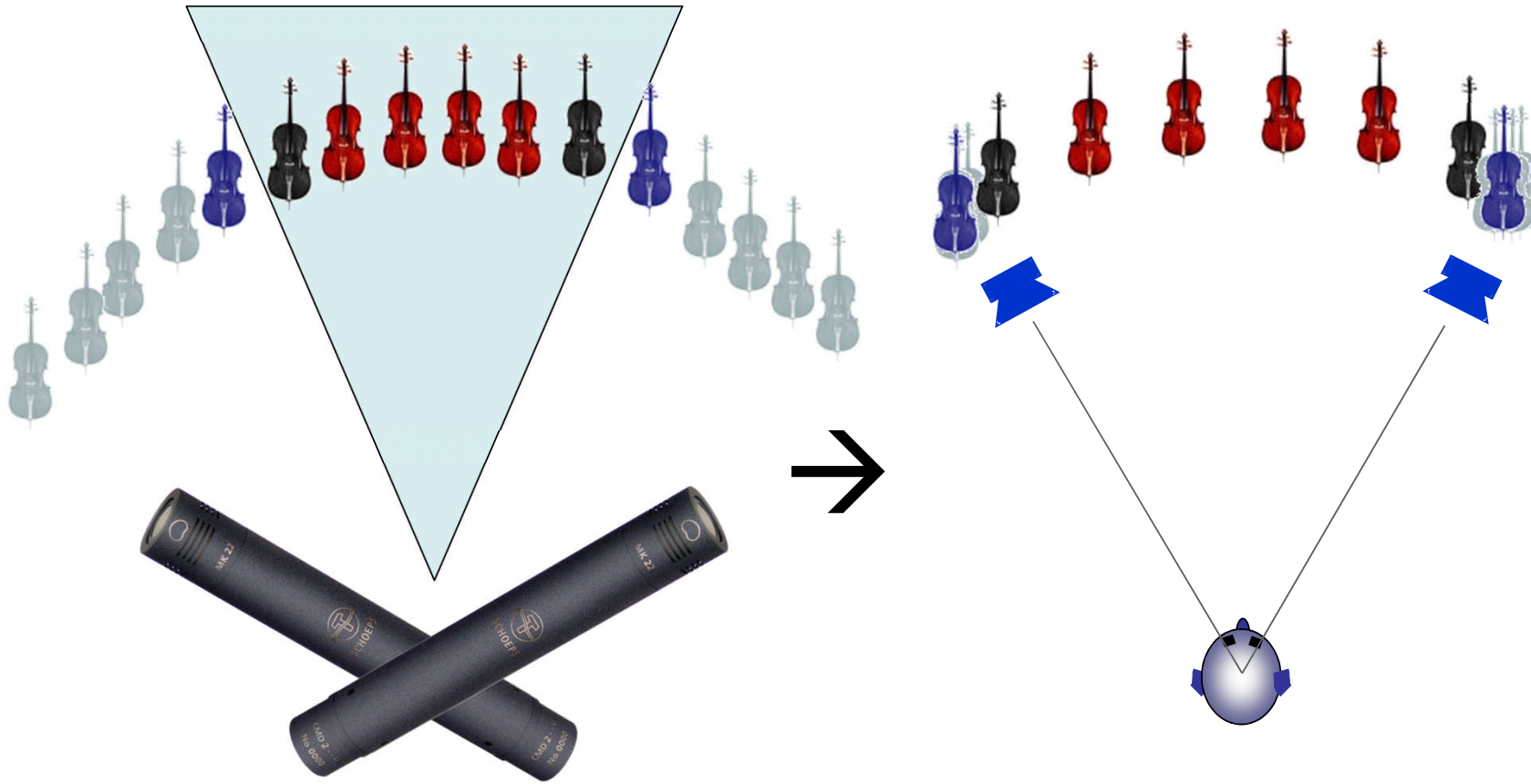
Basics

Stereo Imaging

- Directional Image
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Array design
for 3D-Audio

- The Recording angle



Demo Recording Angle:
Cedric 4 Stereophoniepaare "Schulhof" oder "Enten"

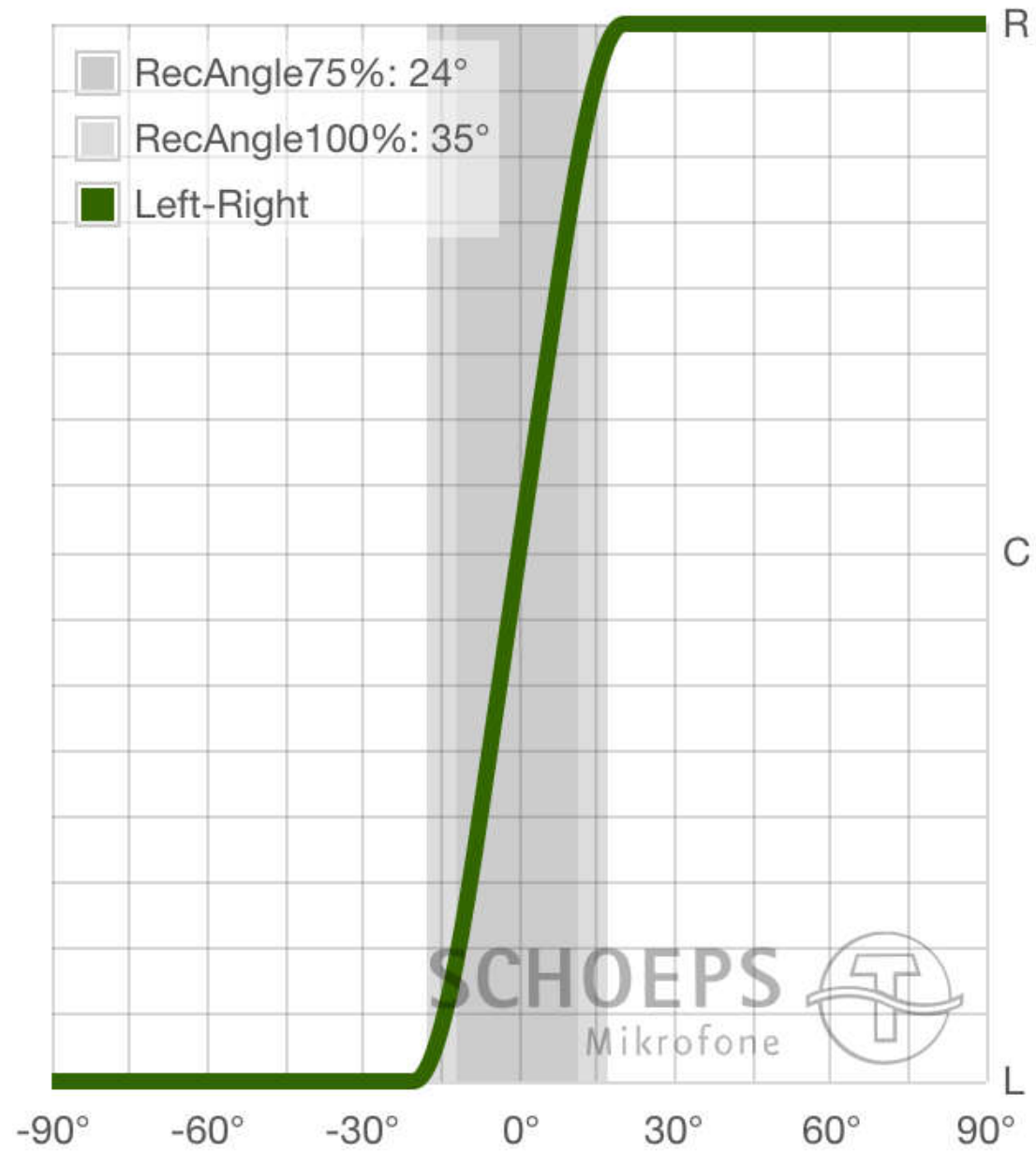
Basics

Stereo Imaging

- Directional Image
- Room Image

Array design
for 3D-Audio

- Localisation Curve



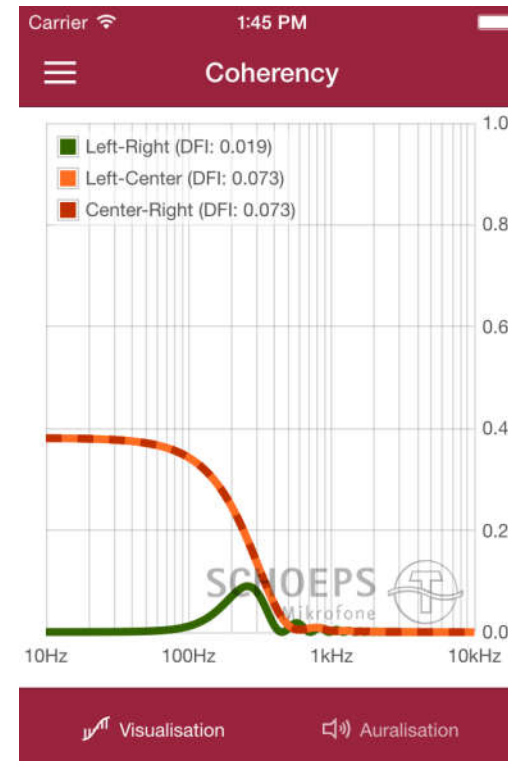
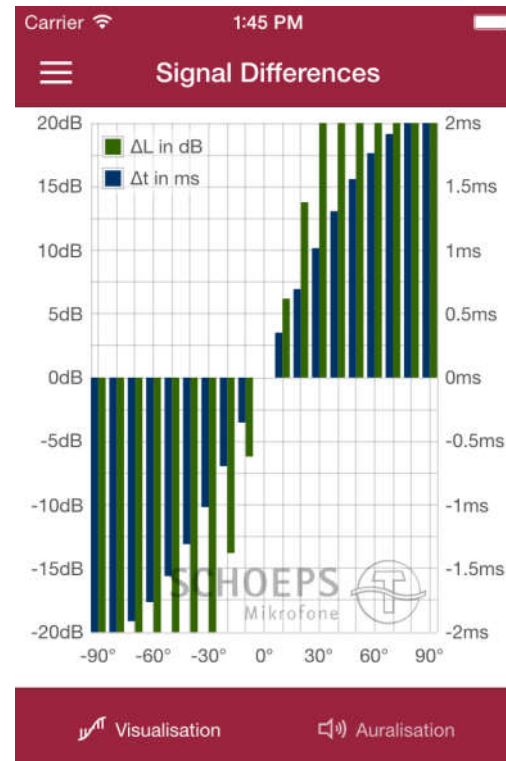
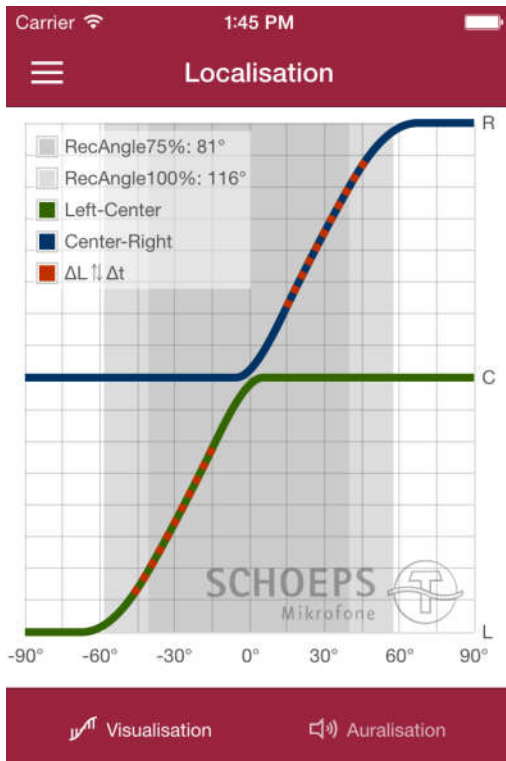
Basics

Stereo Imaging

- Directional Image
- Room Image

Array design
for 3D-Audio

- SCHOEPS-App "Image Assistant": www.ima.schoeps.de



Basics

Stereo Imaging

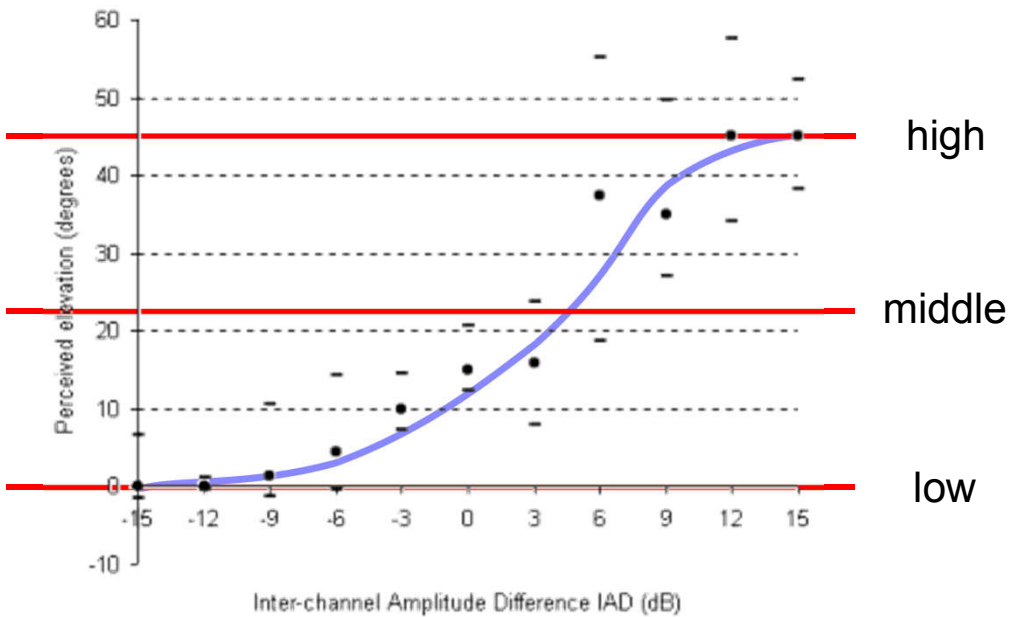
- Directional Image
- Room Image

Array design
for 3D-Audio

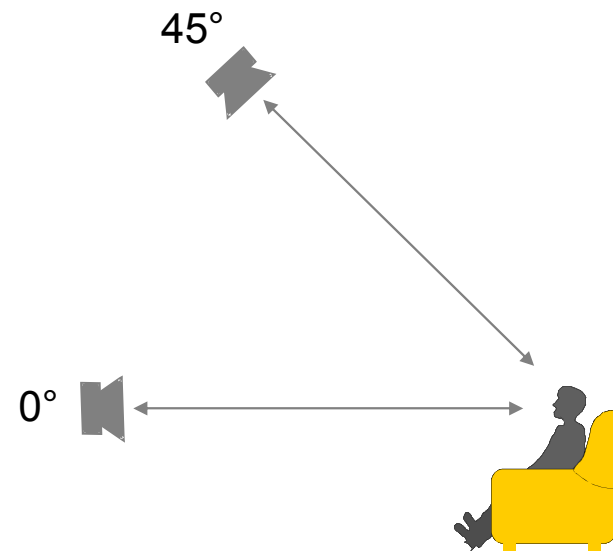
Demo App „Image Assistant“, Demo Cedric 4 Stereopaare mit Screenshots IMA3

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- Panning/Stereophonic Imaging between vertical loudspeaker pairs (Demo Vertical Shaker)



REF Jim Barbour, AES



Demo Vertical Panning (3D Grundlagen)

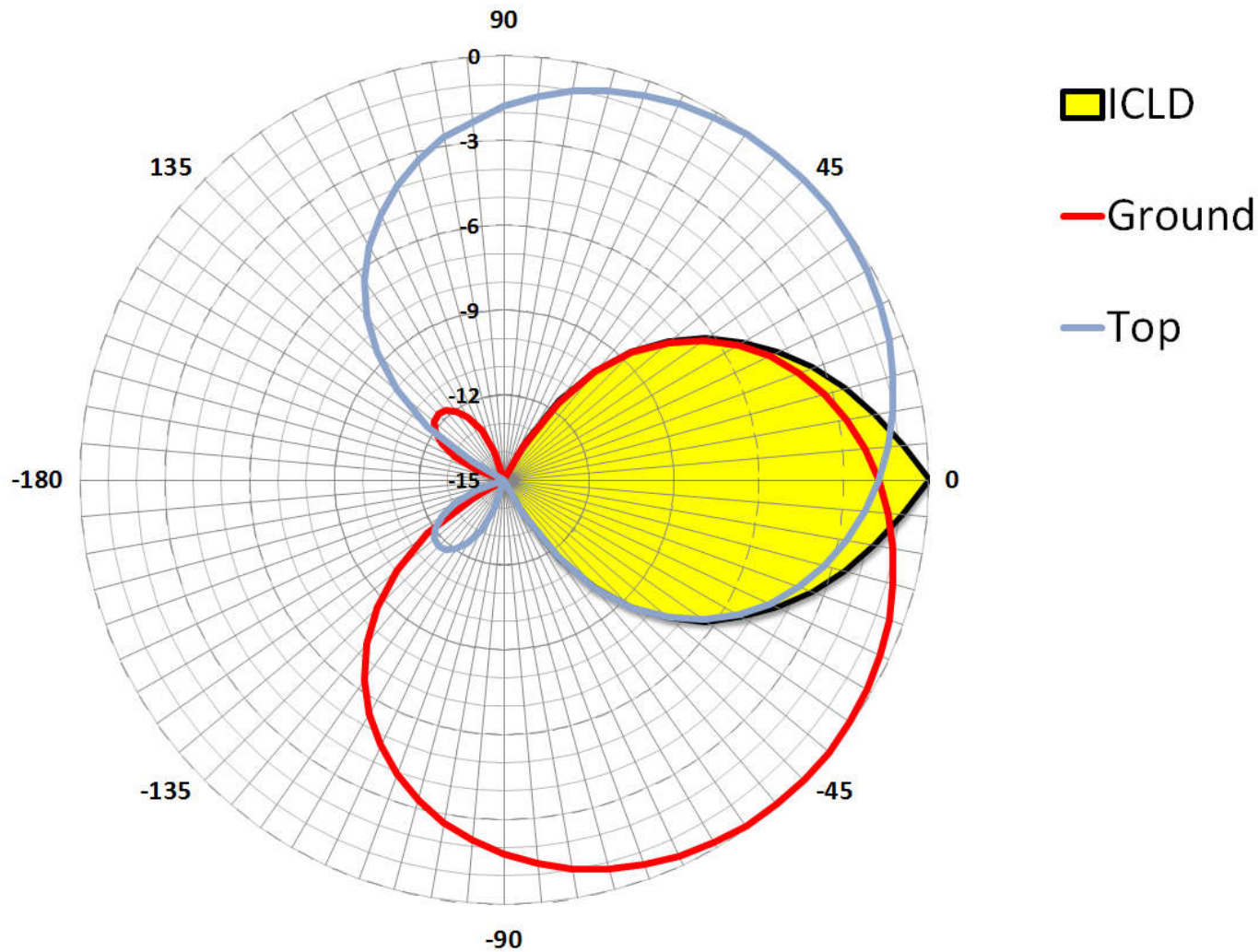
Basics

Stereo Imaging

- Directional Image
- Room Image

Array design for 3D-Audio

- Panning/Stereophonic Imaging between vertical loudspeaker pairs: X/Y microphone configuration for vertical imaging

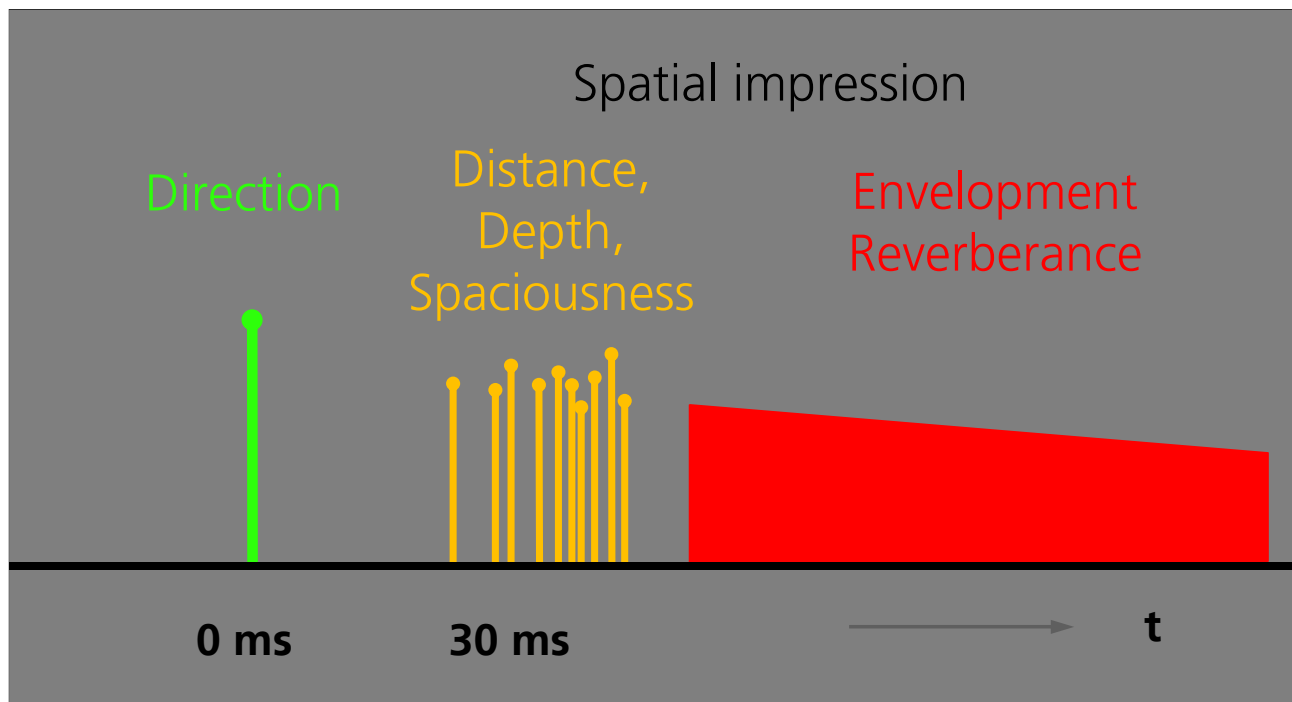


Basics

Stereo Imaging

- Directional Image
- Room Image

Array design
for 3D-Audio



© Theile

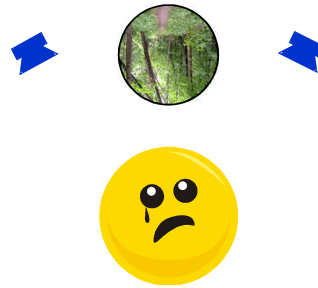
Basics

Stereo Imaging

- Directional Image
- Room Image

Array design
for 3D-Audio

Diffuse sound in the recording room → diffuse sound in the reproduction room



Basics

Stereo Imaging

- Directional Image
- Room Image

Array design
for 3D-Audio

Diffuse sound in the recording room → diffuse sound in the reproduction room



→ different diffuse signals
= decorrelated in the diffuse field

Basics

Stereo Imaging

- Directional Image
- Room Image

Array design
for 3D-Audio

- The larger the distance, the more independent the signals



- The larger the directivity, the more independent the signals



- The larger the opening angle, the more independent the signals



Basics

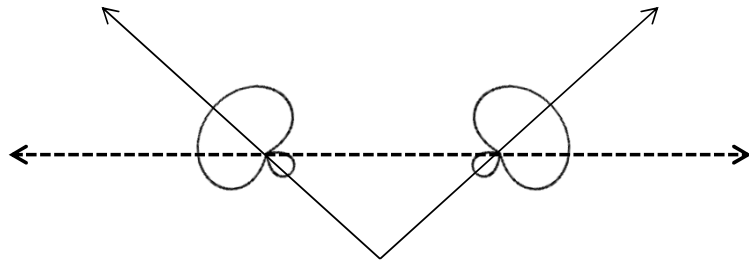
Stereo Imaging

- Directional Image
- Room Image

Array design
for 3D-Audio

Diffuse field correlation (DFC): coincident setups

- is dependent on the distance, angle and directivity
- is dependent on the frequency (wave length)



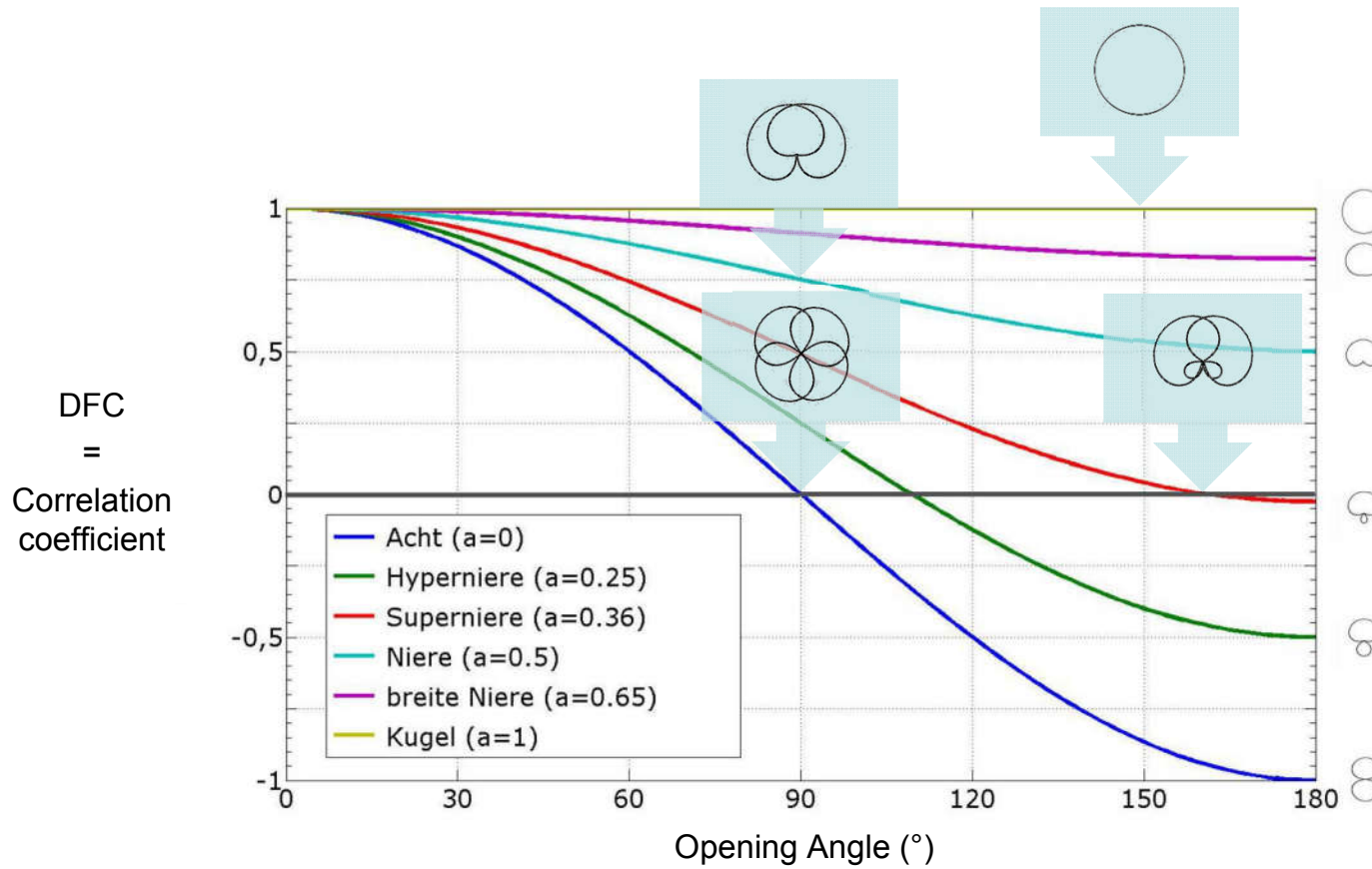
Basics

Stereo Imaging

- Directional Image
- Room Image

Array design
for 3D-Audio

- Diffuse field correlation (DFC): coincident setups



Basics

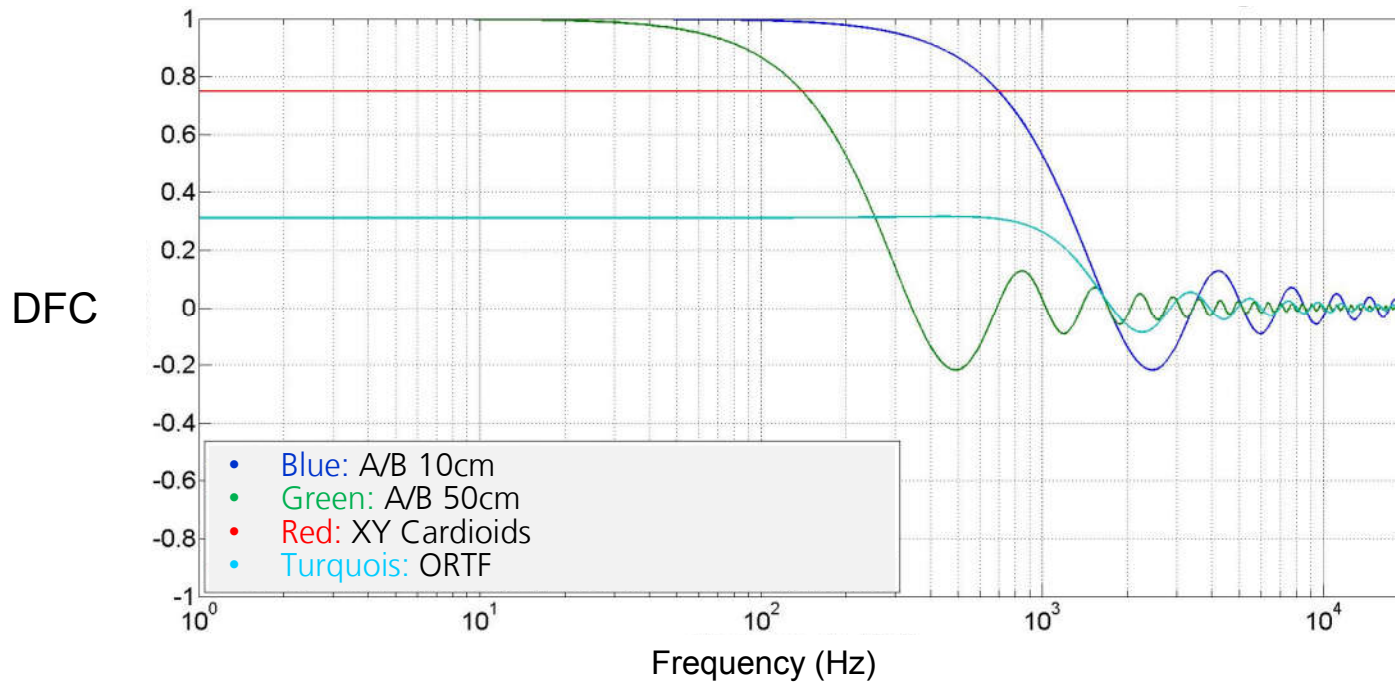
Stereo Imaging

- Directional Image
- Room Image

Array design
for 3D-Audio

- Diffuse field correlation (DFC): spaced setups

Diffuse field correlation (DFC)



from: [Riekehof et al., TMT 2010]

Basics

Stereo Imaging

- Directional Image

- Room Image

Array design
for 3D-Audio

- Coherence function calculated by the Image Assistant v3



Demo Diffusfeld:
HdM Diffusfeld Koinzidenz;
Cédric 2 Stereophoniepaare mit Umschalten
der Screenshots DFC, Bahnhofshalle

Basics

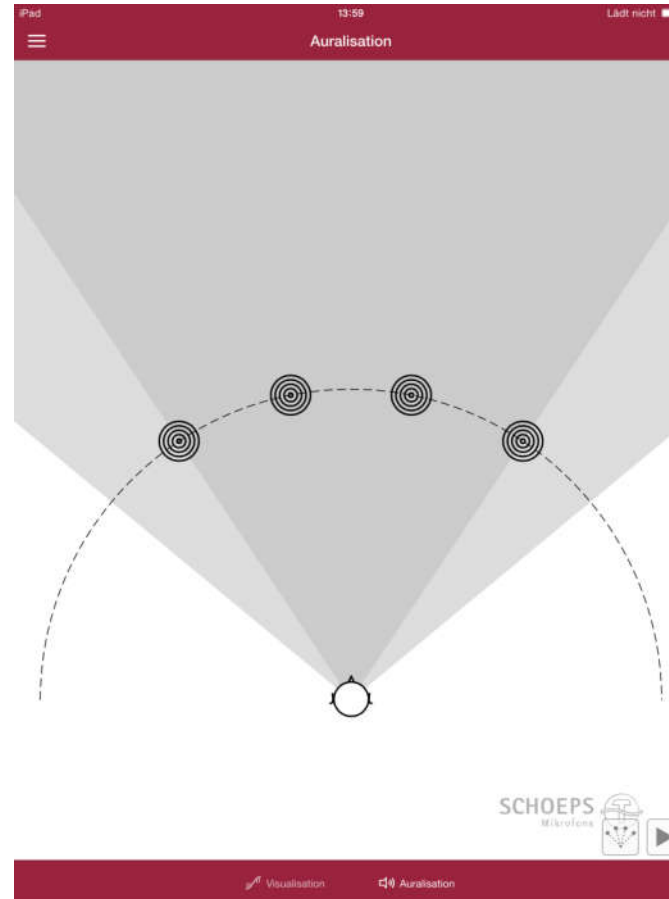
Stereo Imaging

- Directional Image
- Room Image

Array design
for 3D-Audio

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- Image Assistant v3
- Simulation of the DFC and proper Auralisation



Basics

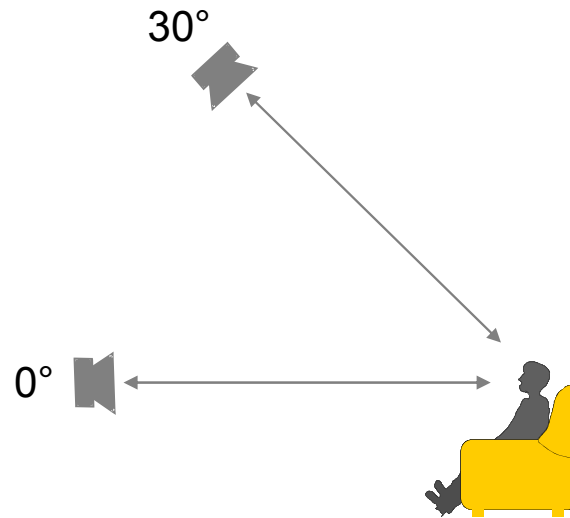
Stereo Imaging

- Directional Image
- Room Image

Array design
for 3D-Audio

- Correlation between vertical loudspeaker pairs
- Live demo: X/Y vs. A/B

→ In the vertical domain correlation plays a different role



Demo Vertical Diffuse

Basics

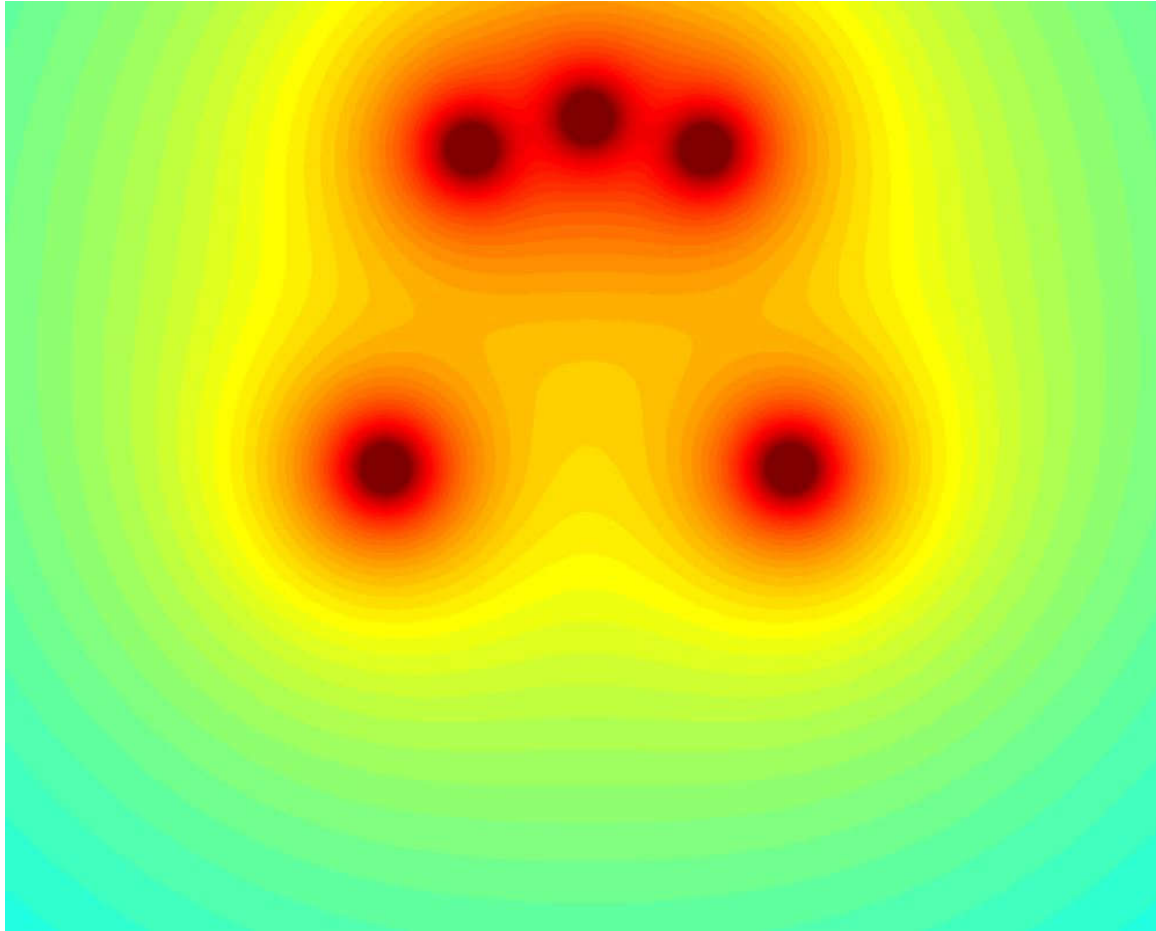
Stereo Imaging

- Directional Image
- Room Image

Array design
for 3D-Audio

- „Diffuse Field Listening Area“

5ch Total power sum



Basics

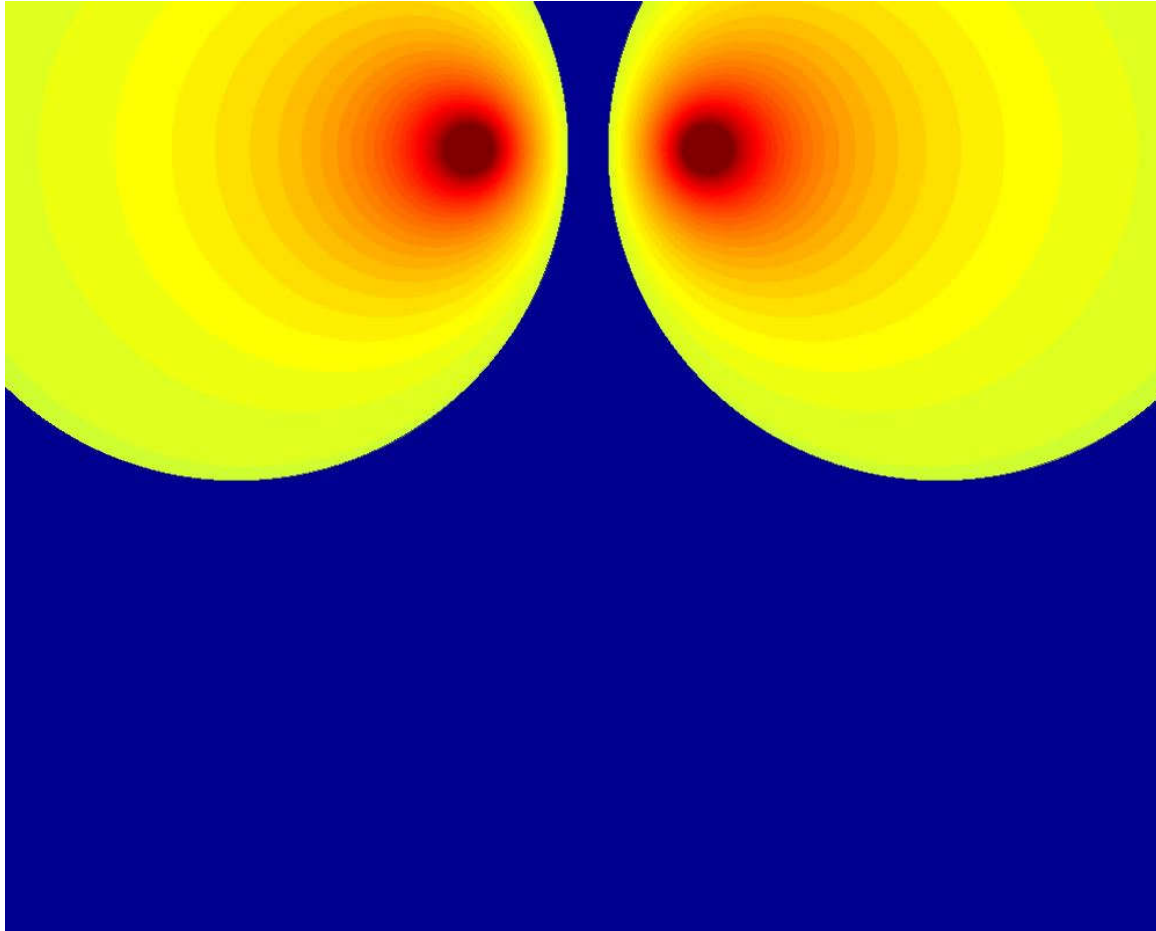
Stereo Imaging

- Directional Image
- Room Image

Array design
for 3D-Audio

- „Diffuse Field Listening Area“

2 ch Diffuse Field Listening Area



Blue Zone:

No individual
loudspeaker is
more than 3 dB
louder than the
sum of all other
loudspeakers

Basics

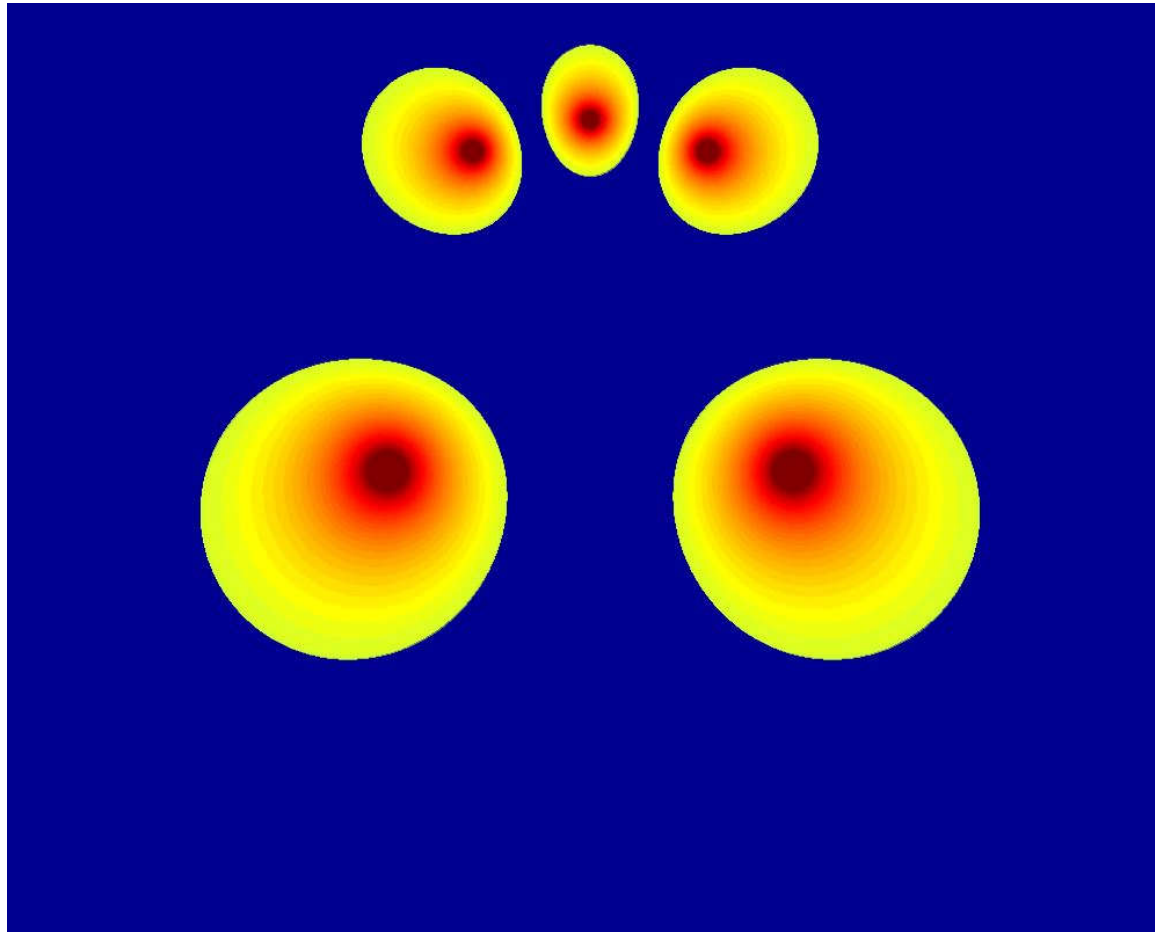
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- „Diffuse Field Listening Area“

5 ch Diffuse Field Listening Area



Blue Zone:

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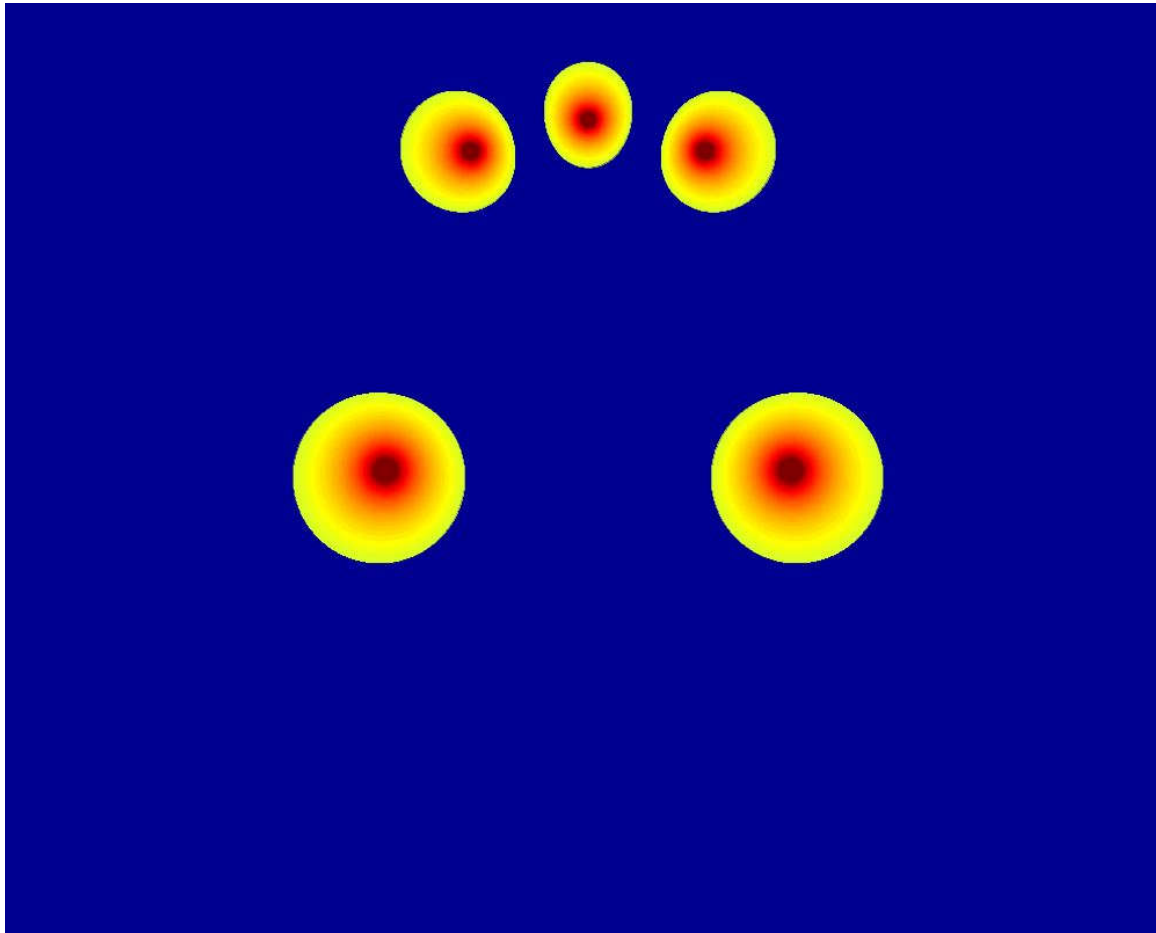
Stereo Imaging

- Directional Image
- Room Image

Array design
for 3D-Audio

- „Diffuse Field Listening Area“

9 ch Diffuse Field Listening Area



Blue Zone:

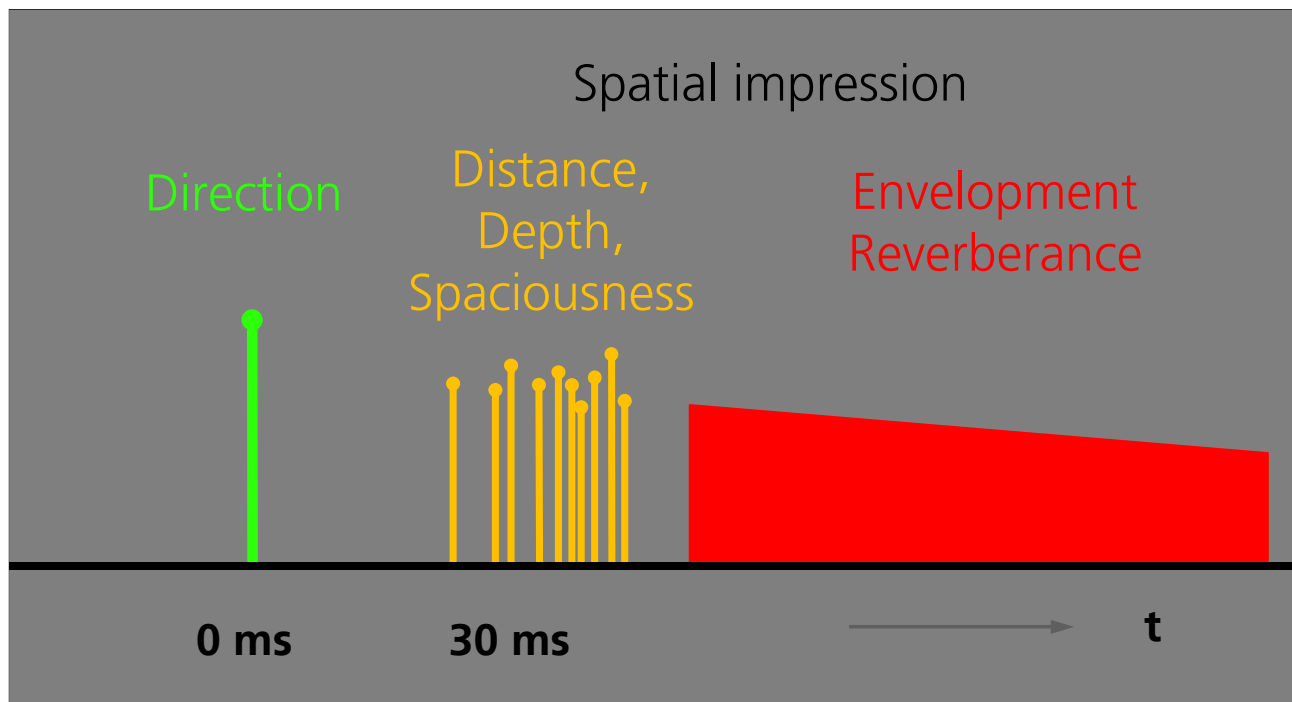
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Basics

Stereo Imaging

- Directional Image
- Room Image

Array design
for 3D-Audio



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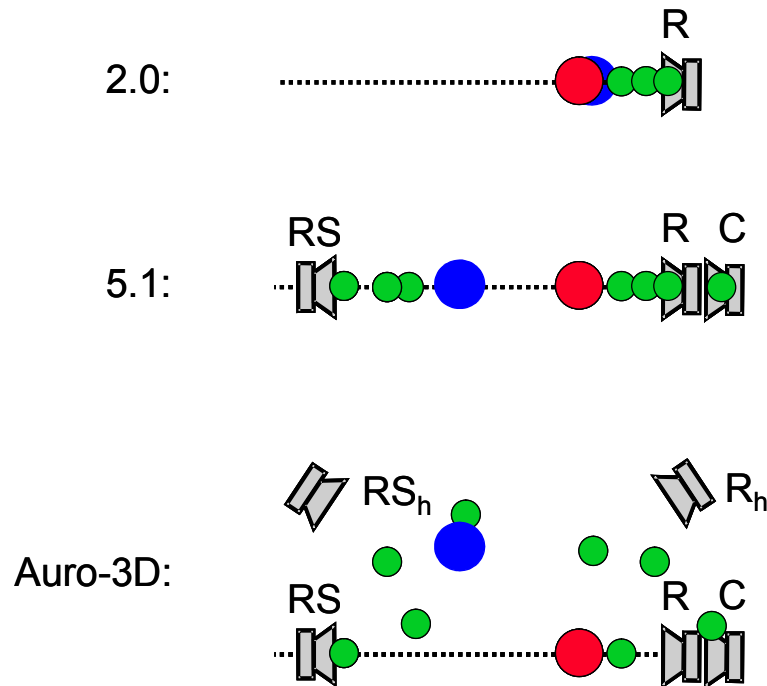
Basics

Stereo Imaging

- Directional Image
- Room Image

Array design
for 3D-Audio

- Distribution of reflections
- Hypothesis: Less coloration and better perception of depth/distance through better separation



Demo Galaxy Modern 9 <-> 5
Klavier 9 <-> 5

Basics

Stereo Imaging

- Directional Image
- Room Image

Array design
for 3D-Audio

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- Array design for 3D-Audio (= Stereo + height)
- Two recording principles with different priorities:

ORTF-like recording techniques

- Closely spaced, directive microphones
- Typical properties:
 - proportional and clear directional imaging
 - natural spatial impression
- Application: chamber music, drama, sports, ambience

Wide a/b-like recording techniques

- Widely spaced, omni-directional microphones
- Typical properties:
 - stable, but not proportional directional imaging
 - enhanced spatial impression
- Application: music, film music

Basics

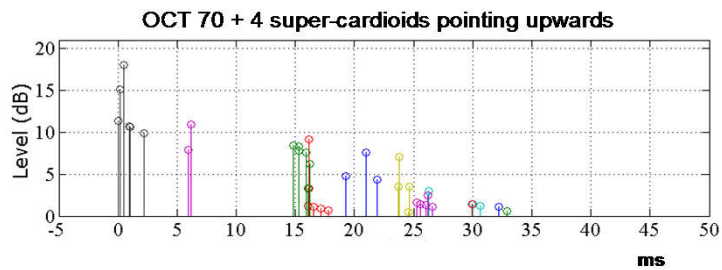
Stereo Imaging

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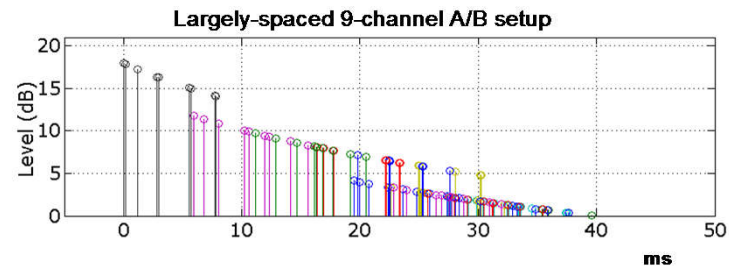
- Δt and/or ΔL
- ORTF-3D

- Array design for 3D-Audio (= Stereo + height)
- Two recording principles with different priorities:

ORTF-like recording techniques



Wide a/b-like recording techniques



Basics

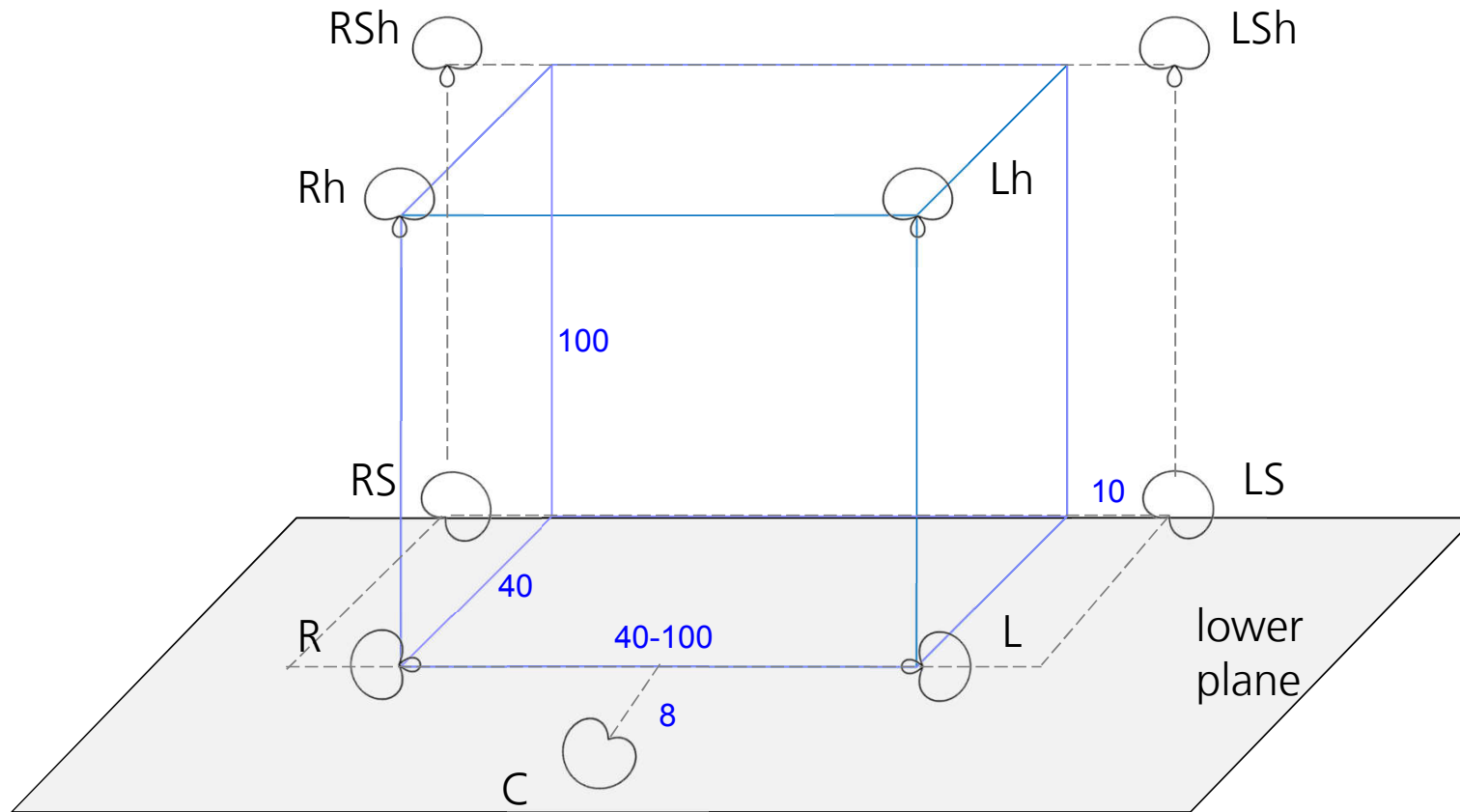
Stereo Imaging

Array design
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- Δt and/or ΔL
- ORTF-3D

„OCT 9“ for 9.1 Surround

- lower plane: OCT Surround
- upper plane: + 100cm, 4 supercardioids pointing upwards



Basics

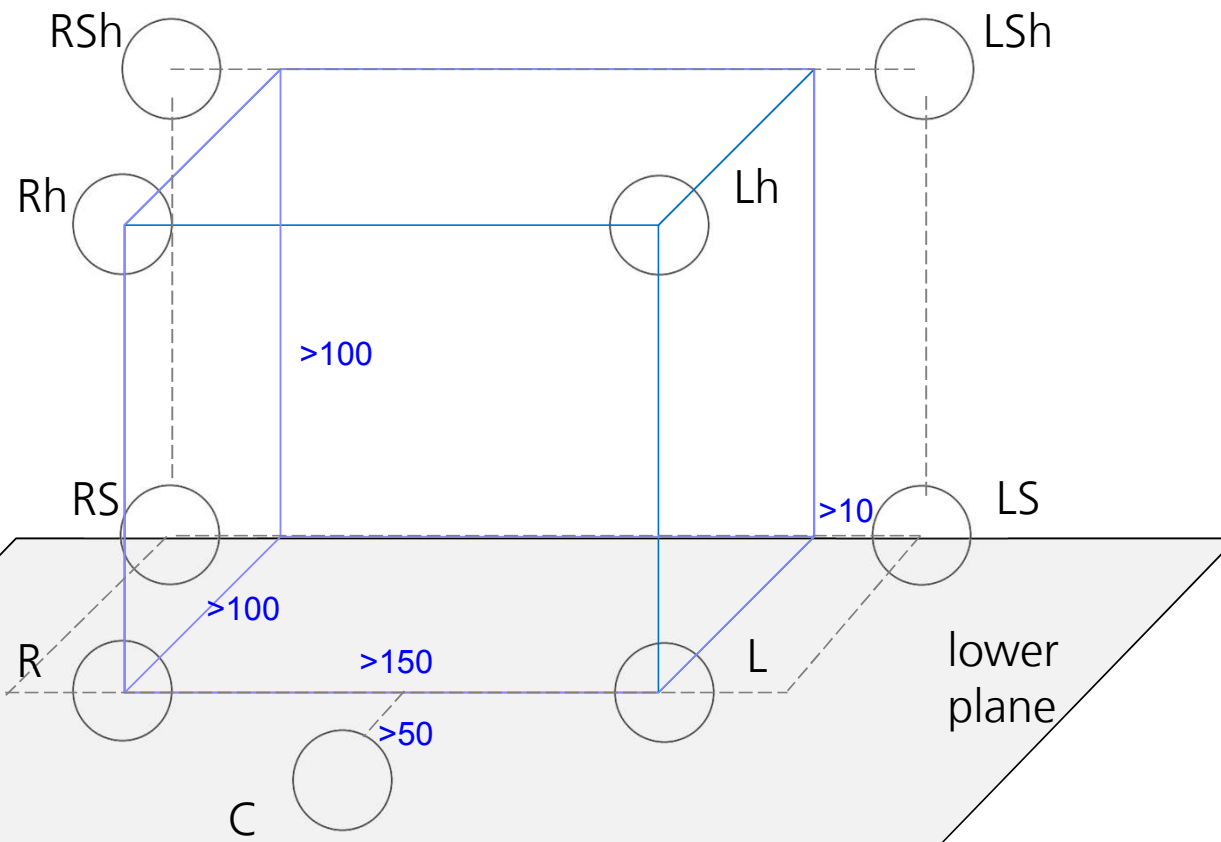
Stereo Imaging

Array design
for 3D-Audio

- Δt and/or ΔL
- ORTF-3D

„Omni Array“ for 9.1 Surround

- 9 Omnis



Basics

Stereo Imaging

Array design
for 3D-Audio

- Δt and/or ΔL
- ORTF-3D

- Test recordings in the Galaxy Studios, Belgium
- OCT 9
- Omni array



Basics

Stereo Imaging

Array design
for 3D-Audio

- Δt and/or ΔL
- ORTF-3D

ORTF-3D regular

- 8 * Supercardioid on the edges of a cube with $d = 10\text{-}20\text{ cm}$



Basics

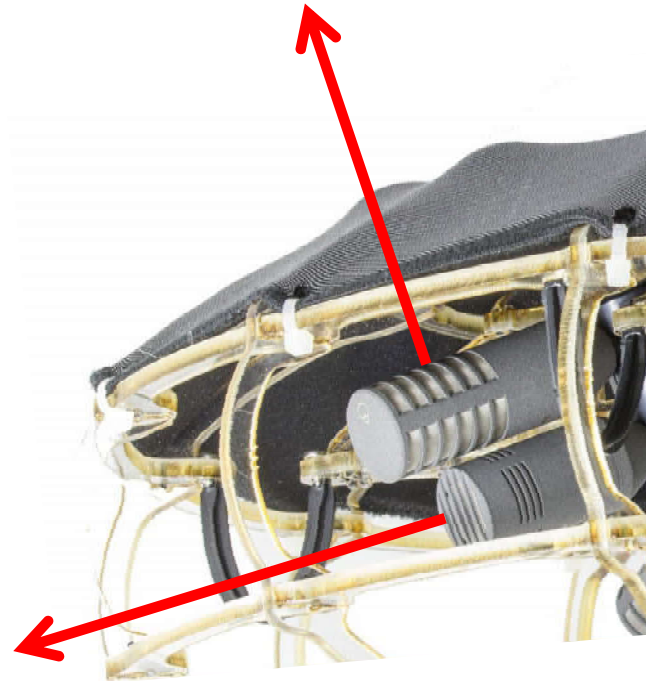
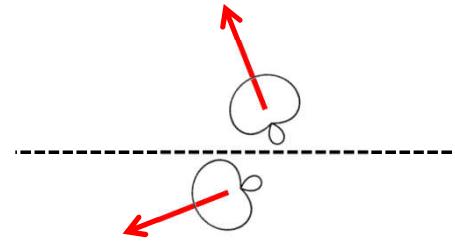
Stereo Imaging

Array design
for 3D-Audio

- Δt and/or ΔL
- ORTF-3D

ORTF-3D „FLAT“ (NEW)

- 8 * Supercardioid on the edges of a rectangle/square with $d = 10-20$ cm
- Coincident X/Y microphone pairs for each vertical loudspeaker pair
- Orientation of the XY pair: $+60^\circ$ (height layer) / -30° (ground layer)



Demo Worldcup
Demos ORFT-3D Ambience

Basics

Stereo Imaging

Array design
for 3D-Audio

- Δt and/or ΔL
- ORTF-3D

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- Infos, Powerpoints, Papers, Audio demos on www.hauptmikrofon.de (new launch in Oct 2015)

- wittek@schoeps.de

The screenshot displays the homepage of [hauptmikrofon.de](http://www.hauptmikrofon.de). The navigation bar includes links for 'STARTSEITE', 'IMPRESSION', and 'IMAGE ASSISTANT', along with a search bar and dropdown menus for 'HOME', 'STEREO&3D', 'MICROPHONES', and 'US'. The main content is divided into two columns. The left column, titled 'TOP ARTICLES', features a featured article 'APP "Image Assistant 3" Beta' with a thumbnail image of the app interface and a 'Read More' link. Below this are three more article categories: '3D Audio', 'Microphone and Room', and 'Ambience Recording', each with a plus icon. The right column, titled 'TOP POWERPOINTS', lists three presentations: 'On the sound of a microphone' (with a thumbnail of a red microphone and a 'Read More' link), 'Microphone Directivity', and 'Stereo, Surround & 3D'. A fourth category, 'Ambience Recording', is also listed.