

# Measuring and Analyzing Road Traffic Noise

Stockholm, December 11, 2012  
CityHush Training Workshop  
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# Structure

- Traffic flow analysis with *microphone arrays* and beamforming (measurements)
- Traffic flow analysis with *Traffic Noise Synthesizer* (simulations)

# Traffic Flow Analysis with Microphone Arrays

# Objective of Work



Real traffic flow



Measurement  
system

Statistical Analysis of  
vehicle driving behavior  
and resulting noise  
emission

- Vehicles?
- Speed?
- Acceleration?
- Noise?
- Sources? (wheels,  
engine)

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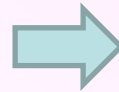
# System Components

## Video system

Detection of the vehicles  
with position, speed, acceleration

## Audio system

Localisation and quantification  
of noise sources and emission



## Panorama Video Camera

with advanced image  
processing software

## Acoustic Camera

Microphone array with  
beamforming software

# Panorama Camera Module



- 3 VGA ethernet cameras:  $-60^\circ$  ,  $0^\circ$  ,  $60^\circ$
- Automated rectification (cancellation of image aberrations, e.g. lense position errors, fish eye)
- Automated stitching of panorama view
- All image errors (lense position, fish eye) are corrected



# Flexible Array

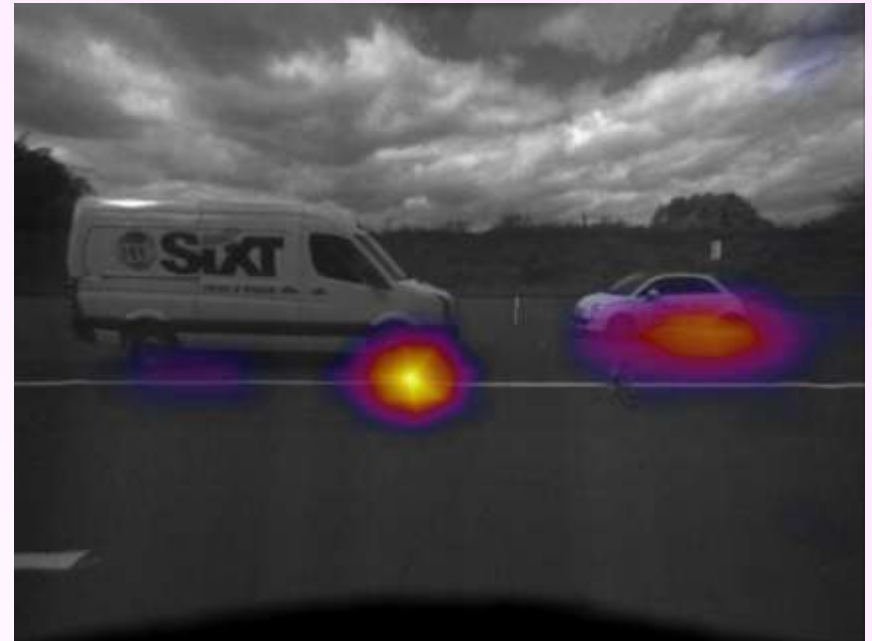


- Flexible array system
- Modular grids (1.5m x 1.5m)
- Up to 192 microphones
- Panorama camera module with automated microphone position detection

# Available Data



Optical Image = Vehicles + Background



Acoustic Image = Sources



# Which Sources Correspond to Which Vehicle?

- Continuous vehicle detection
- Vehicle flow simulation to compensate detection errors

# Vehicle Detection (based on image processing)

background



background with foreground



Foreground extraction



detected vehicle

# Traffic flow analysis - Example



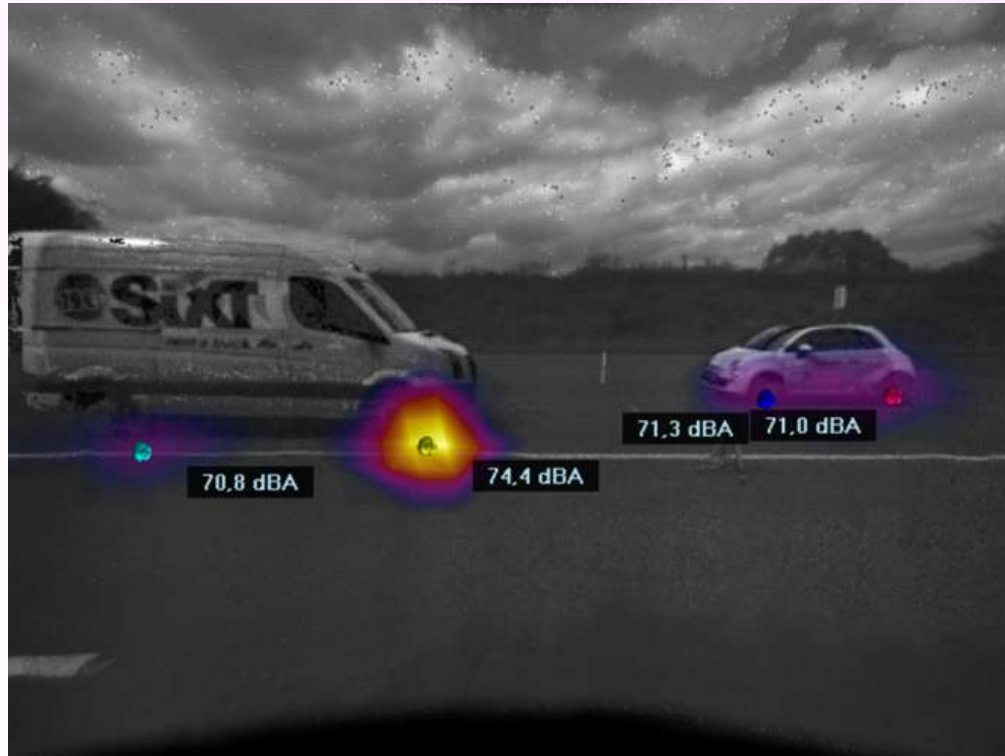
Original video capture

# Traffic flow analysis - Example



Detected objects

# Traffic Flow Analysis - Example



Source level detection by virtual microphones (related to 1m distance)

# Acoustical Fingerprint of Citroen Electric Vehicle

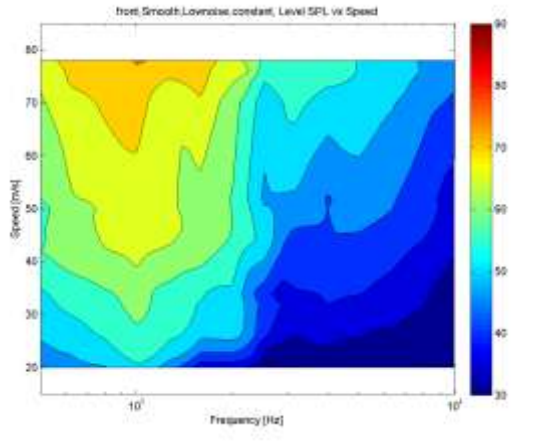
# Array Measurement of Electric Vehicle



Beamforming result  
(Citroen electric vehicle)

# Level vs. Constant Speed and Frequency

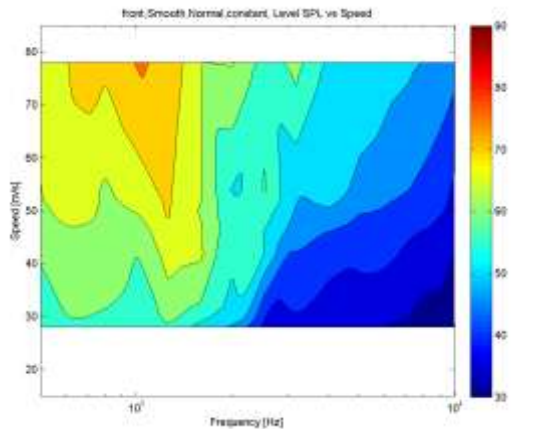
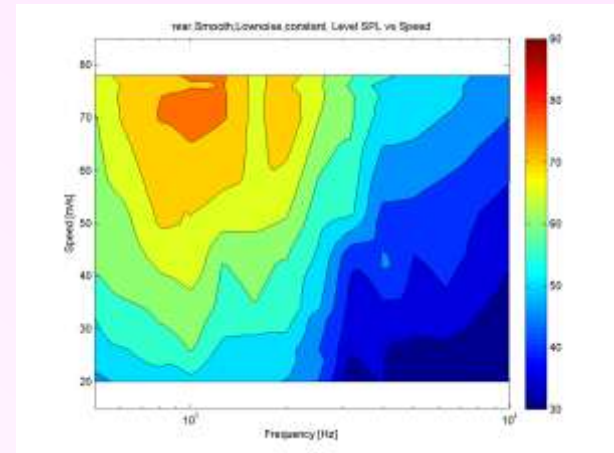
Front tires



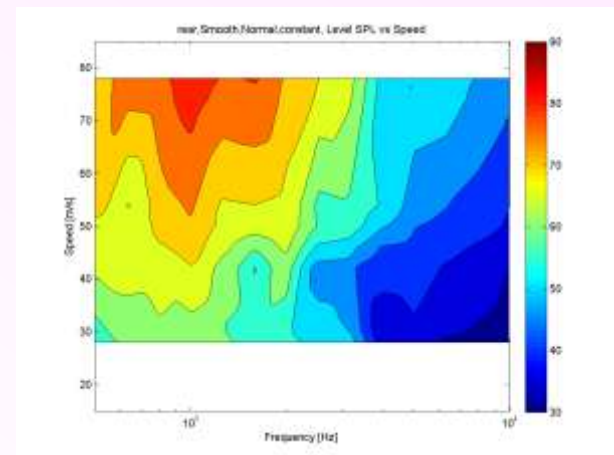
Smooth road surface

low noise tires,

Rear tires



standard tires

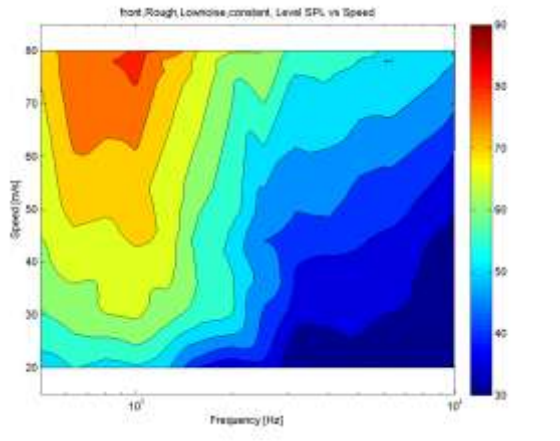


in dB(A)



# Level vs. Constant Speed and Frequency

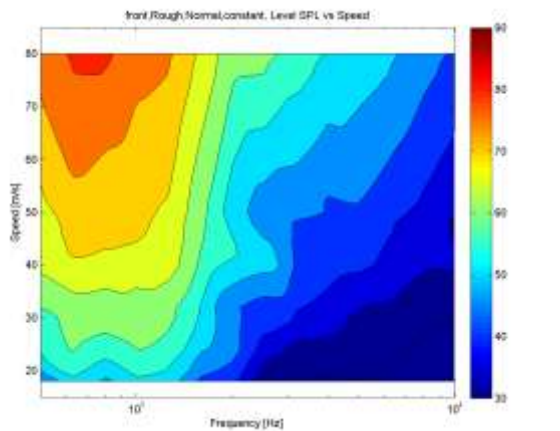
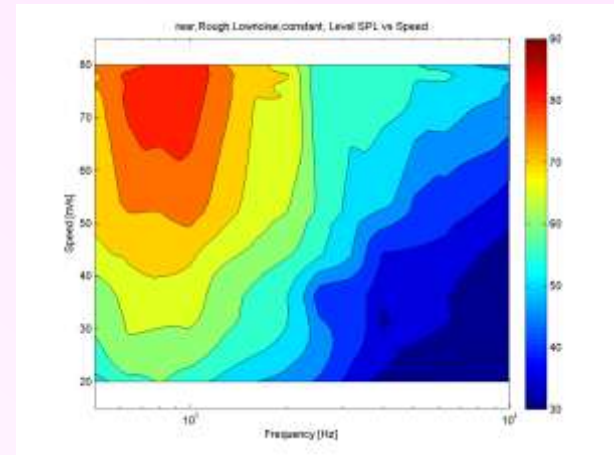
Front tires



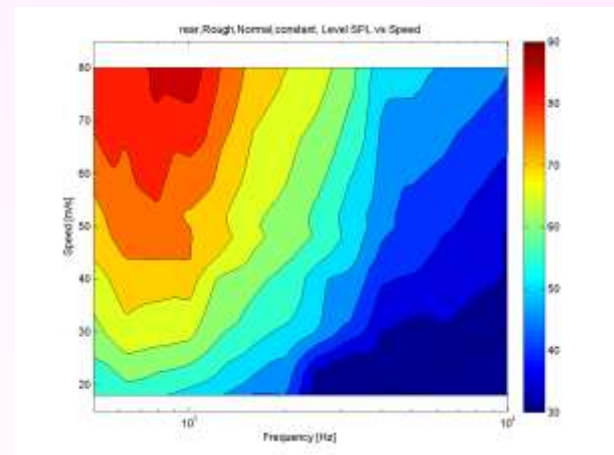
Rough road surface

low noise tires

Rear tires



standard tires



in dB(A)

# Conclusions I

- Measurements possible based on system with panorama camera and flexible large scale array
- Optical detection of vehicles and calculation of physical parameters
- Acoustical detection of sources and generation of time signals
- Synthesis of large number of heterogeneous pass-by events (acoustical fingerprint of single vehicles, specific road conditions )
- Data evaluation with standard and psychoacoustic analyses

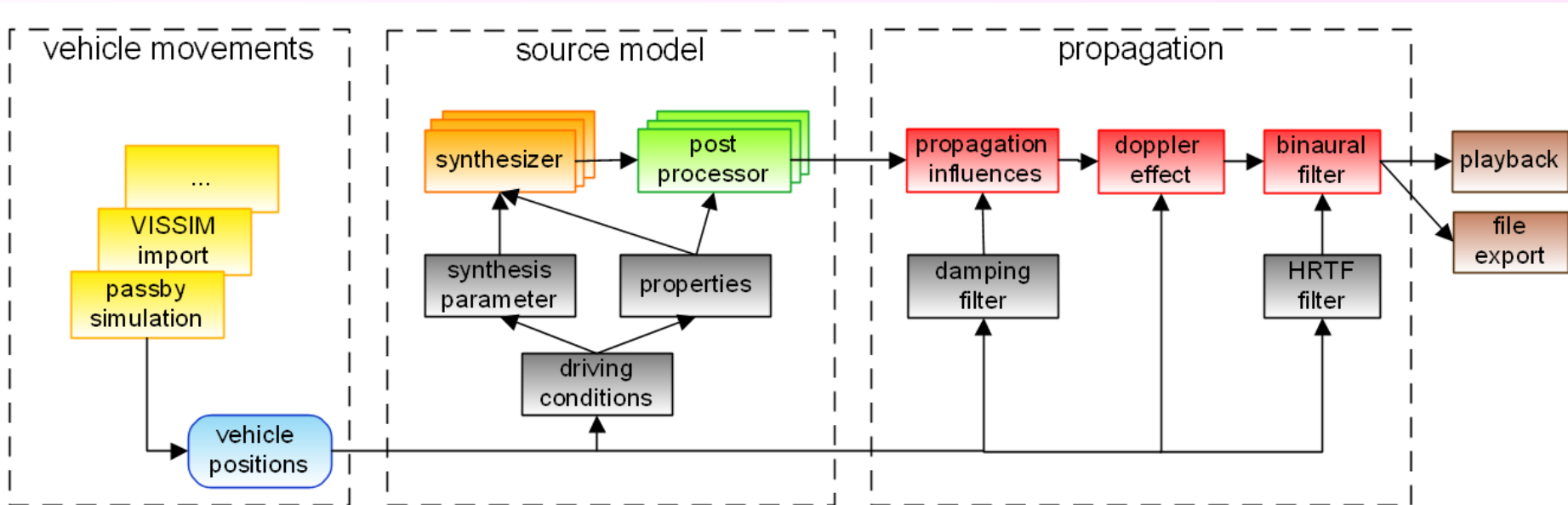
# Traffic Noise Synthesizer

# Traffic Noise Synthesis of Vehicles

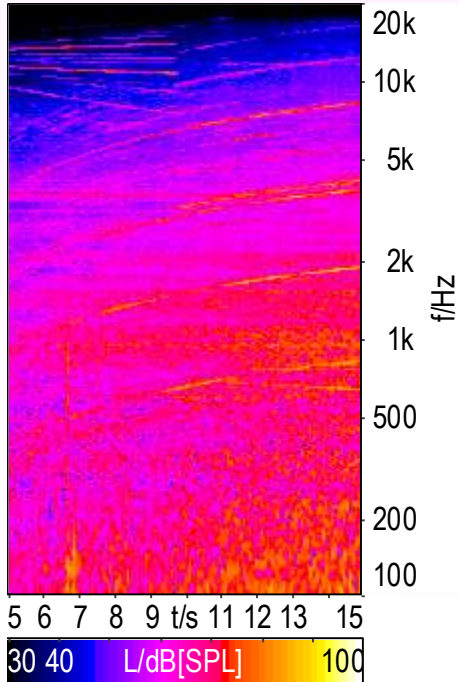
- **Motivation:**  
Investigate effect of certain measures without measurement uncertainties
- **Advantage:**  
Useable in subjective tests, calculation of any acoustic parameter, audible forecasts possible (of virtual modifications (e.g. warning signals))



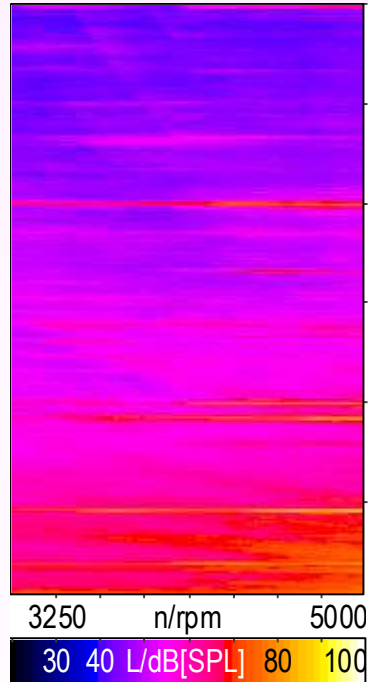
# Data flow of the traffic noise synthesizer



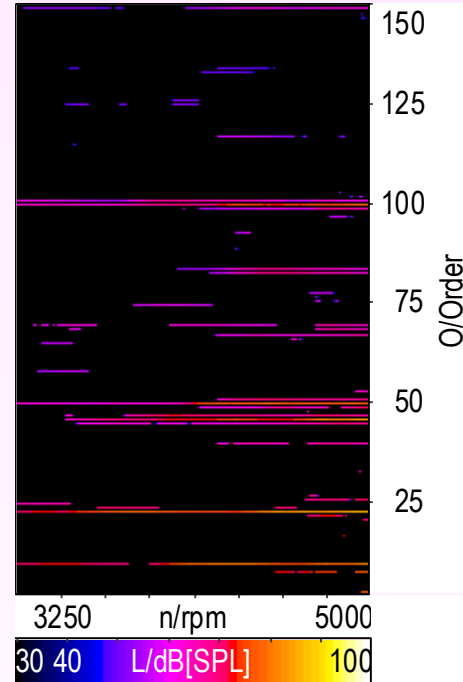
# Example of Synthesis: Order analysis and synthesis



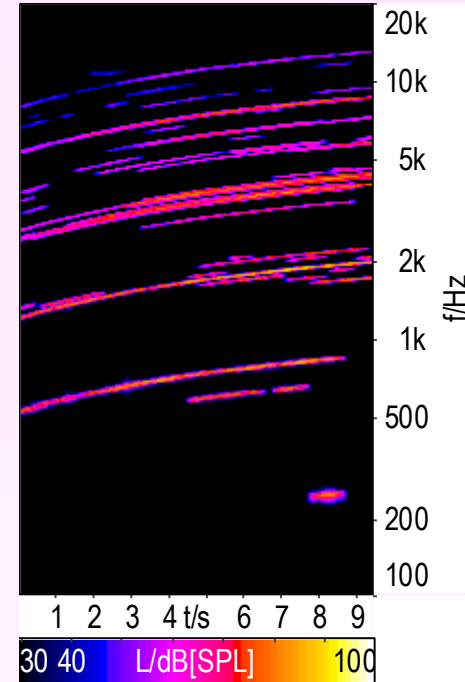
Spectrogram of a near-field engine measurement



Order analysis



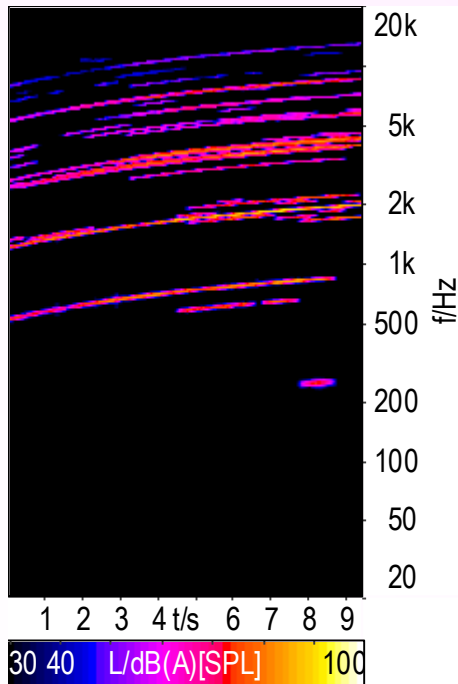
Order analysis with detected orders



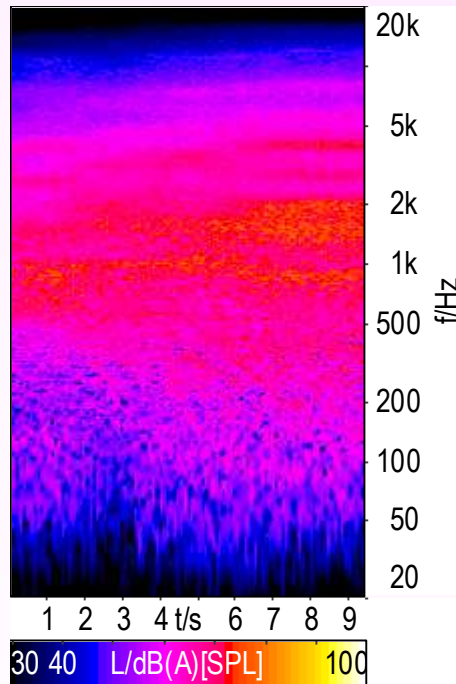
Re-synthesis of orders

# Example of Synthesis:

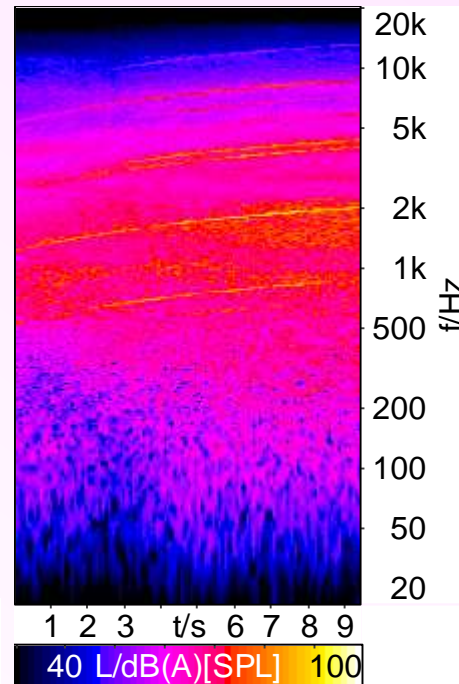
## Sound synthesis of an electric vehicle



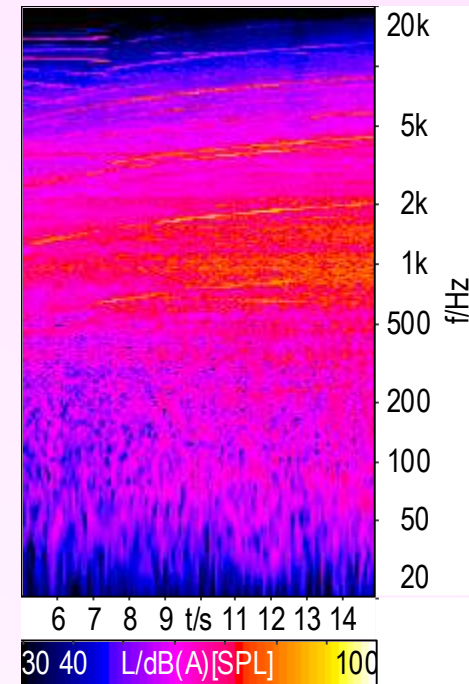
Order synthesis



Noise synthesis



Synthesis (superposition)



Near-field measurement



# Sound example: Mitsubishi iMIEV

Single pass-by sound events during full-load acceleration



iMIEV E-motor



iMIEV E-motor + tires



iMIEV E-motor + tires + converter

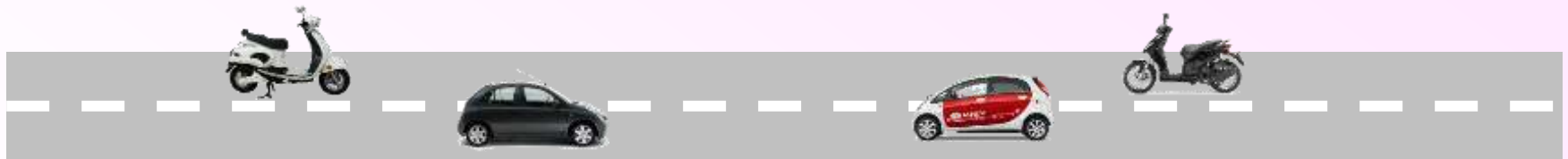


iMIEV E-motor + tires + converter + background noise



# Traffic Noise Simulation

Traffic noise of a straight road (30 km/h)  
with scooters and vehicles



Traffic noise scenario  
with conventional drives



Traffic noise scenario  
with electric drives

# Benefit of Traffic Noise Synthesizer

- Identification of most efficient noise mitigation measures and actions, which can be virtually experienced
- Efficiency of measures can be assessed not only on the basis of a dB(A)-reduction, but also on the reduction of further relevant parameters
- Decisions for or against specific noise mitigation measures are more grounded

**Thank you for your attention!**



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