

# Introduction to OBSI Measurement

ONE  
WAY  
→

STOP



OBSI Workshop  
TRB 89<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting

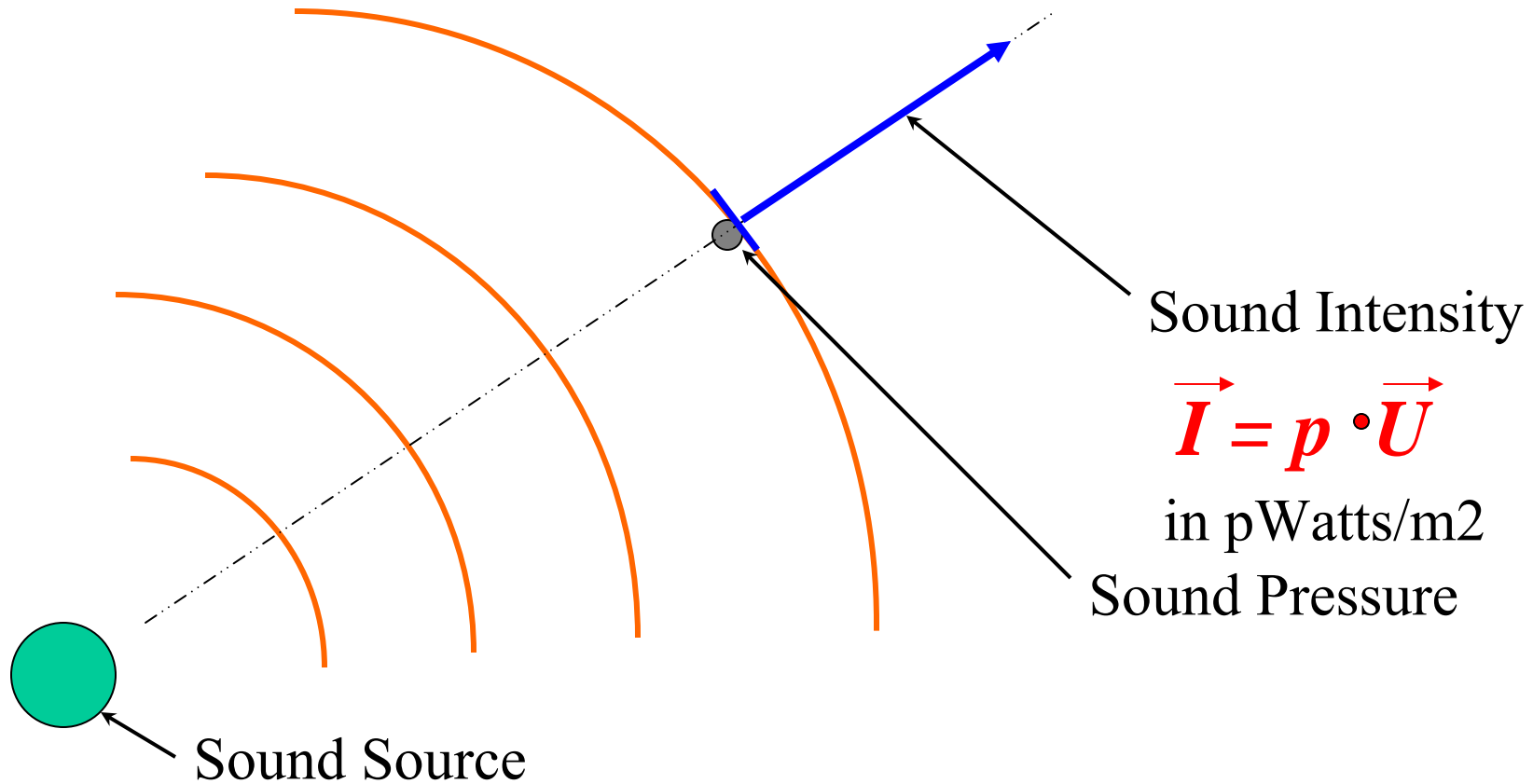
Paul R. Donovan  
Illingworth & Rodkin, Inc.

# Topics

- Introduction to sound intensity
- Application to tire-pavement noise
- Standard methods of measurement
  - Procedure
  - Data analysis/reduction
  - Reporting

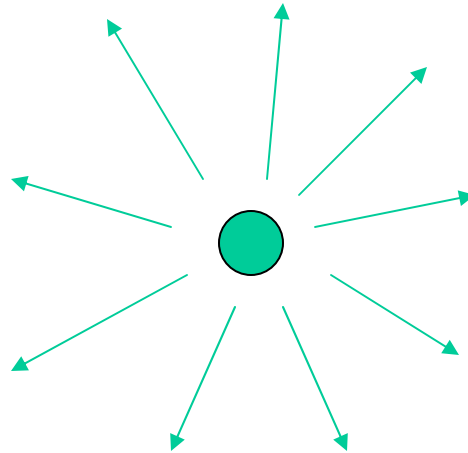
# Definition of Sound Intensity

Acoustic or Sound Intensity is the average rate of flow of energy through a unit area in a given direction relative to wave propagation.



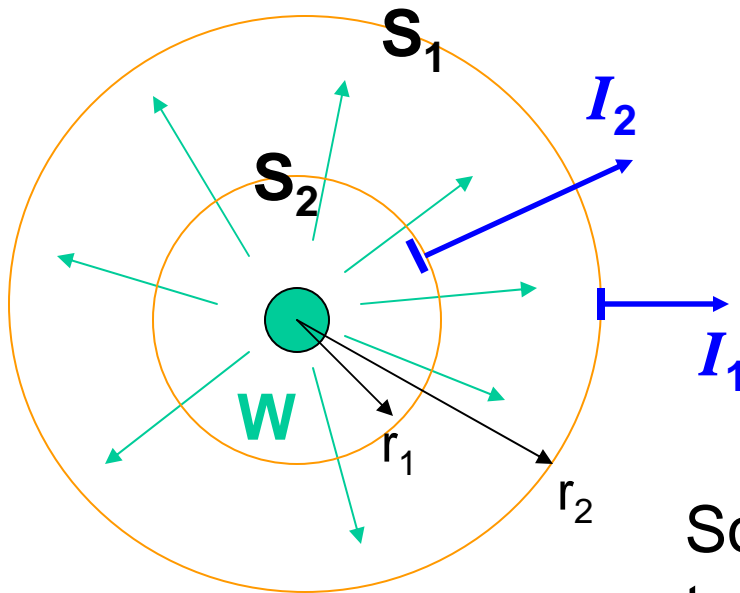
# Sound Power of a Source

The total sound power,  $W$ , of a source is the rate at which it transfers energy to the surrounding media



Sound power does not depend on the distance away from the source, but is the characteristic output of the source

# Relation of Sound Intensity to Sound Power



$$W = \int_s I_s dS$$

Sound intensity is inversely related to the size of the surface enclosing the source or from the distance away from the source ( $1/r^2$ )

Sound intensity can be used at any distance outside of the source to measure the propagating energy

# Types of Sound Fields

## Progressive (IL $\sim$ SPL)

Sound propagating freely away from a source

Typically at larger distances from a source,  $r \gg \lambda$  &  $r \gg$  size of source

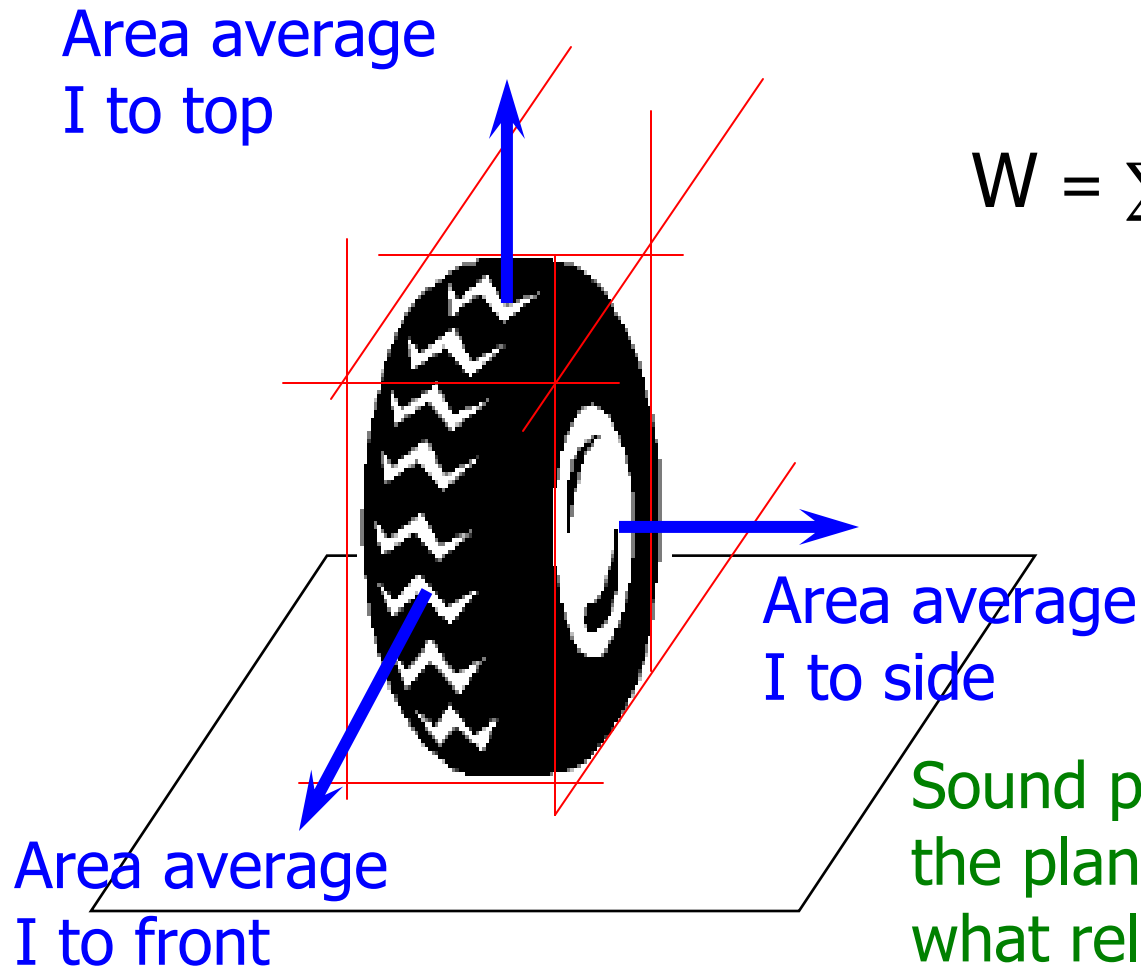
## Reactive

Sound does not propagate away from the source

Common in the acoustic "near field" of a source

**IL measures only the sound energy propagating away from the Tire!**

# Sound Power of a Tire



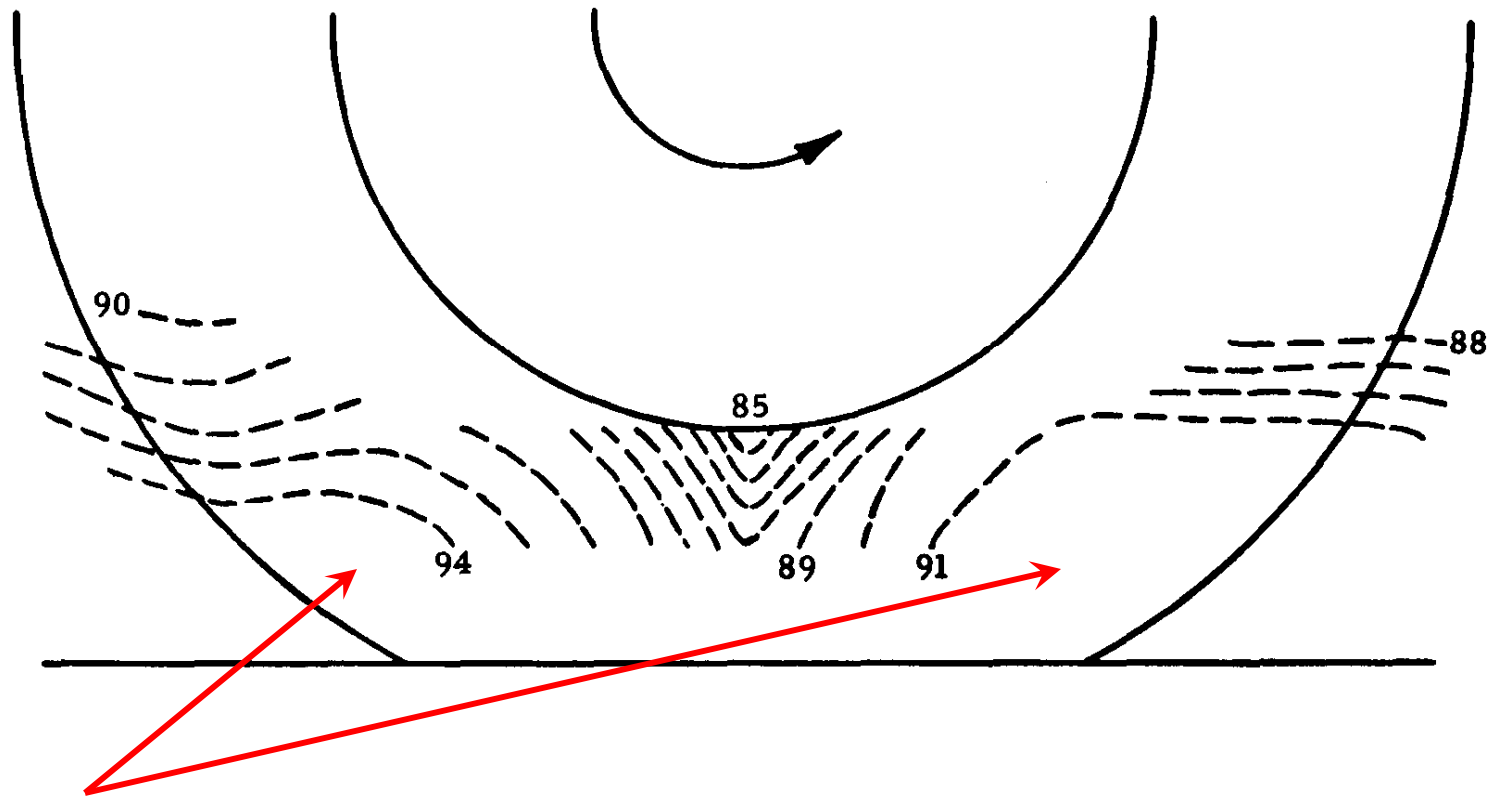
$$W = \sum (I_{\text{side}} \times A_{\text{side}}),$$
$$(I_{\text{top}} \times A_{\text{top}}),$$
$$(I_{\text{front}} \times A_{\text{front}}),$$

.....

Sound power through the plane to the side is what relates to far field SPL measured to the side of the vehicle



# Sound Power/Intensity through Side Plane

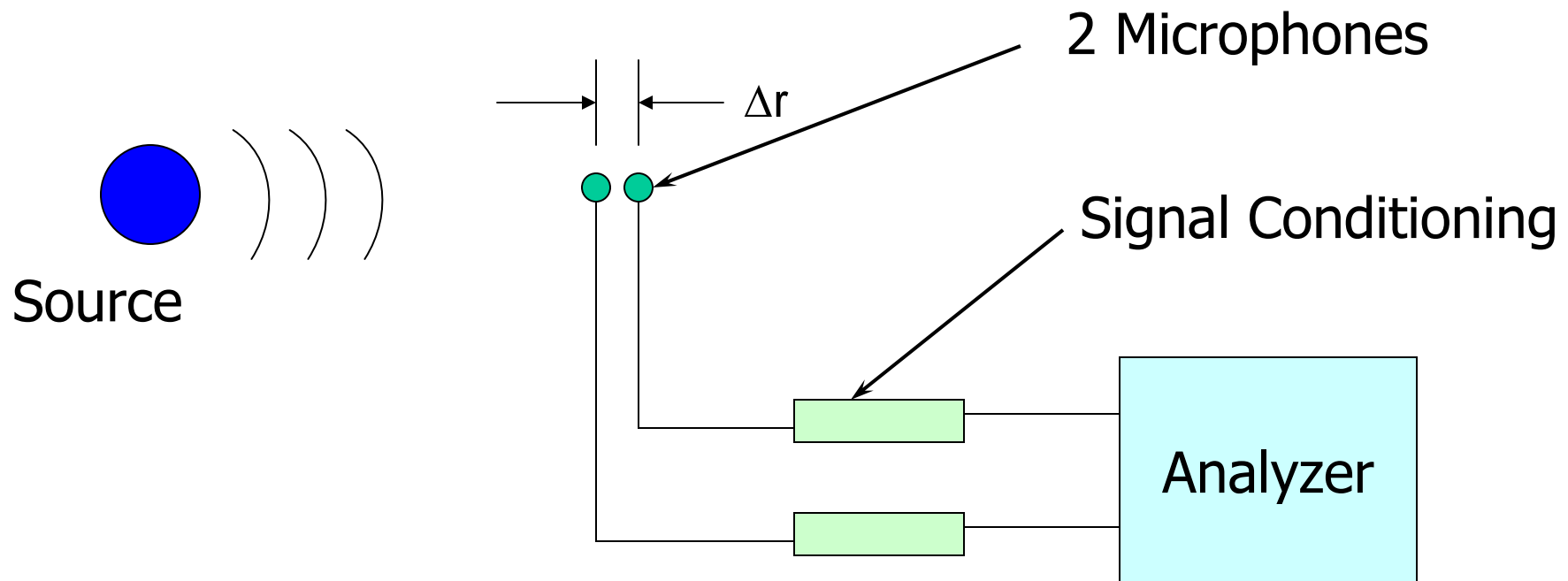


Primary source regions above ~ 500 Hz & above -  
*defines average sound intensity through plane*



# Measurement of Sound Intensity

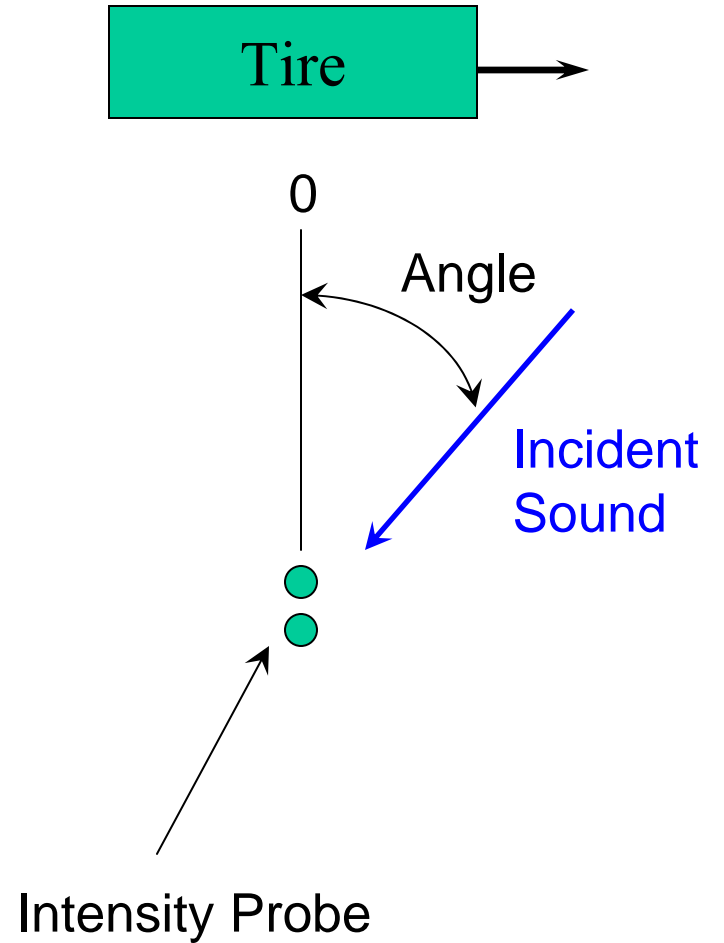
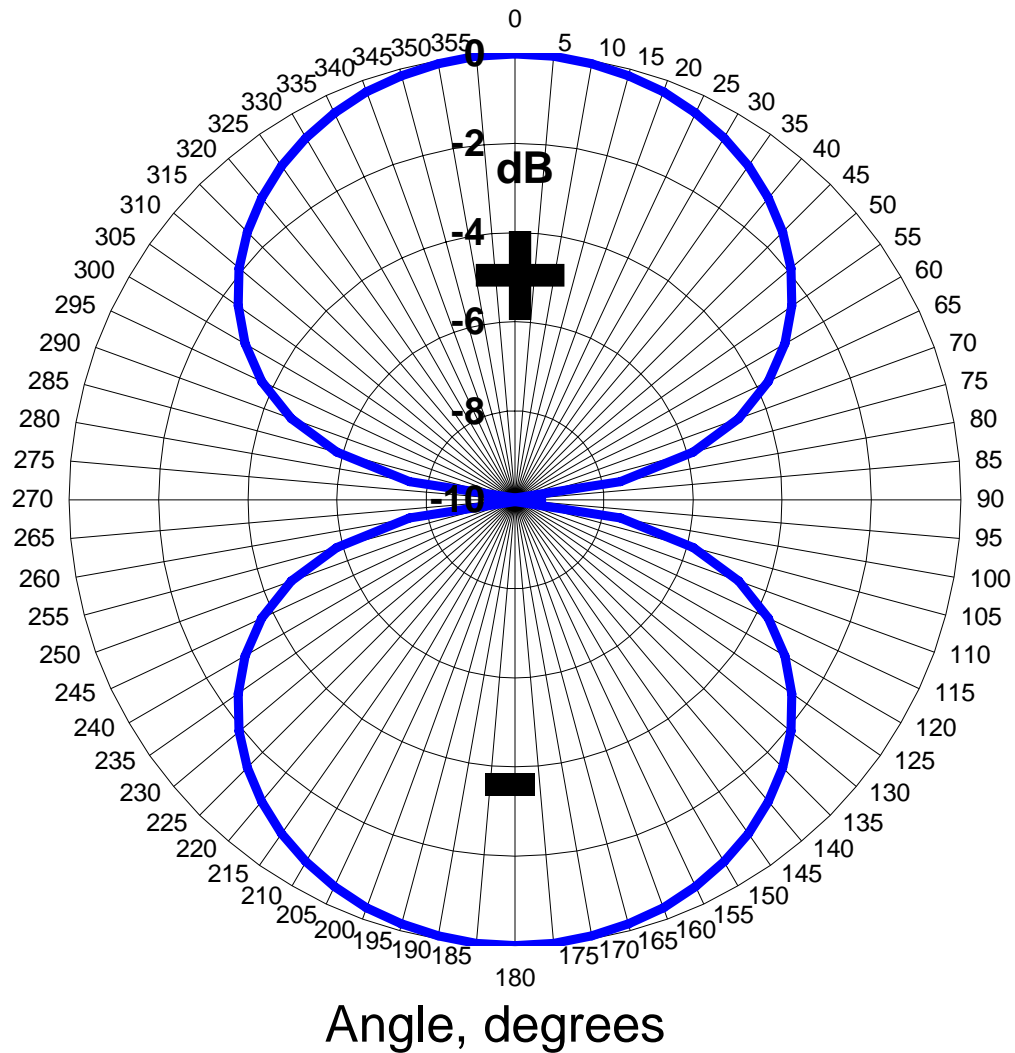
Basic measurement requirements:



Finite Difference Calculation of Sound Intensity

$$I_r \approx \langle (p_1 + p_2)/2 \cdot -(1/\rho\Delta r) \int (p_2 - p_1) dt \rangle$$

# Directivity of a Sound Intensity Probe



# Why Sound Intensity & Tire Noise?

- Measures sound energy propagating away from the tire regardless of proximity
- Can be measured very close to the tire to minimize effect of other vehicles in traffic
- Rejects wind induced noise (non-propagating energy)
- Directivity reduces influences of other vehicle noise sources: engine, exhaust, etc.
- Provides indicators of data quality

# Data Quality Indicators for OBSI Measurements

## Intensity Direction

- Direction must be positive
- Changing direction indicates wind noise contamination

## Sound Pressure - Sound Intensity Level

- Sound intensity should be equal to & no less than 5 dB below the sound pressure
- Larger differences indicates noise contamination

## Coherence

- Indicator of how related one pressure signal is to the other
- Should be close to 1 for accurate measurements

# Standardization History

- General Motors test procedure documented in 1990's
- Caltrans standard practice in early 2000's
  - Applied to quantifying pavement noise performance in in-situ
  - Expanded user community outside California
- Later 2000's
  - OBSI ETG formed – initial AASHTO procedure
  - NCHRP 1-44 on-board measurement research
  - Other standards organizations – SAE & ASTM

# AASHTO Procedure

- Need identified in Sept 2004 at TPN Workshop
- ETG formed & working draft in 2005
- 1<sup>st</sup> draft in 2006
- 2<sup>nd</sup> revision to be submitted in 2010

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**Standard Method of Test for**

**Measurement of Tire/Pavement  
Noise Using the On-Board Sour  
Intensity (OBSI) Method**

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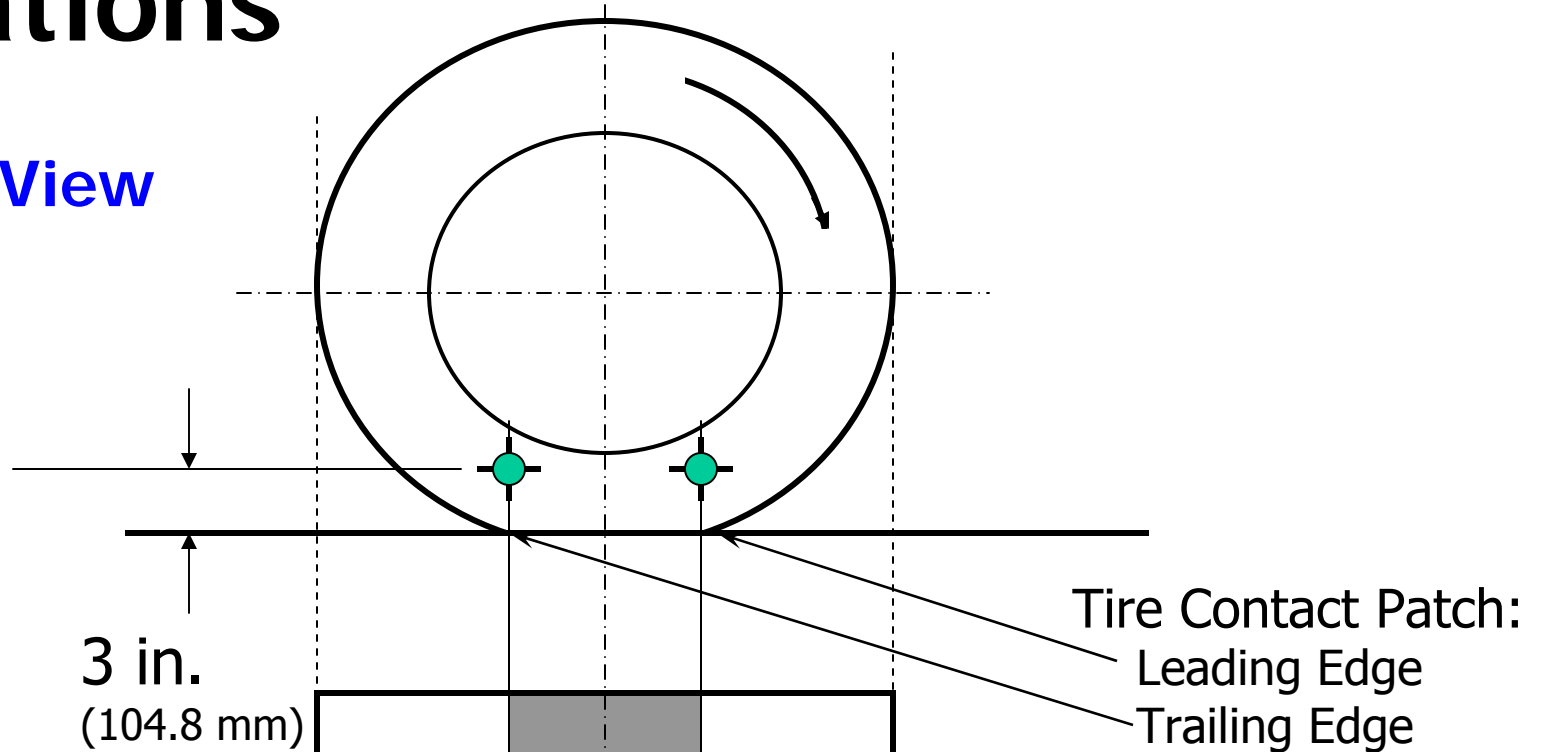
AASHTO Designation: TP 76-10 (proposed)



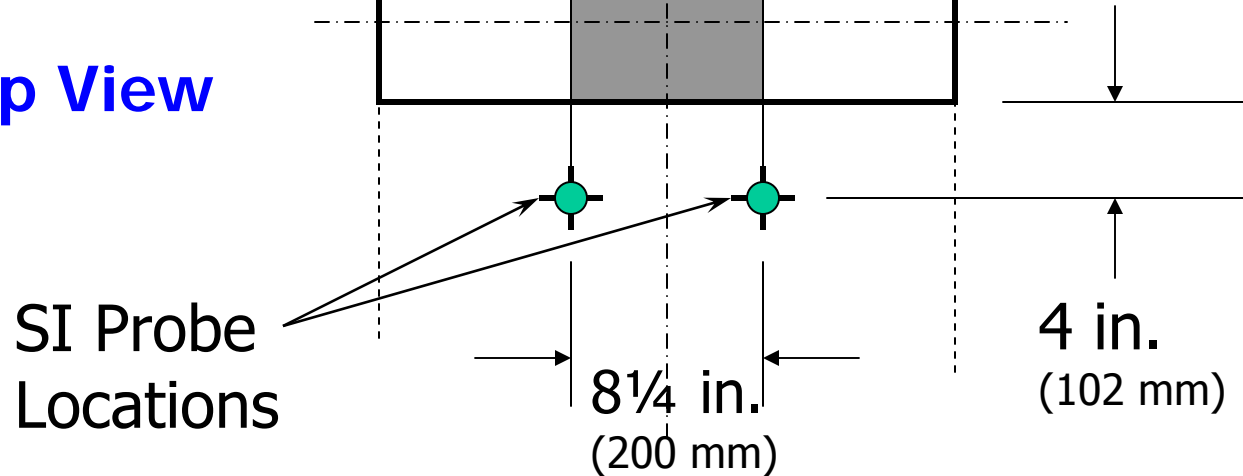
American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials  
444 North Capitol Street N.W., Suite 249  
Washington, D.C. 20001

# Standardized Measurement Locations

Side View

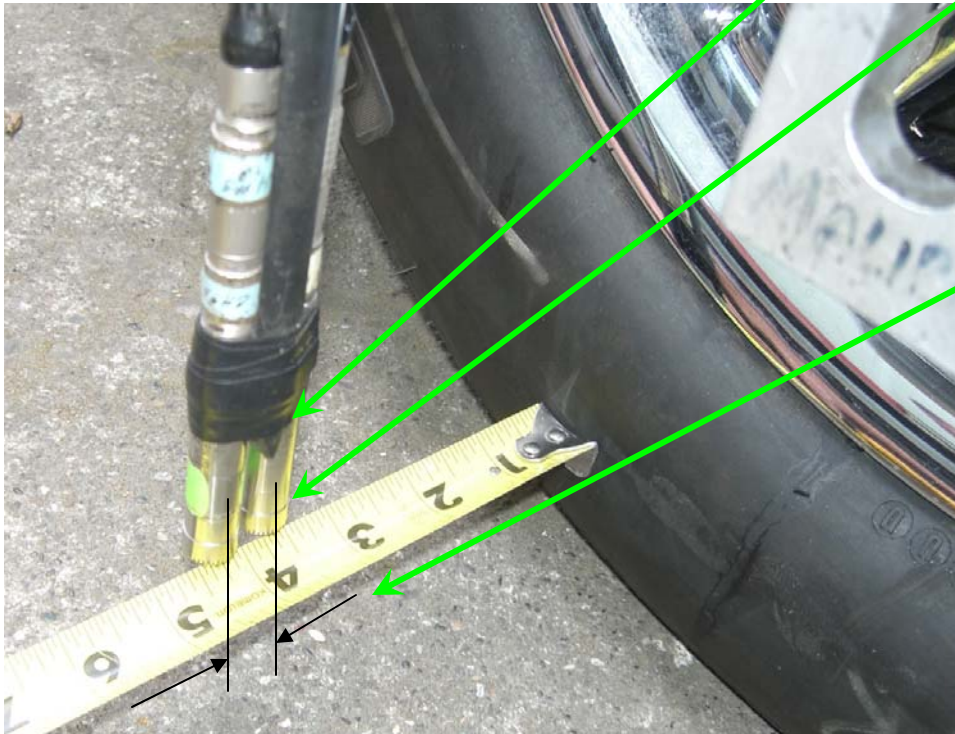


Top View





# OBSI Probe Definition

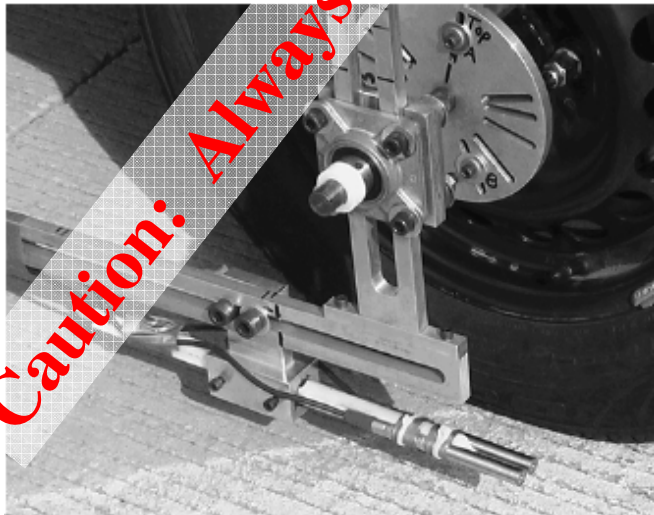


- 2 microphone pre-amplifiers ( $1/2''$ )
- 2 Class 1 phase matched microphones ( $1/2''$ )
- Spaced  $0.63''$  ( $16\text{mm}$ ) apart mic center-to-center
- 1 microphone windscreen,  $3.3''$  to  $3.6''$  diameter (not shown)

# Probe Implementation



**Caution: Always Use a Windscreen**



## Dual Probe:

- 1 pass/run
- Energy average probes
- Numerical average of multiple runs

## Single Probe:

- 2 passes/run LE & TE
- Numerical average of probes for multiple runs
- Energy average of probe averages

# Instrumentation Implementation



- 2 or 4 channel RTA meeting Class 1 ANSI S1.9 SI measurement standard
- $\frac{1}{3}$  OB's per S1.11
- Acoustic calibrator (or pistonphone) meeting ANSI S1.40
- A-weighting filters of input signals
- Verified end-to-end channel phase matching

# Other Instrumentation/ Measurement Requirements

- Independent vehicle speed measurement
- Tire inflation pressure
- Durometer hardness Type A
- Air & pavement temperature
- Determination of barometric pressure or air density

# Effect of Environmental Conditions

## Air Density effect on SI calculation

- $I_r \approx \left\langle (p_1 + p_2)/2 \times -(1/\rho \Delta r) \int (p_2 - p_1) dt \right\rangle$
- Defined by temperature & barometric pressure
- Input per instrumentation supplier's instruction or manually apply correction



# Vehicle Operation

- Use ASTM P225/60R16 SRTT test tire
- 60 mph standard speed; otherwise 45, 35, or 25 mph if 60 mph is unsafe or unreasonable
- Measurement length is 440 ft (5.0 sec. at 60 mph; 6.7, 8.6, & 12.0 at alt speeds)
- 2 runs minimum, 3 suggested



# Other Data to Be Reported

- Time, date, & who performed the measurements
- Location of measurements & lanes tested
- Test speed(s)
- Instrumentation documentation: acoustic with cal date, speed, and meteorological
- Location of interfering objects
- Tire durometer hardness & date measured



# Current Issues

- Precision & Bias statements
  - Initial evaluation in NCHRP 1-44
  - More rigorous research underway in 1-44-1
- SRTT Issues
  - Effective acoustic life cycle of SRTT
  - Combined tire/vehicle/load variation
- End-to-end sound intensity calibration
- Correlation between users