

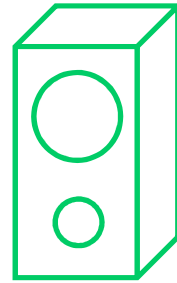
# Stereo



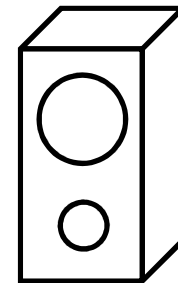
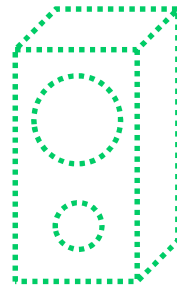
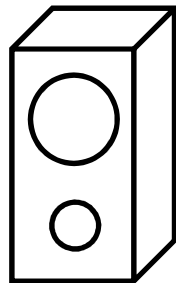
*Helmut Wittek, 2013*

Stereo

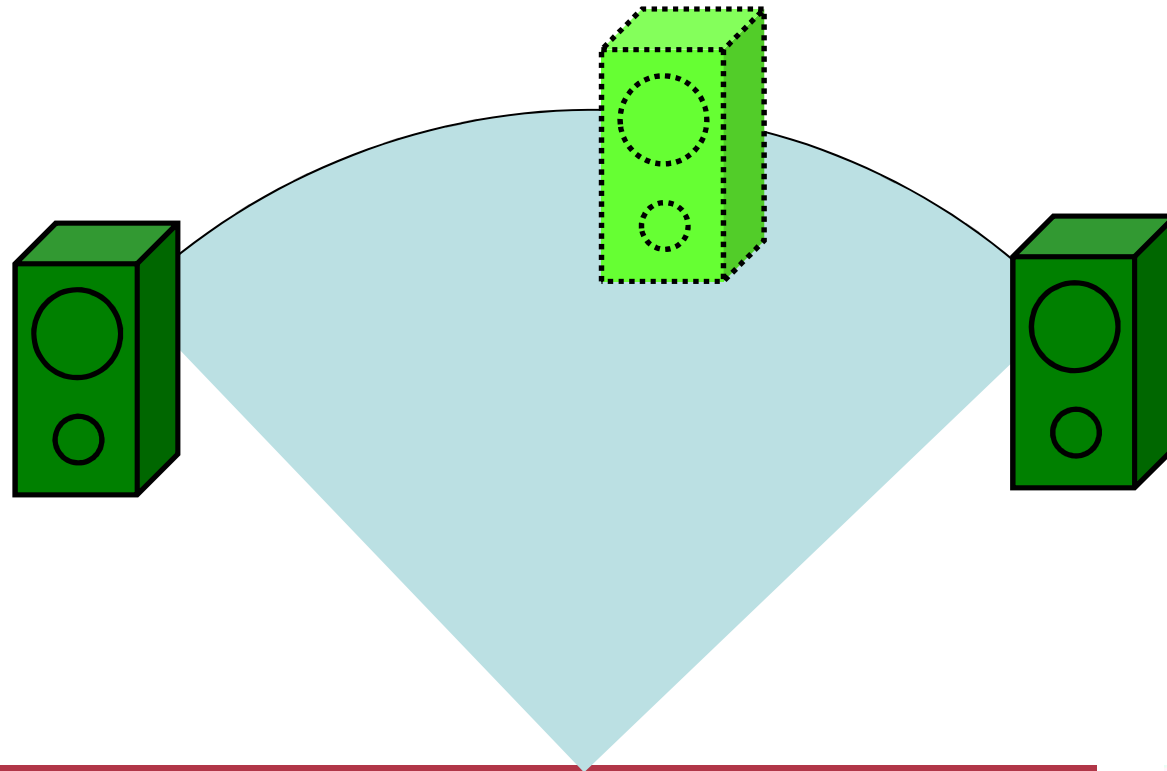
# Real source vs. phantom source



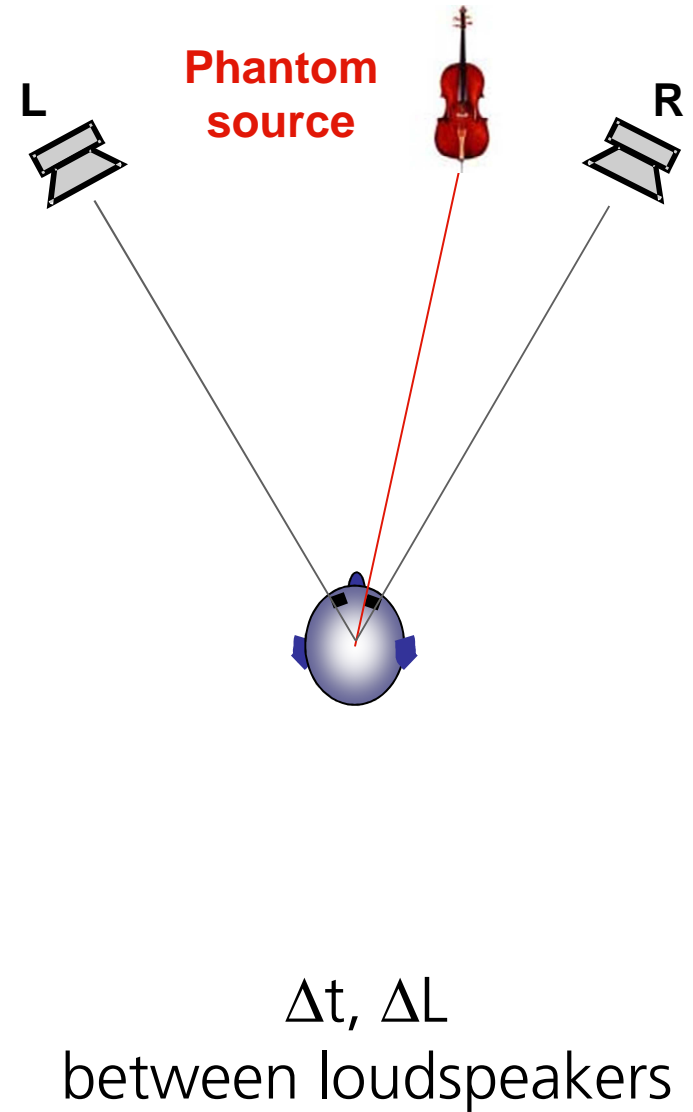
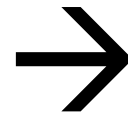
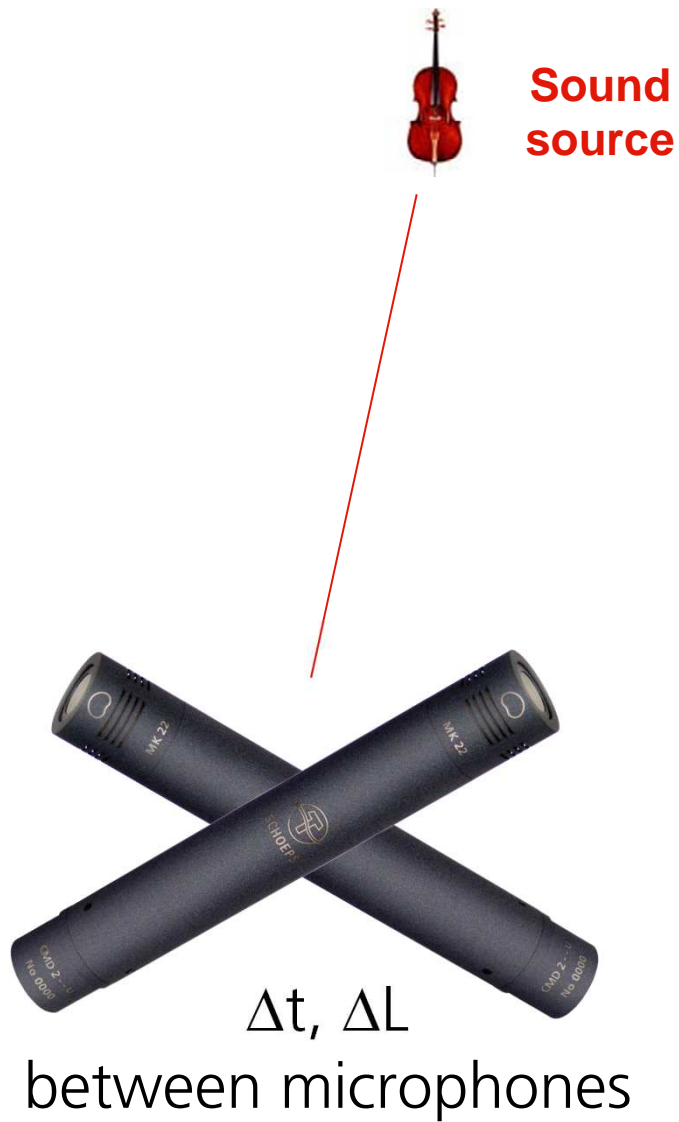
or



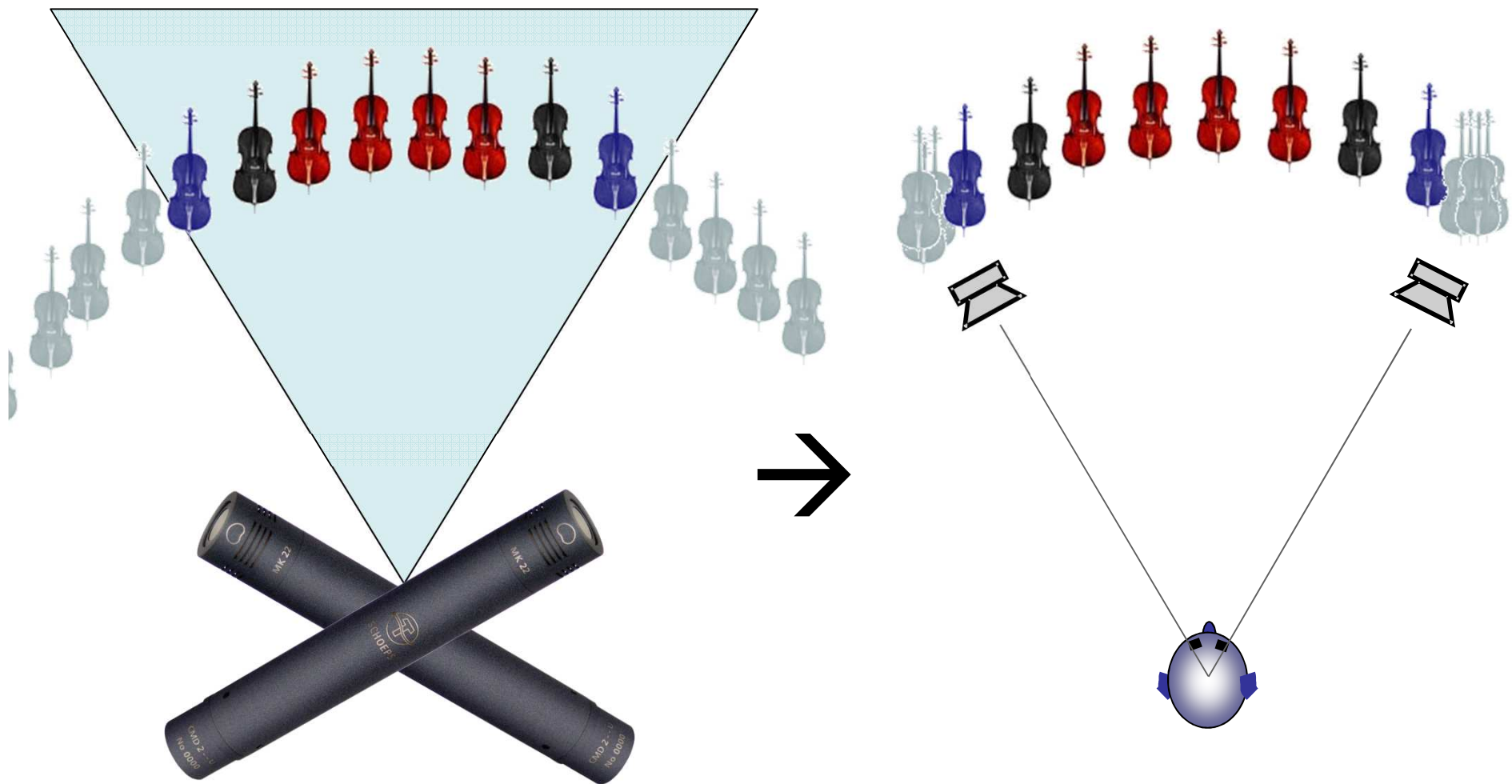
- A **phantom source** is a fictive sound source. It is perceived at a location where no actual sound source is.
- It is produced by min. two loudspeakers reproducing a **coherent** signal
- The phantom source is perceived between the loudspeakers. It is shifted towards the direction of one of the loudspeakers by **level and/or time differences**.



# Sound source → Phantom source

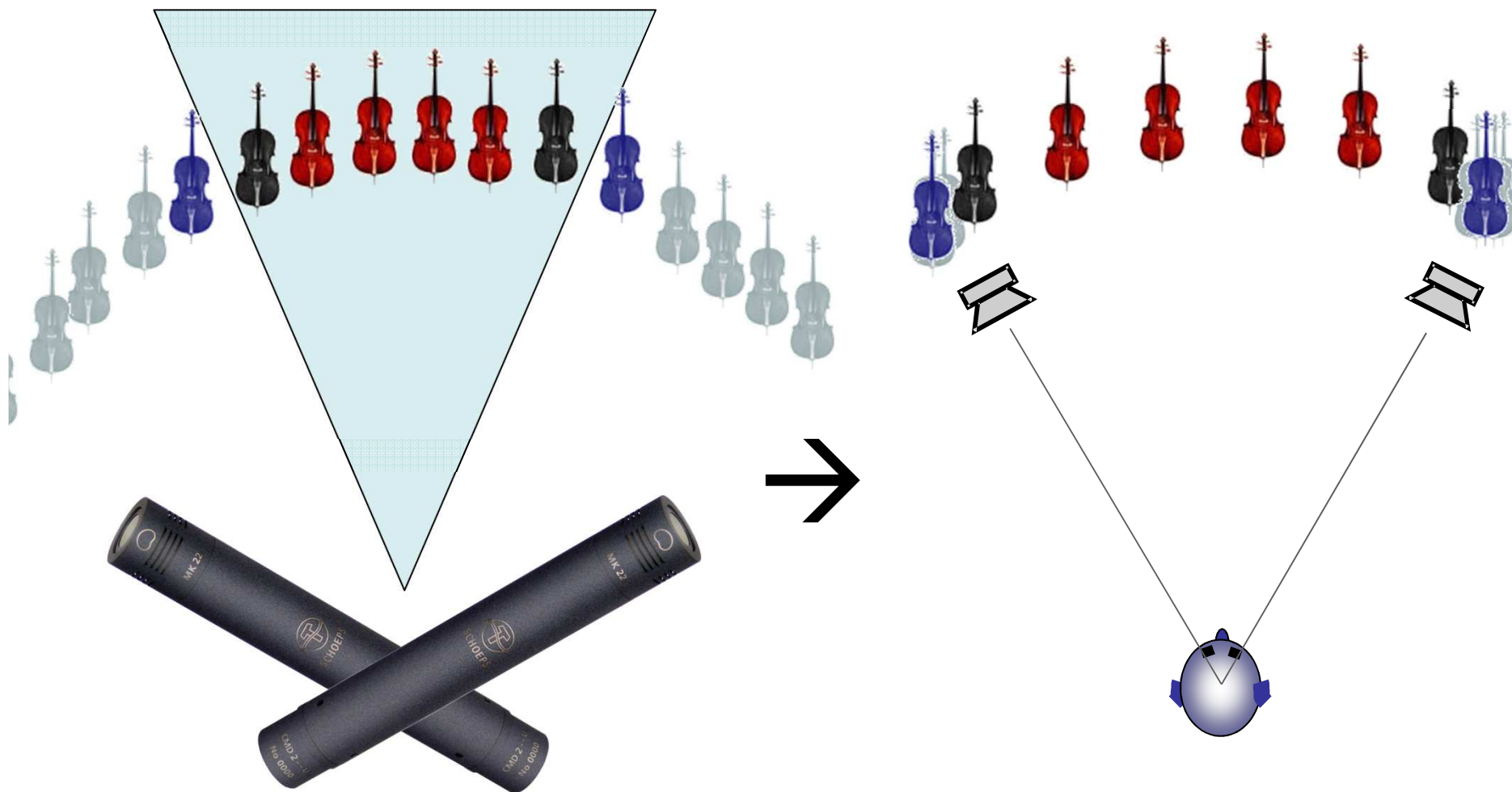


# The Recording angle



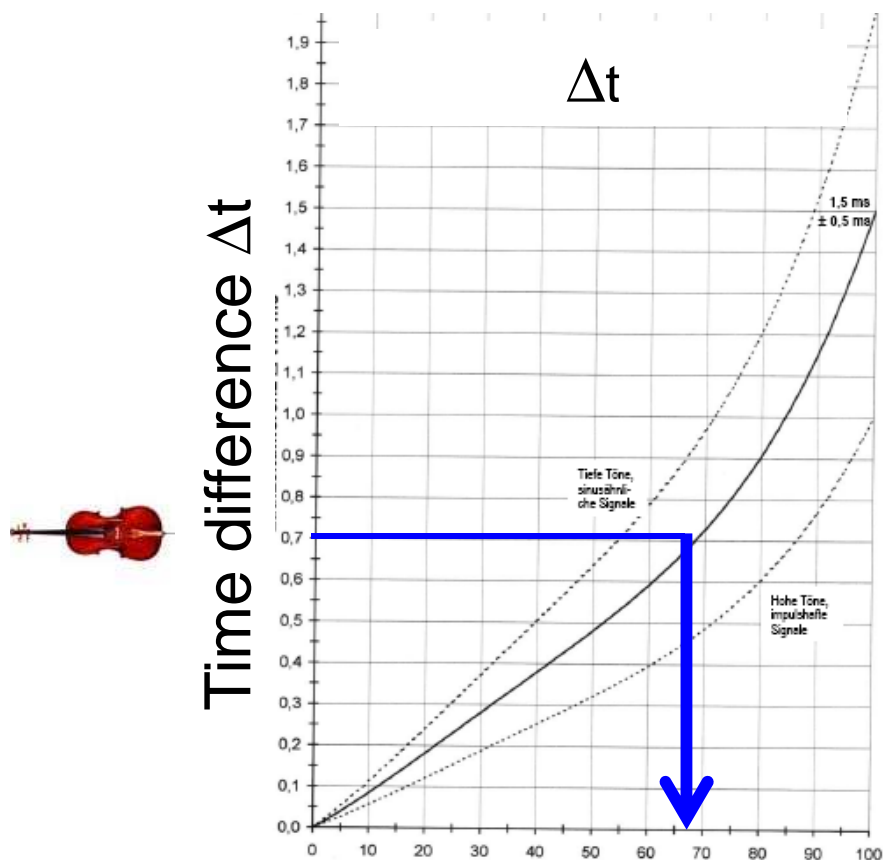
Phantom Source

# The Recording angle

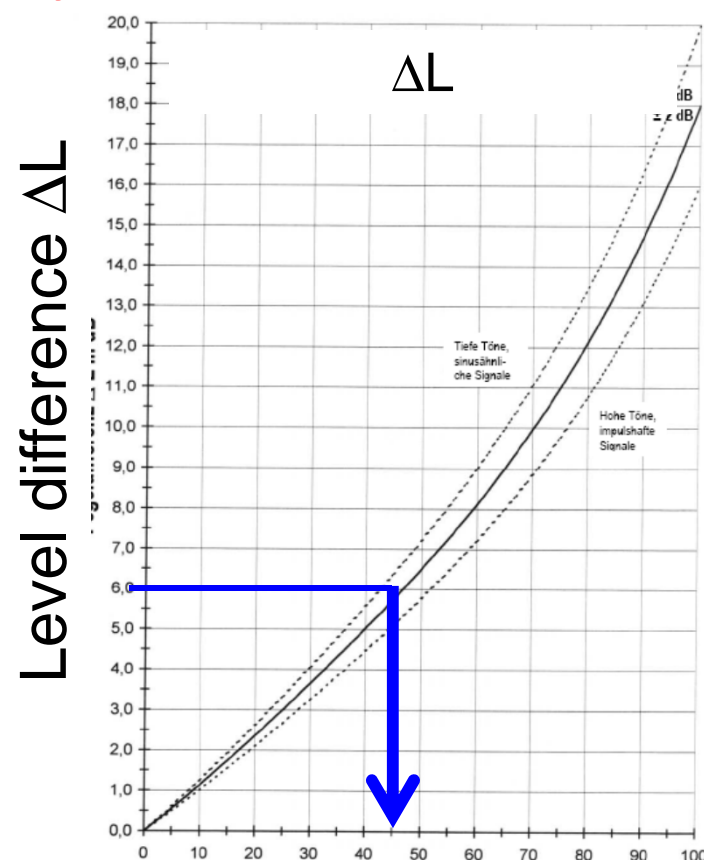


Phantom Source

## Phantom source shift by $\Delta L$ and $\Delta t$



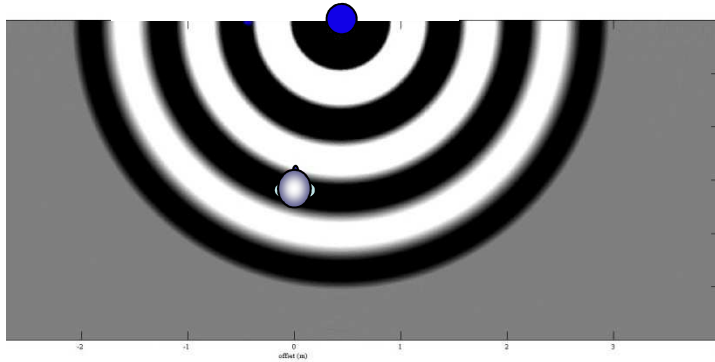
Loudspeakers



Loudspeakers

LIT E.Sengpiel: [www.sengpielaudio.com](http://www.sengpielaudio.com), H.Wittek: [www.hauptmikrofon.de](http://www.hauptmikrofon.de)

2.2. Phantom source shift by  $\Delta t/\Delta L$



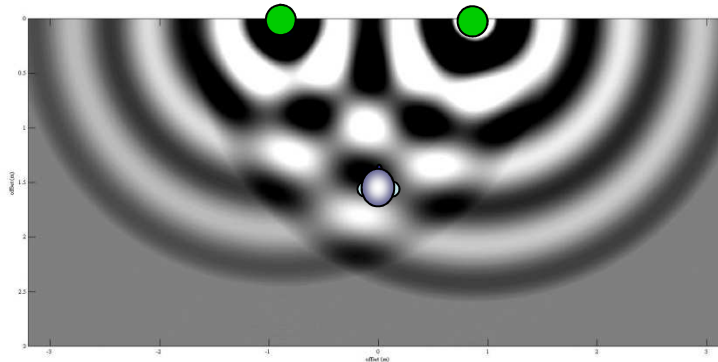
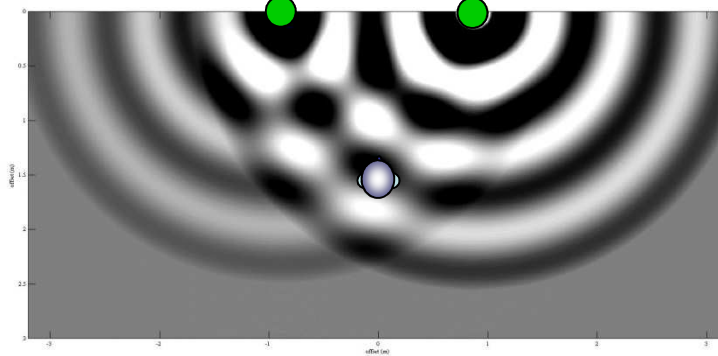
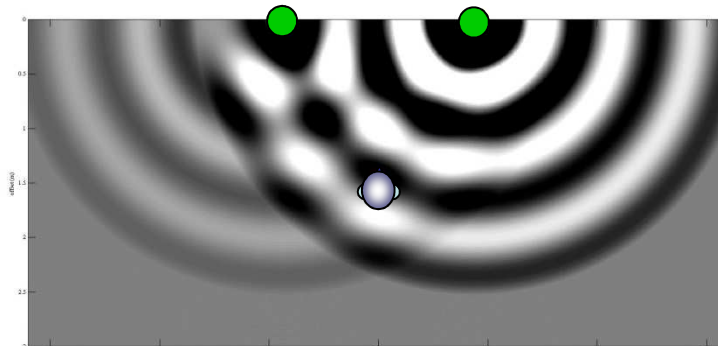
Real source, 15° right

Phantom source, 15° right:

1:  $\Delta L=7$  dB,  $\Delta t=0$  ms

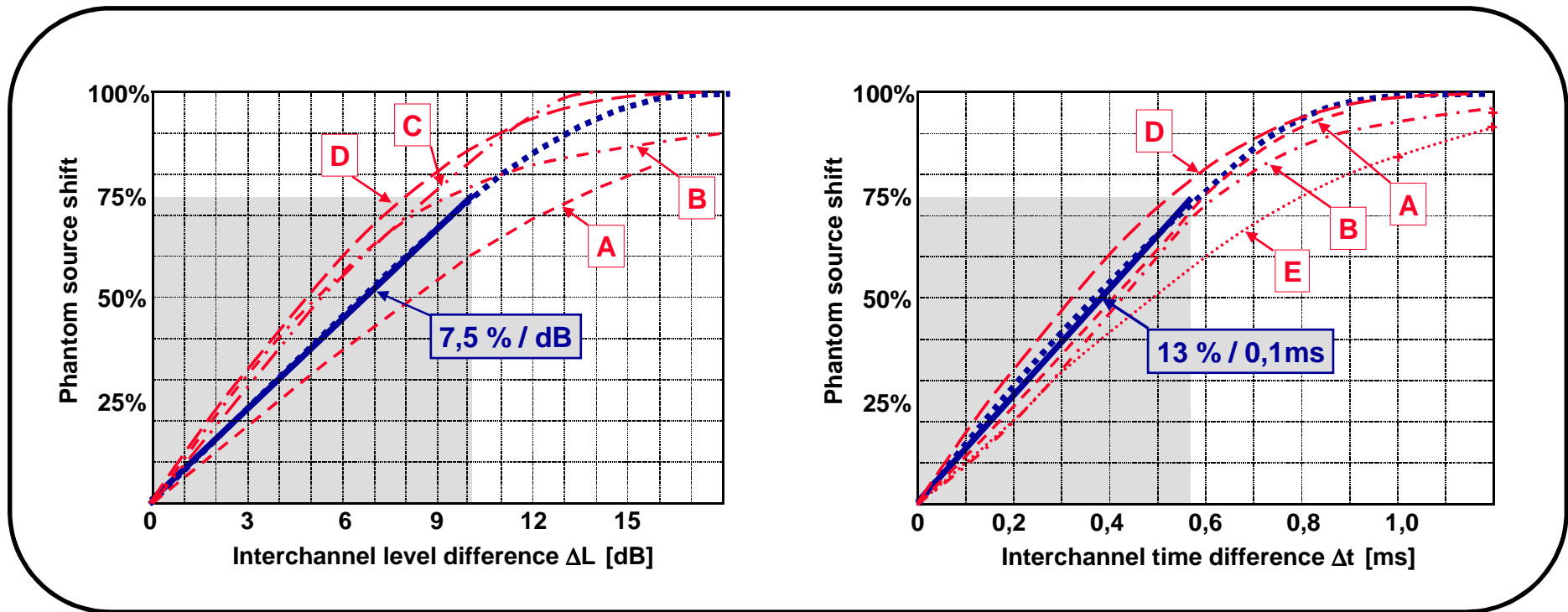
2:  $\Delta L=3.5$  dB,  $\Delta t=0.2$ ms

3:  $\Delta L=0$  dB,  $\Delta t=0.4$  ms



Phantom source





- A, B, C, D, E: different literature!

Phantom source shift by  $\Delta t/\Delta L$

### MIC - Configuration

distance: 500.0 cm

	L	C	R	
dL	*	*	*	dB
dt	*	*	*	ms

Base B: 17.0 cm

height h: cm

epsilon: 55.0 degree

Configuration: L/R: ORTF (17cm, 55°, cardioids)

Mic L: Cardioid

Mic C:

Mic R: Cardioid

### LS - Configuration

base width: 250.0 cm

Setup:

Listener: sweet spot

vertical offset: 0.0 cm

horizontal offset: 0.0 cm

Recording Angle: 102°

Recording Angle\_75%: 68°

phantom source shift in percentage

input source angle in degrees

2 Mics → 2 LS

3 Mics → 3 LS

Show Localization

LR

Signal Relationships

Signal differences

LR

Localization:

-LR

Recording Angle

Recording Angle\_75%

Online version 2.1

© 2002/2008 by H.Witteck

- *SCHOEPS Microphone Showroom*: [www.schoeps.de/showroom](http://www.schoeps.de/showroom)  
offers an interactive comparison between various techniques and microphones...

**SCHOEPS** Microphone Showroom

now playing: Ensemble (AB)

Equipment used:  
- Stagetec Nexus preamps and converters  
- Magix Sequoia 9  
- No equalization, reverb or compression

English  
Deutsch  
Français

- *AB, Decca Tree*
  - 2-3 \* Omni (LF pickup !)
  - Distance: 0.5 .. 2 m (decorr!)
  - Most popular for orchestra recording
  - Vague directional image, open spatial image



- *ORTF, quasi-ORTF setups*
  - 2 cardioids (or var.)
  - Distance: 0.17 m, Angle: 110 ° (or var.)
  - Most popular for ensemble recording
  - Good directional image, good spatial image
  - low DFC



- *XY, MS setups*
  - 2 directional pattern or M (variable) + S (fig-8)
  - Distance: 0 m, Angle  $\geq 90^\circ$
  - Most popular for film, music, drama recording
  - Good directional image, clear spatial image
  - DFC often high, strongly depend on the setup



*UMS 20*



*UMS 20*



*M100C*



*CMXY*

Stereo microphones: XY

CCM 8 Lg oder  
CCM 8 Ug



Richtmikrofon  
CMC 64 Ug  
(Superniere)

CMC 64 + CCM 8



RCY



SGMSC (CCM4 + CCM8)

CMIT MS



MS-BLM

MS-BLM



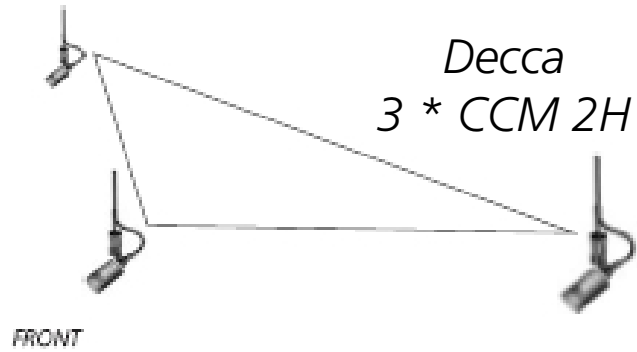
UMS 20



WSR MS



Stereo microphones: M/S



Stereo microphones: spaced setups

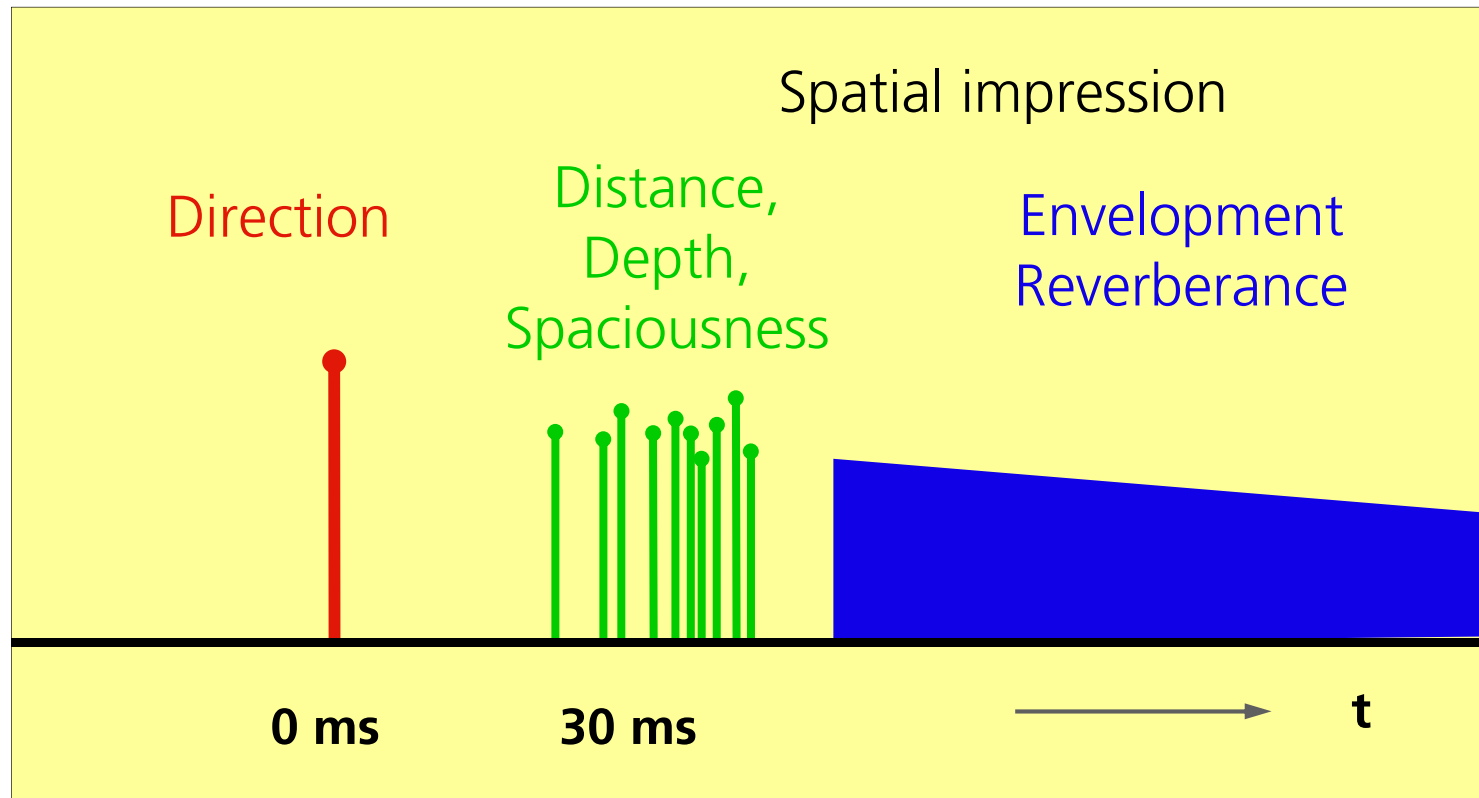


# 5.1 Surround



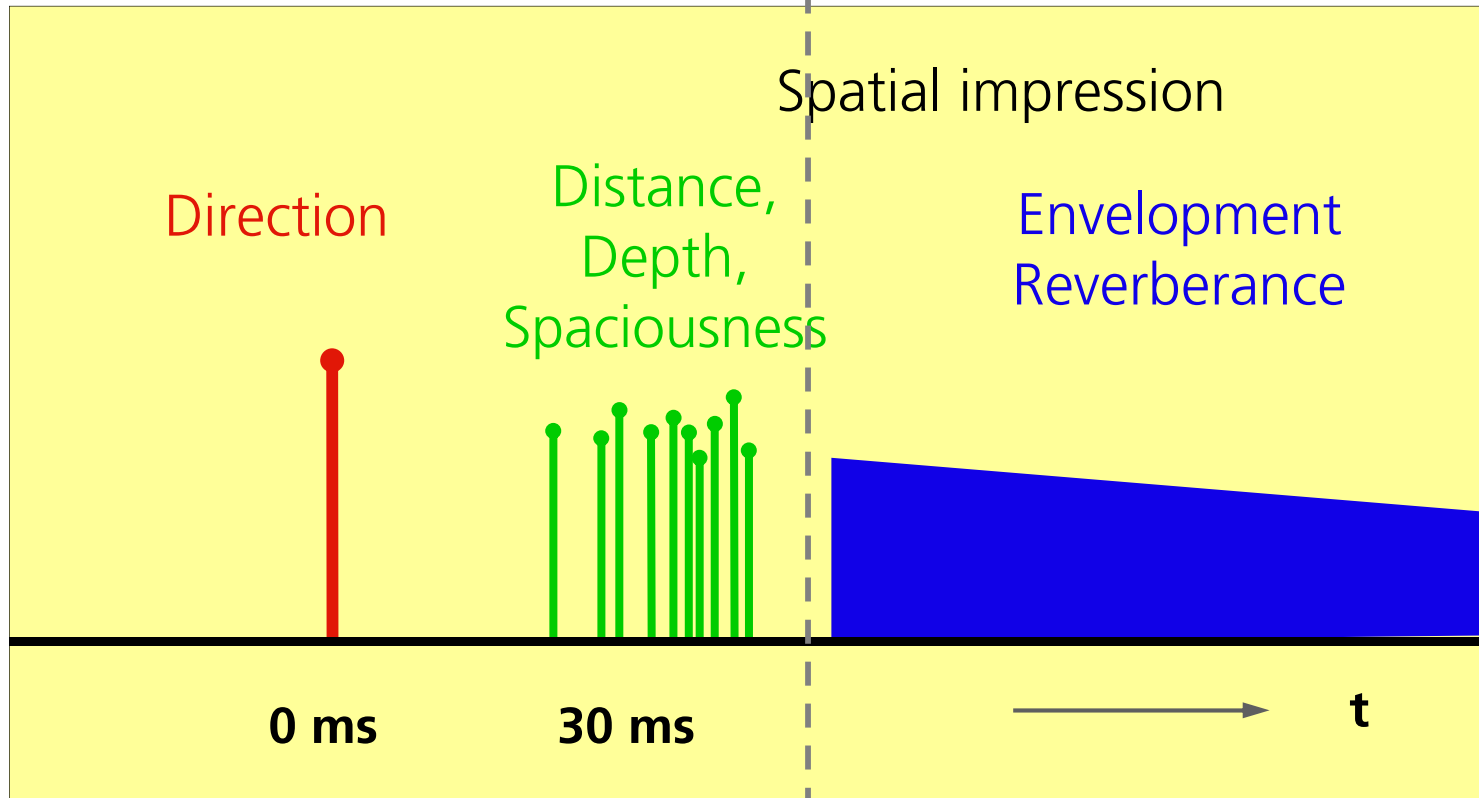
Stereo

- The reference: perception of a natural source



**Discrete** Signals:  
*Correlated at both ears*  
*From discrete directions*

**Diffuse** Signals:  
*Decorrelated at both ears*  
*From all directions*



© Theile

Spatial reproduction

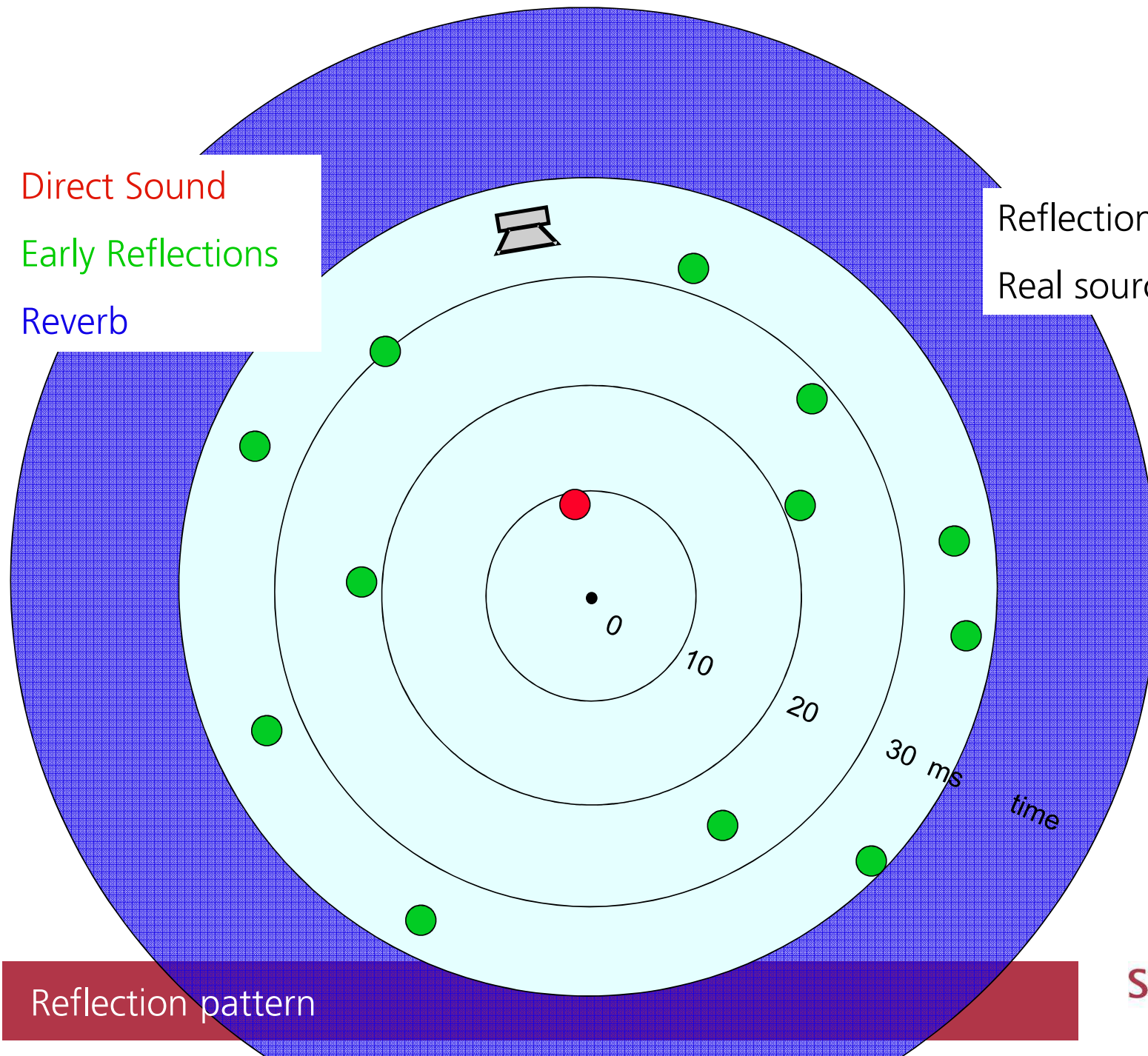
Direct Sound

Early Reflections

Reverb

Reflection pattern

Real source



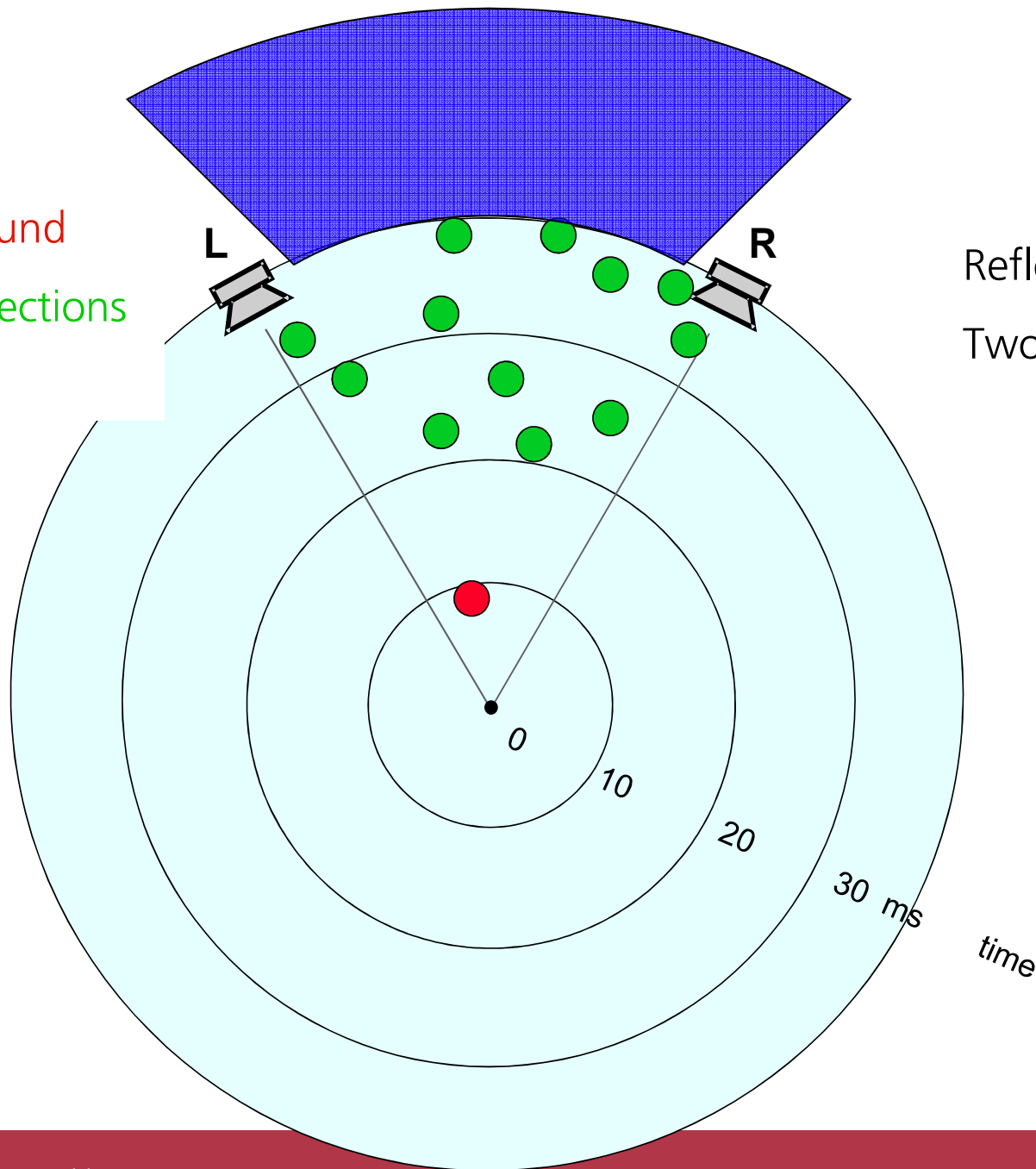
Reflection pattern

© Theile

Direct Sound

Early Reflections

Reverb



Reflection pattern

Two-channel stereo

Reflection pattern

© Theile

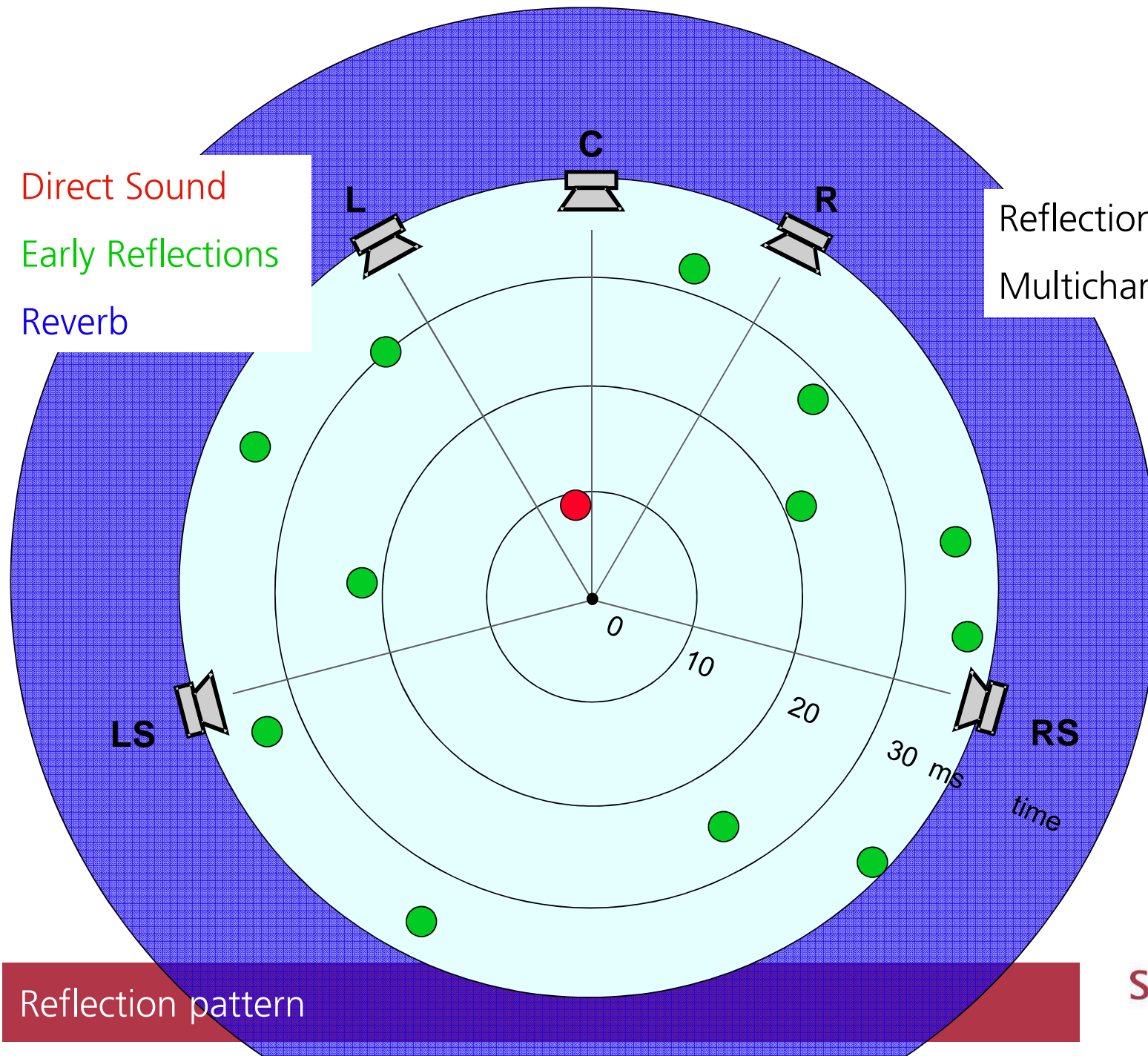
Direct Sound

Early Reflections

Reverb

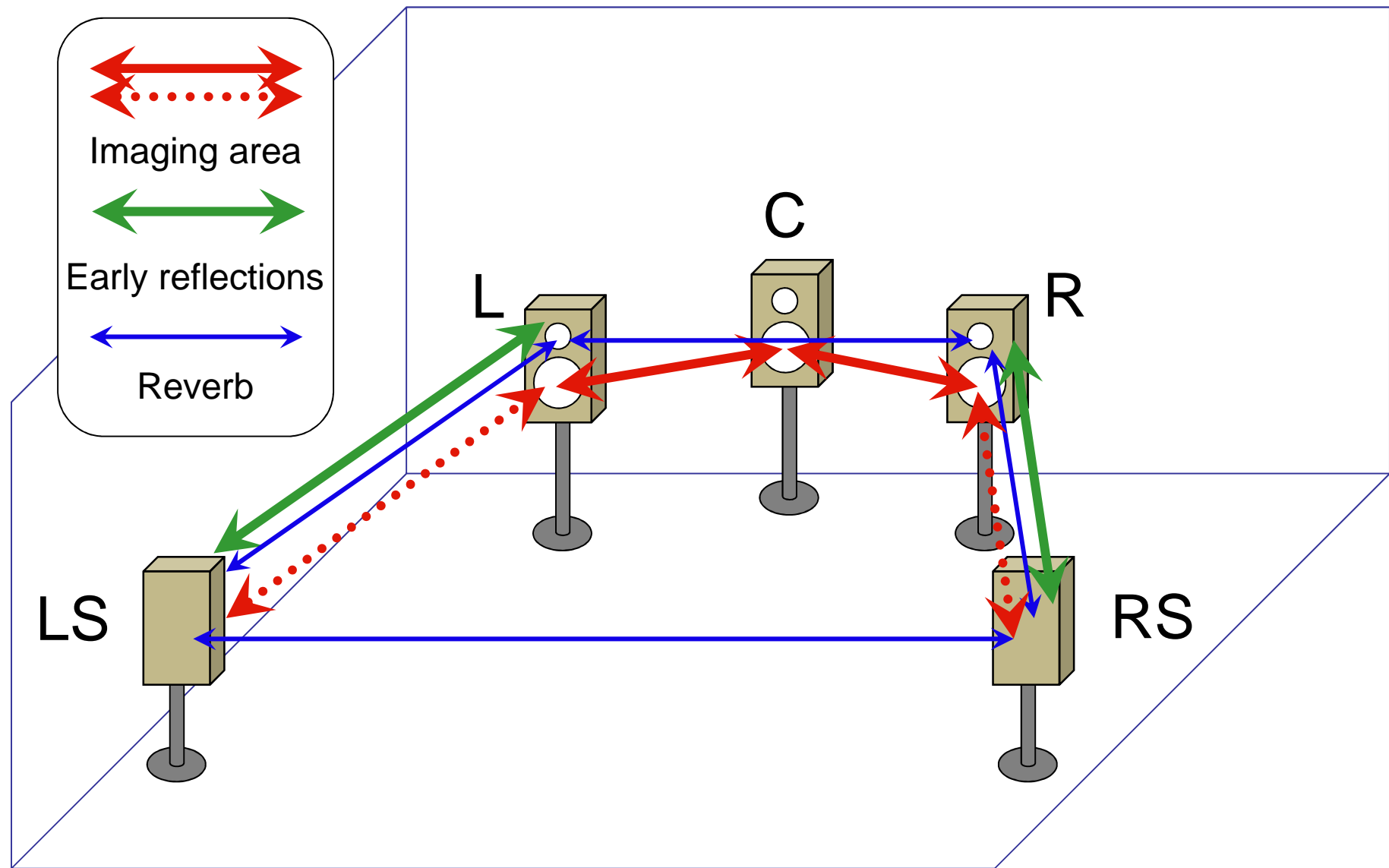
Reflection pattern

Multichannel stereo

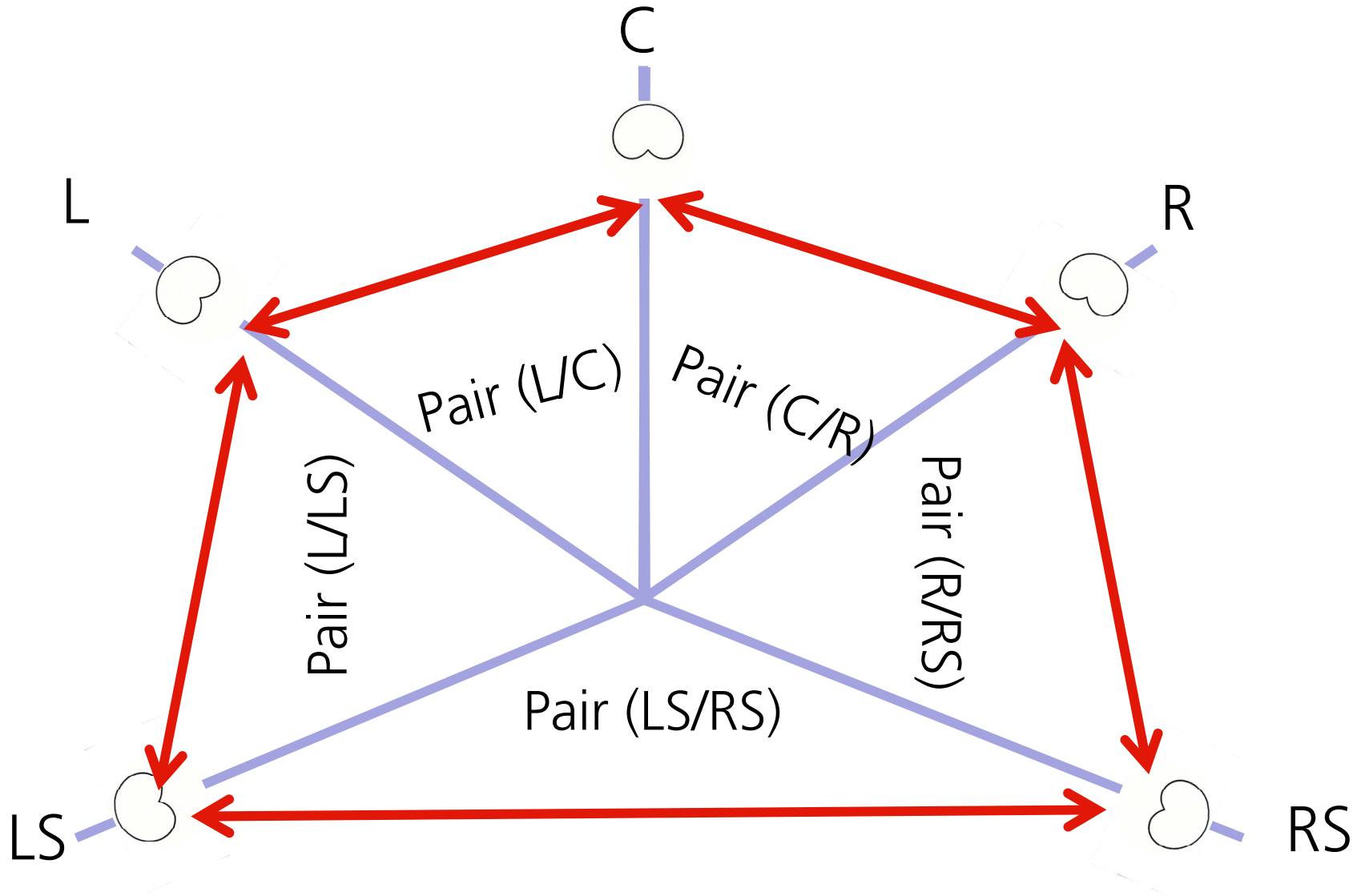


© Theile

**SCHOEPS**  
Mikrofone 



Spatial reproduction by multichannel stereophony



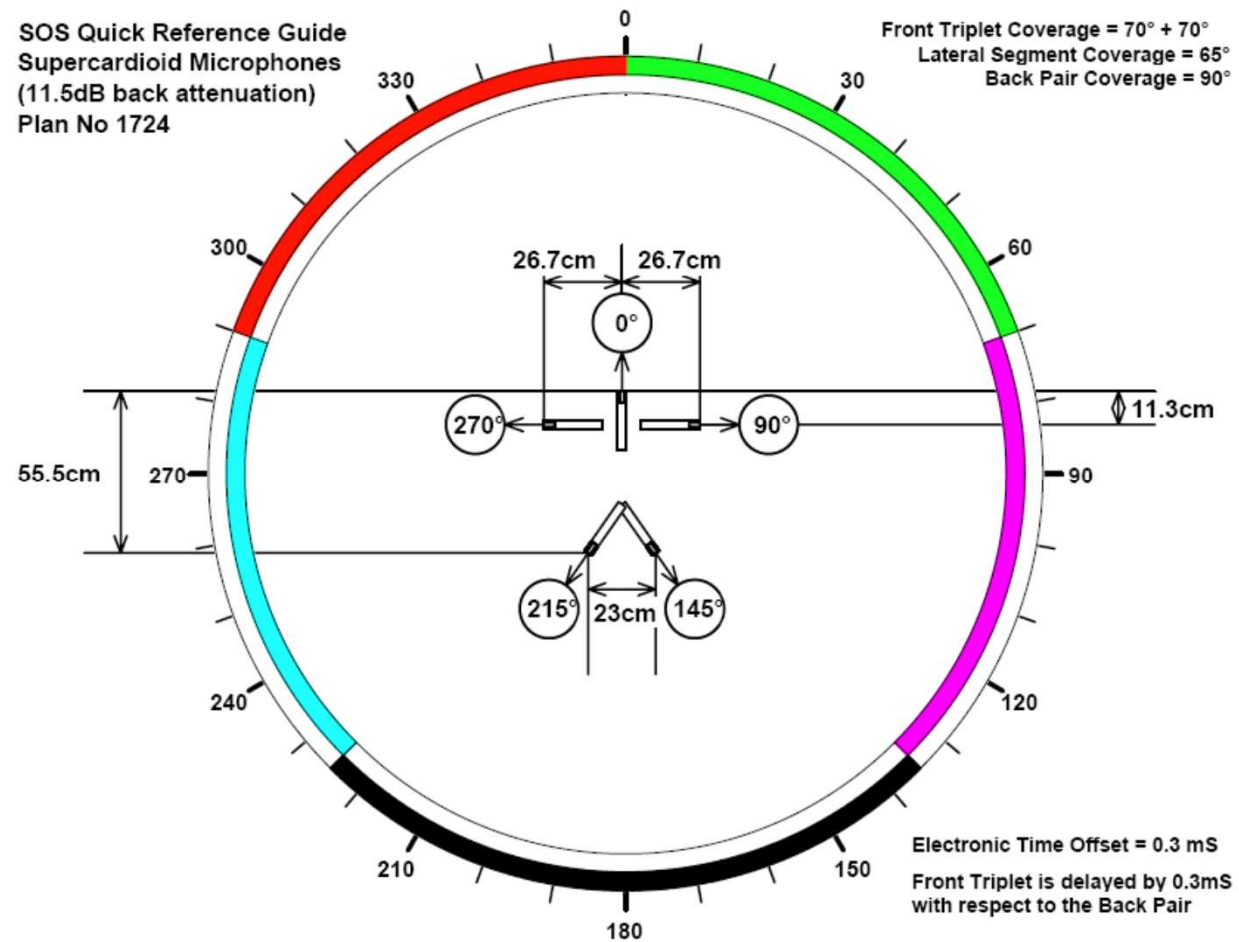
Developing a 5.1 Multichannel Microphone setup:



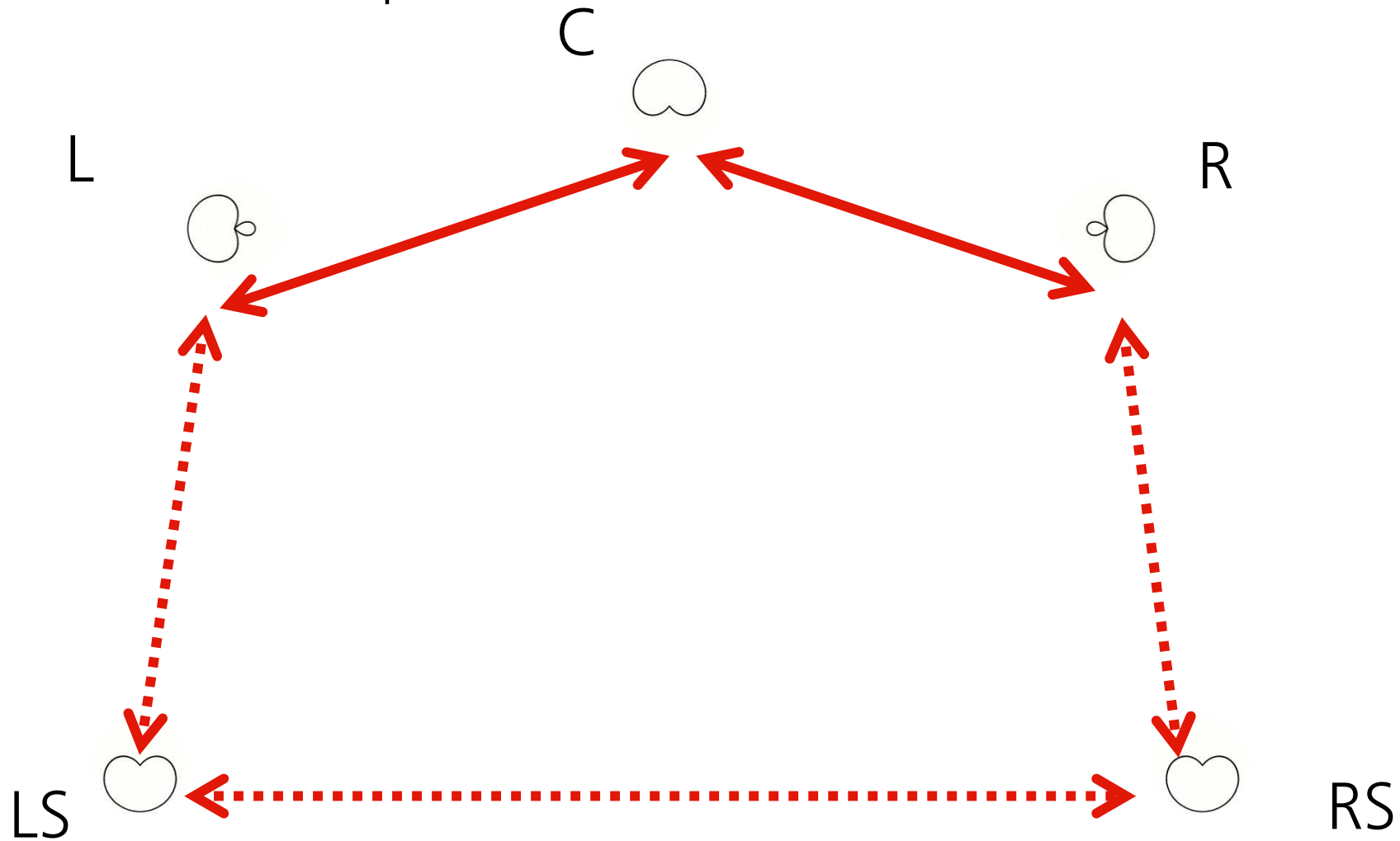
- Example: 5 cardioid (CCM 4) setup with windscreens:



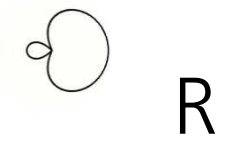
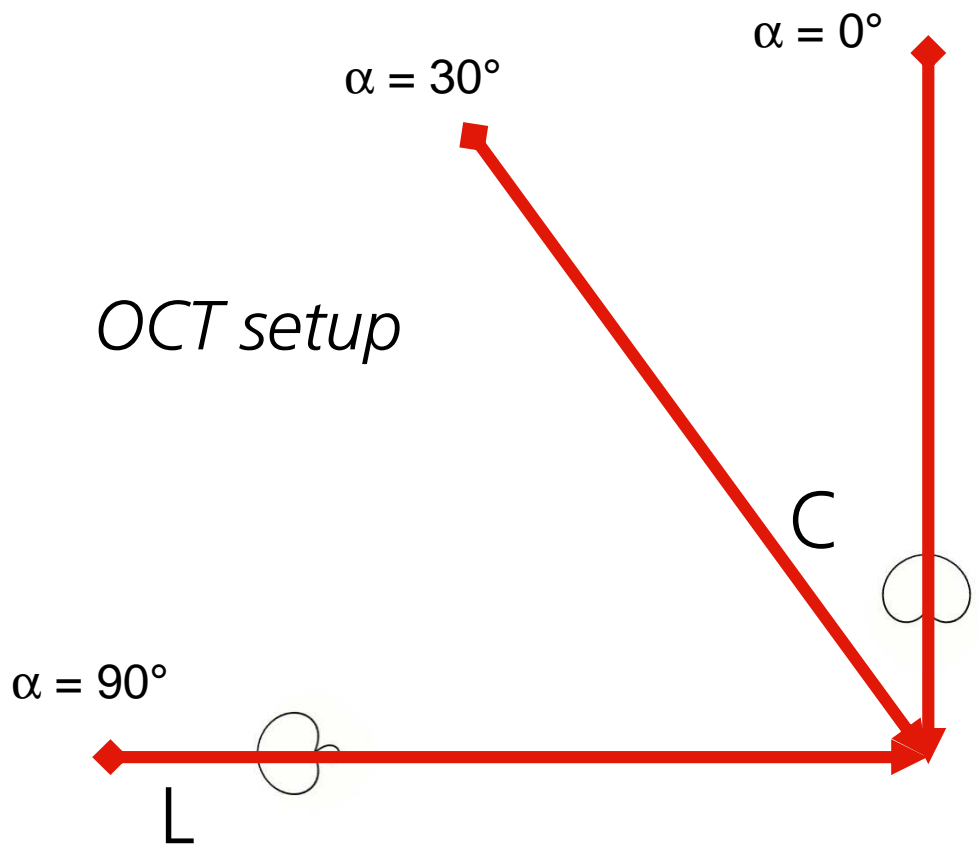
- Calculation of Surround arrays:
- M.Williams: **MMAD**, MAGIC arrays, Critical Linking  
<http://www.mmad.info>



# OCT Technique:

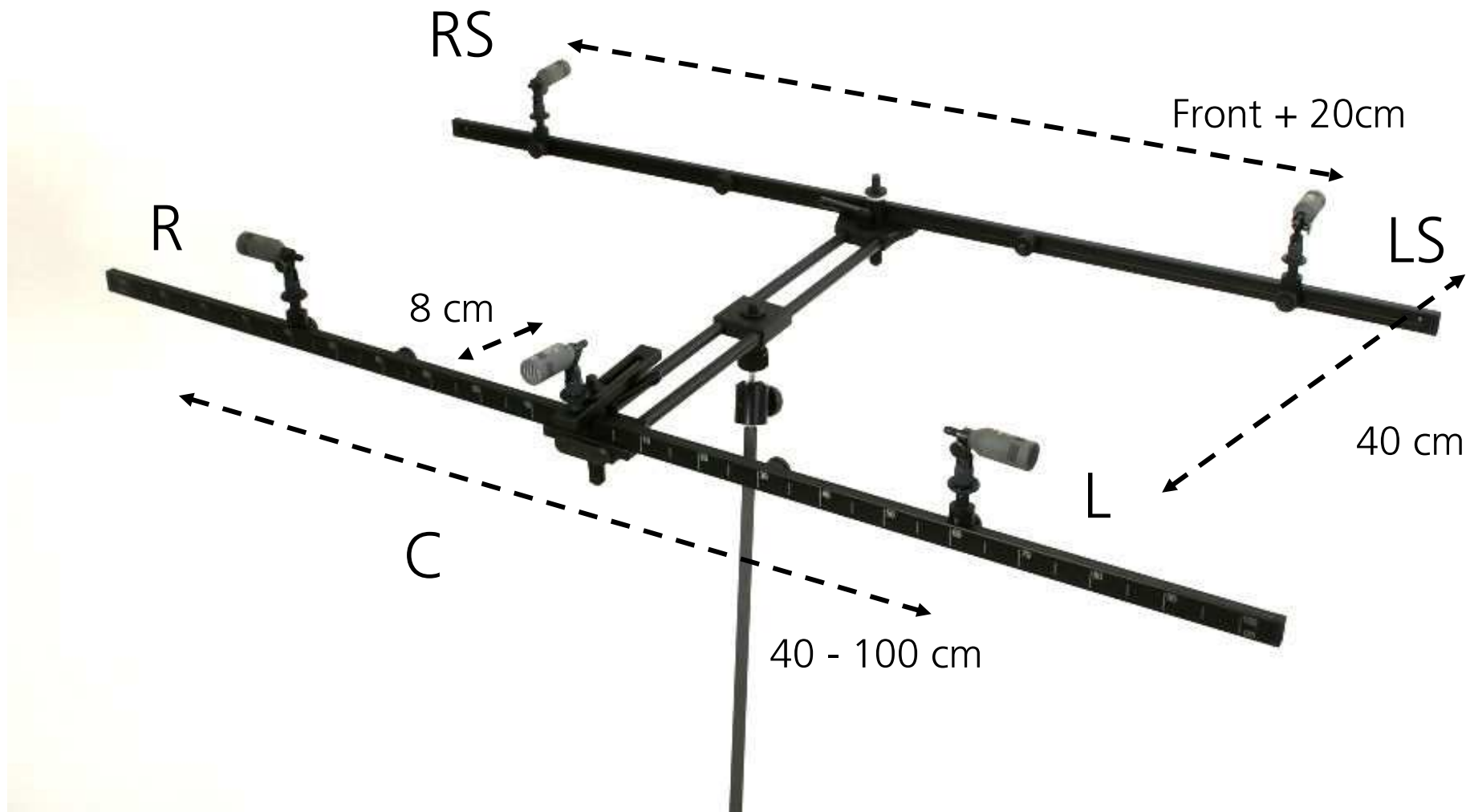


Developing a 5.1 Multichannel Microphone setup: OCT



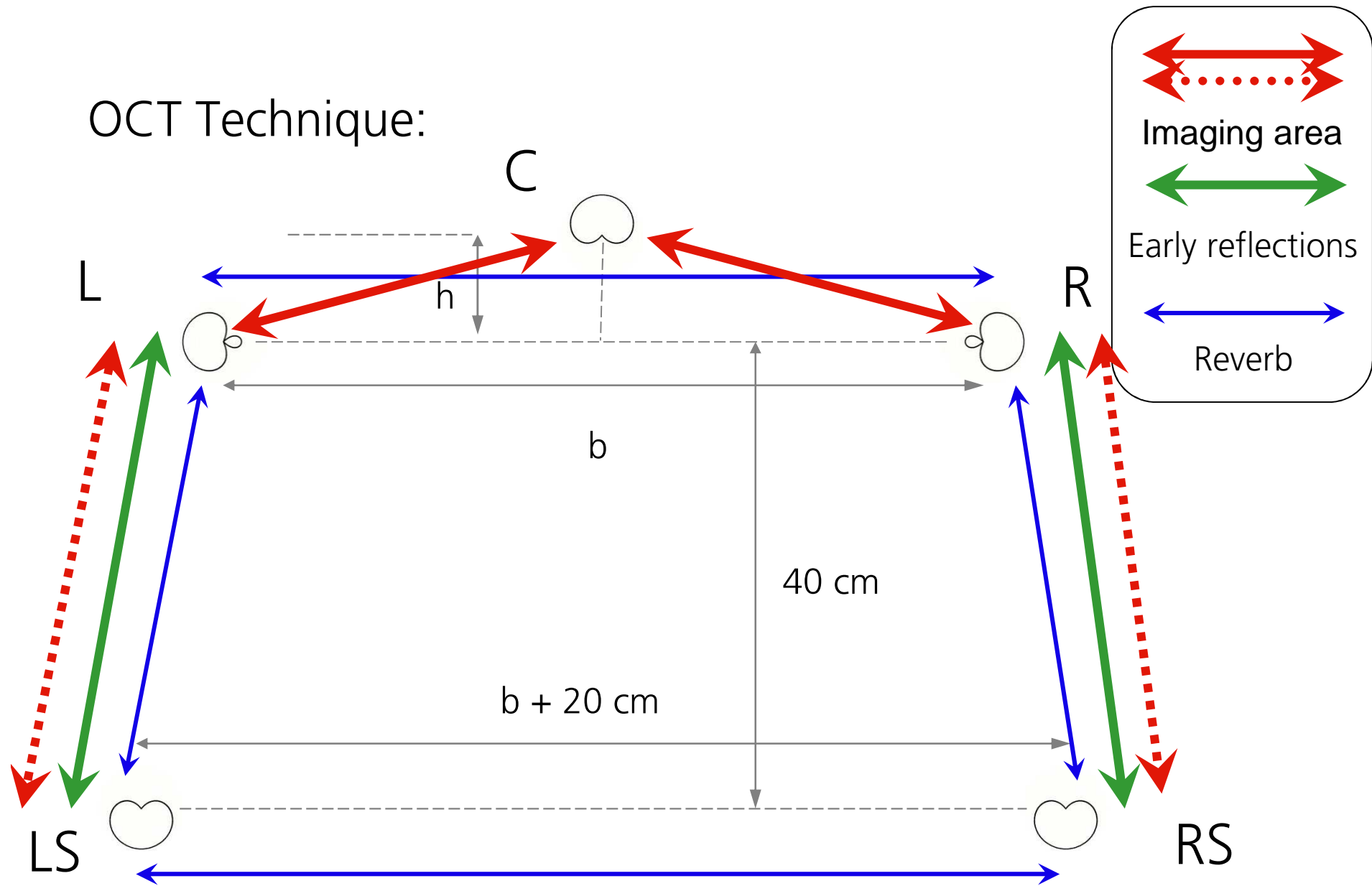
OCT: no Crosstalk

*OCT Surround* using 5 SCHOEPS CCM compact microphones and the stereo bar MAB1000



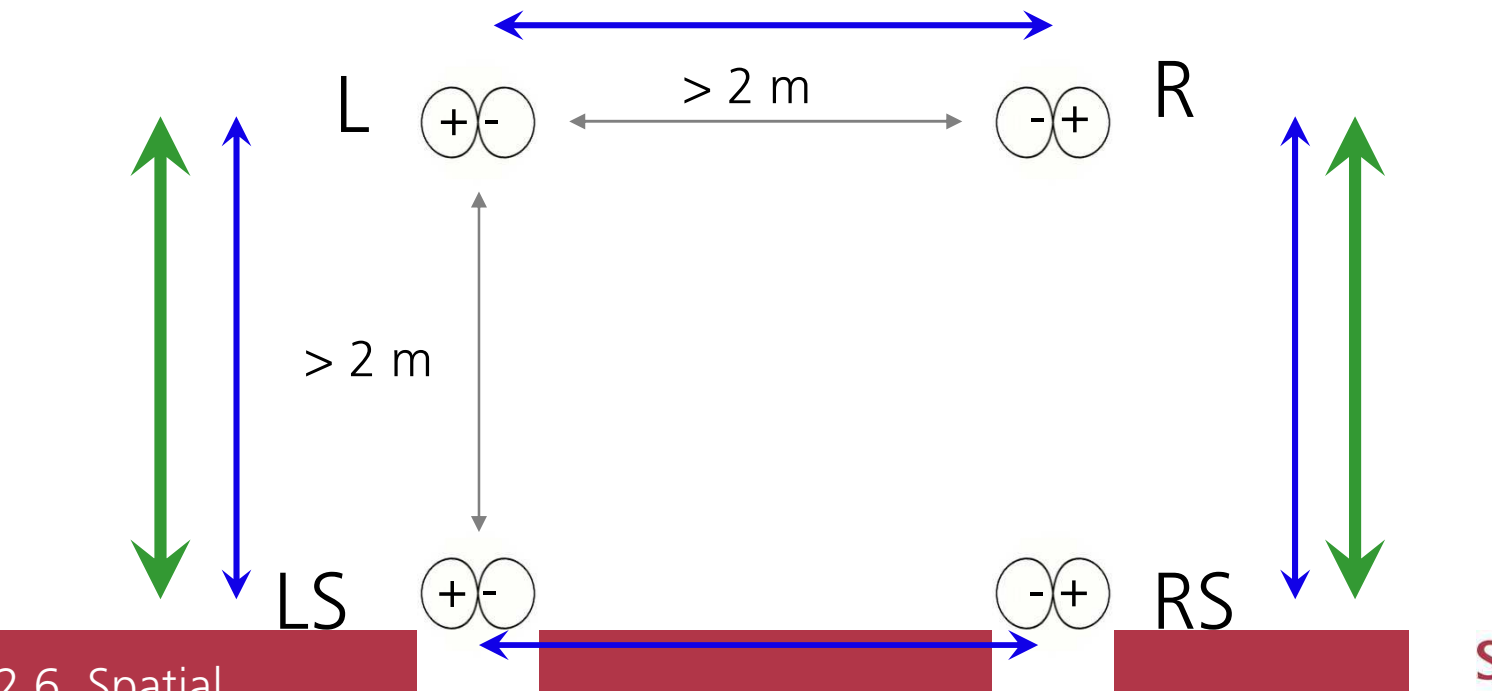
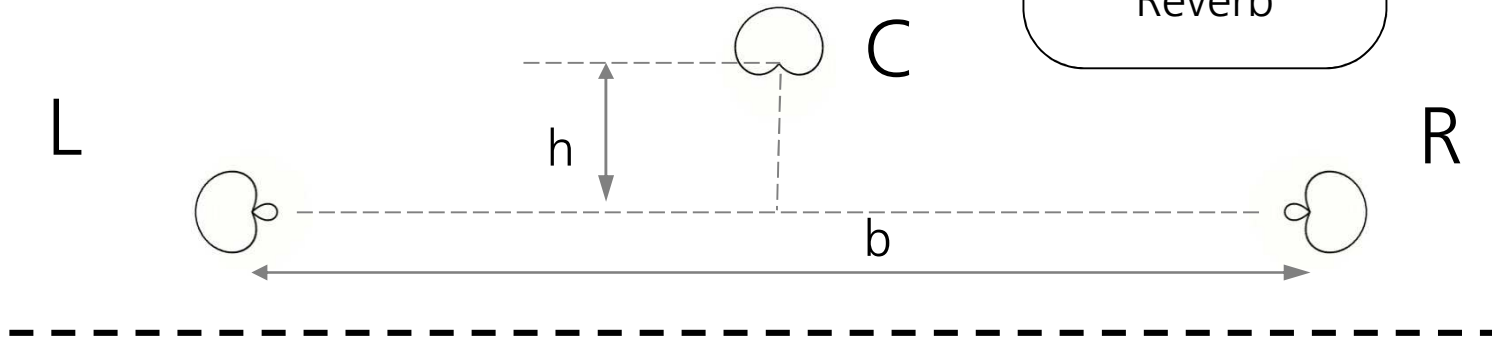
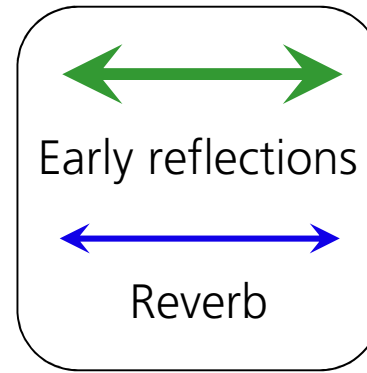
OCT

# OCT Technique:



# OCT + Hamasaki square

DEMO  
Sound Sample #6  
Lyon: OCT Surround-  
OCT+Hamasaki

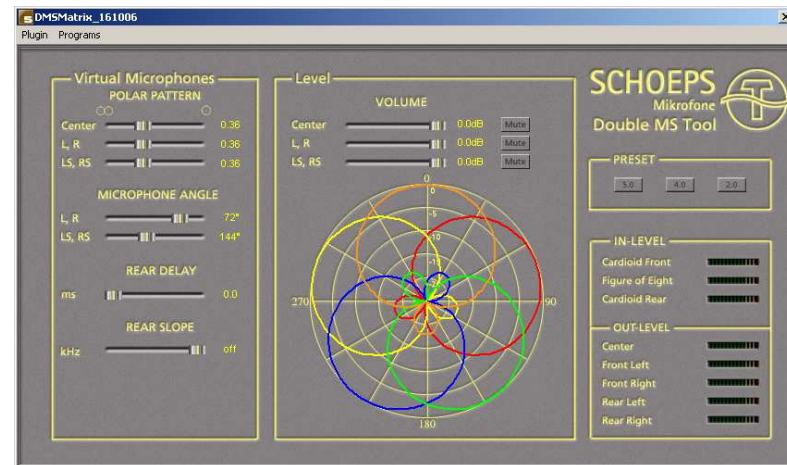


# Double - M/S



free Plug-in and Audio Samples  
online:

[www.schoeps.de/dmsplugin.htm](http://www.schoeps.de/dmsplugin.htm)



Surround main microphones: Double M/S



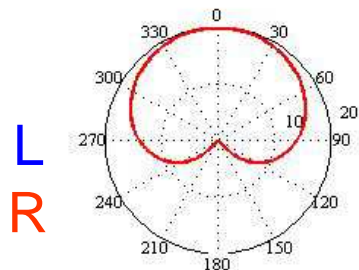
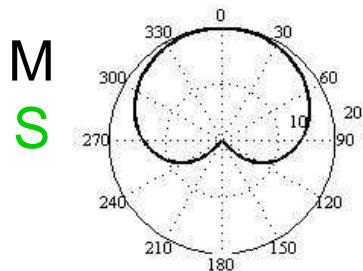
Double MS: The M/S principle

$$M = L + R$$

$$S = L - R$$

$$L = \frac{1}{2} * (M + S)$$

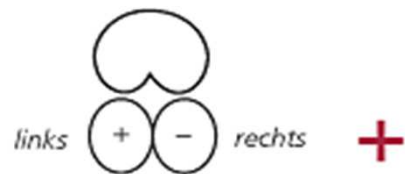
$$R = \frac{1}{2} * (M - S)$$



Surround main microphones: Double M/S

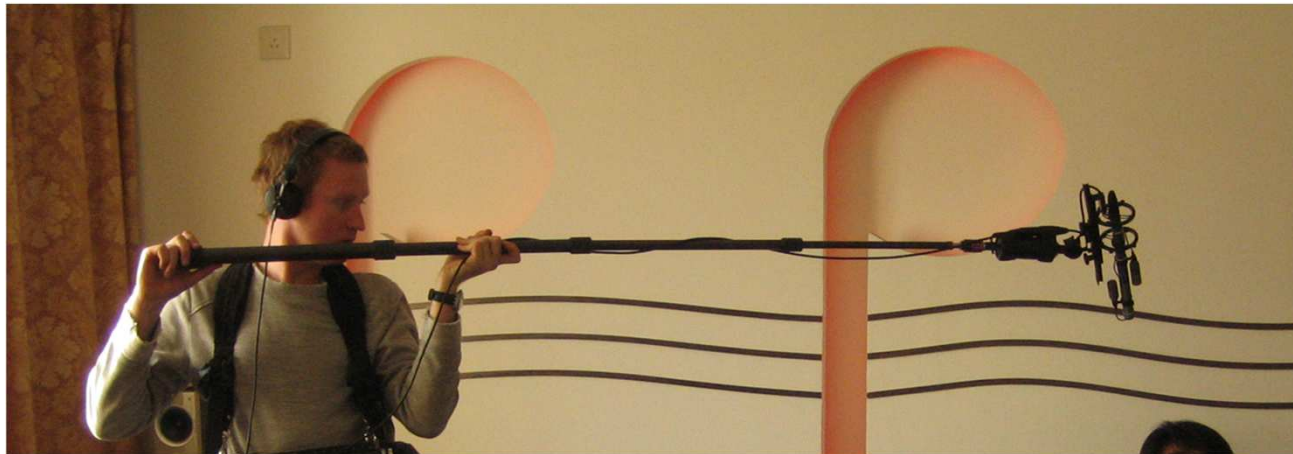
## Double MS: The M/S principle

- Front M/S pair
- Rear M/S pair
- Combined Double M/S triplet



Surround main microphones: Double M/S

- Double M/S with shotgun



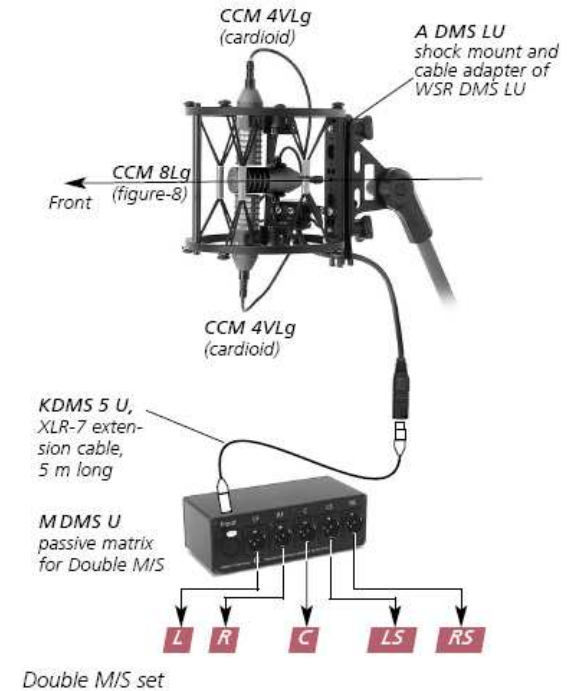
2.8. Surround main microphones: Double M/S

## Decoding variants:

- 2 M/S Matrices
- Hardware (M DMS)

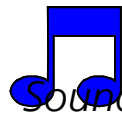
- Free Software (VST, RTAS)

[www.schoeps.de/dmsplugin.htm](http://www.schoeps.de/dmsplugin.htm)



DEMO  
Sound Sample #9  
Schostakovitsch  
Klavierkonzert

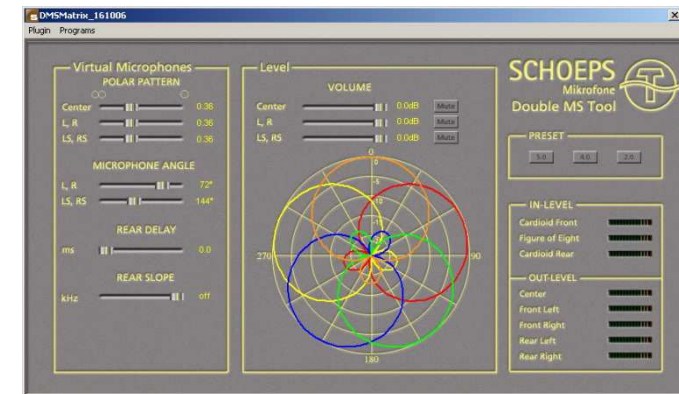
Rossini



DEMO  
Sound Sample #10  
Schalke  
Volksmusik

Drums

2.8. Surround main microphones: Double M/S



**SCHOEPS**  
Mikrofone



## Ambience techniques for Stereo 2.0 and 5.1

*Helmut Wittek, September 2013*

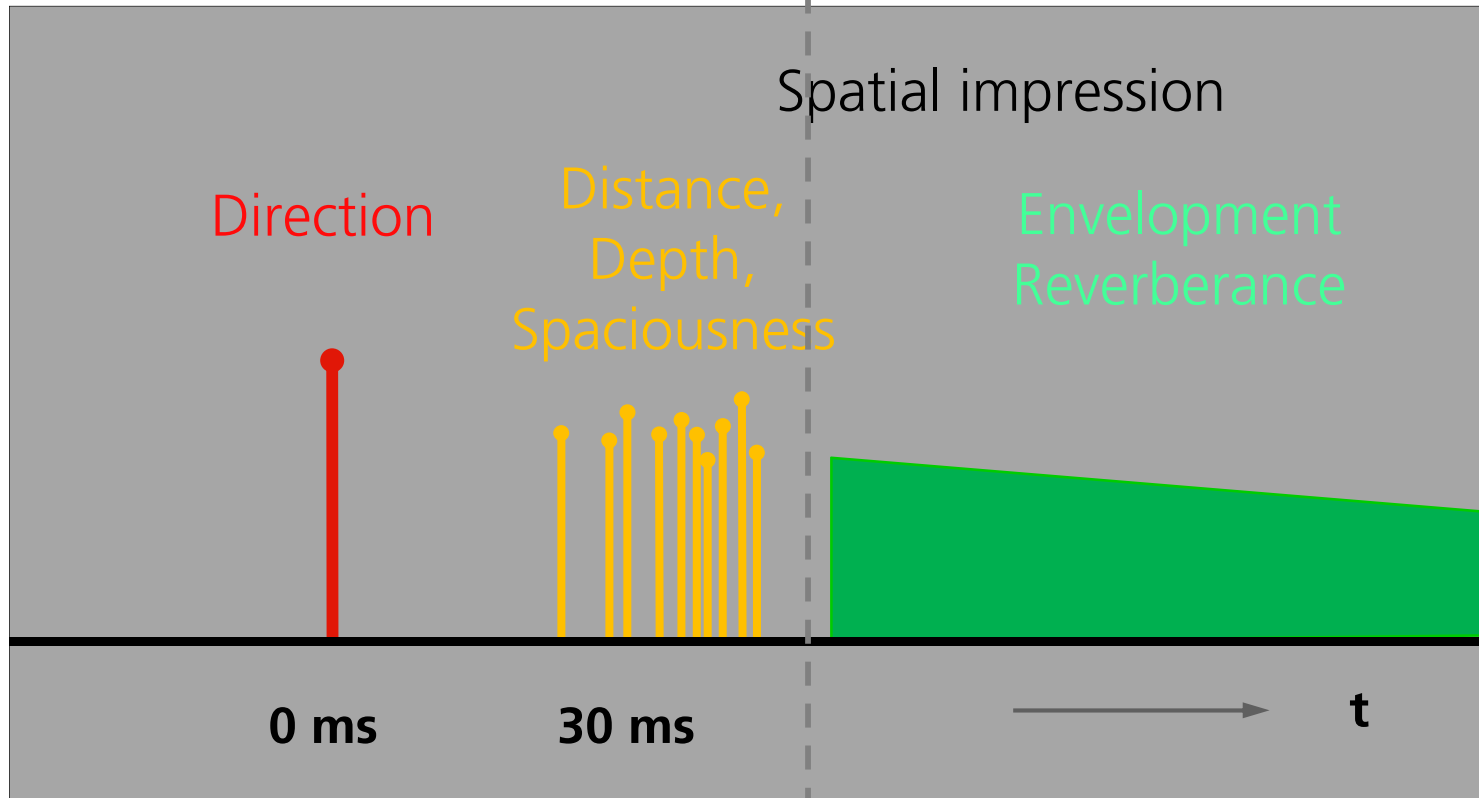
[www.hauptmikrofon.de](http://www.hauptmikrofon.de)

# Contents

- **Ambience:** how do you record it?
  - The 3 ambience layers
  - Microphone placement for the 3 ambience layers
  - Making decisions:  
Layer mix, tonmeister taste and practical requirements
  - Microphone techniques
    - M/S, X/Y, ORTF, A/B, Double M/S, Double M/S with Shotgun, IRT-Cross, ORTF Surround, Theile trapezoid, Hamasaki Square, 5 cardioids, Decca-Tree, ...

**Discrete** Signals:  
*Correlated at both ears*  
*From discrete directions*

**Diffuse** Signals:  
*Decorrelated at both ears*  
*From all directions*



© Theile

Spatial reproduction

## Signal type

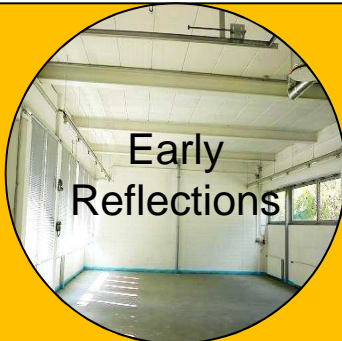
## Room signal properties

1



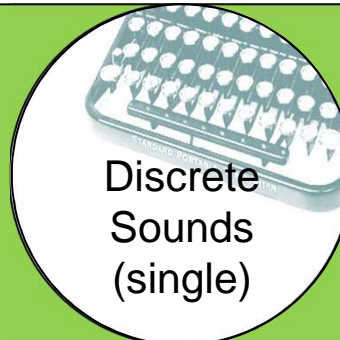
- diffuse
- location-independent
- not localized
- Room information

2



- discrete
- location-independent
- localized, but the location is arbitrary
- Info on position of the source in the room

3



- discrete
- location-dependent
- localized
- Source information

What is ambience?

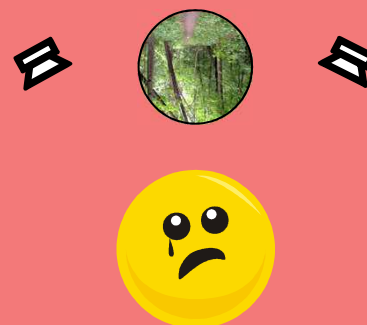


# Microphone geometry for recording diffuse sound:



- Uncorrelated signals
- Balanced energy distribution

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



# Microphone geometry for recording diffuse sound:



- Uncorrelated signals
- Balanced energy distribution

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



Ambience components: diffuse sound

## Microphone geometry for recording diffuse sound:



- Uncorrelated signals
- Balanced energy distribution

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

- Each channel records a different diffuse signal
- The channels are decorrelated regarding the the diffuse field

## Microphone geometry for recording diffuse sound:

- The larger the distance, the more independent the signals



- The larger the directivity, the more independent the signals

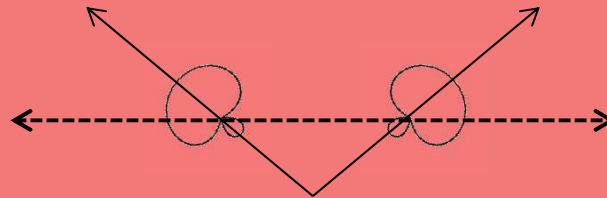


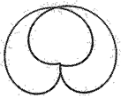
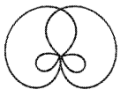

- The larger the opening angle, the more independent the signals



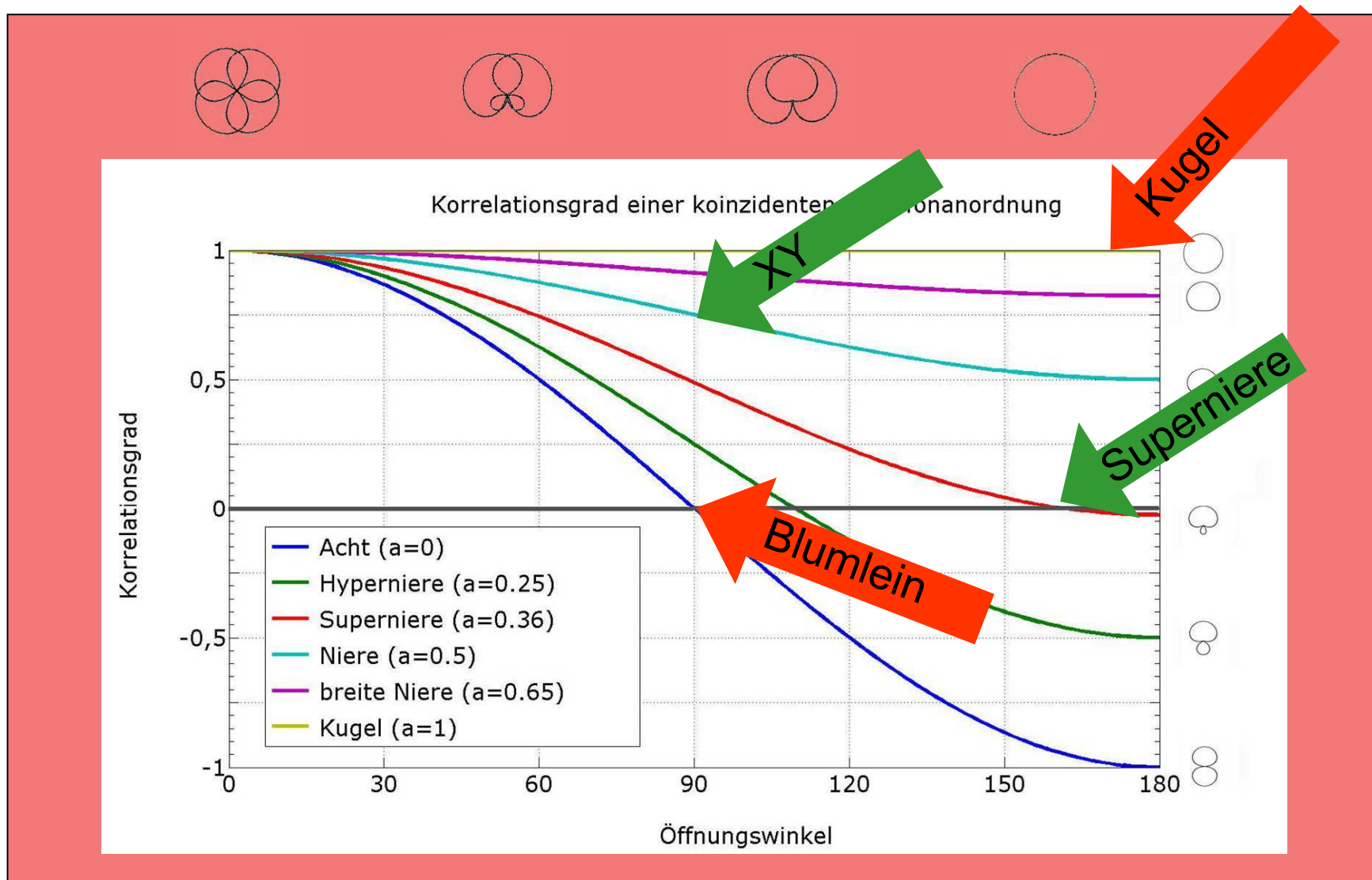
## Diffuse field correlation (DFC)

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



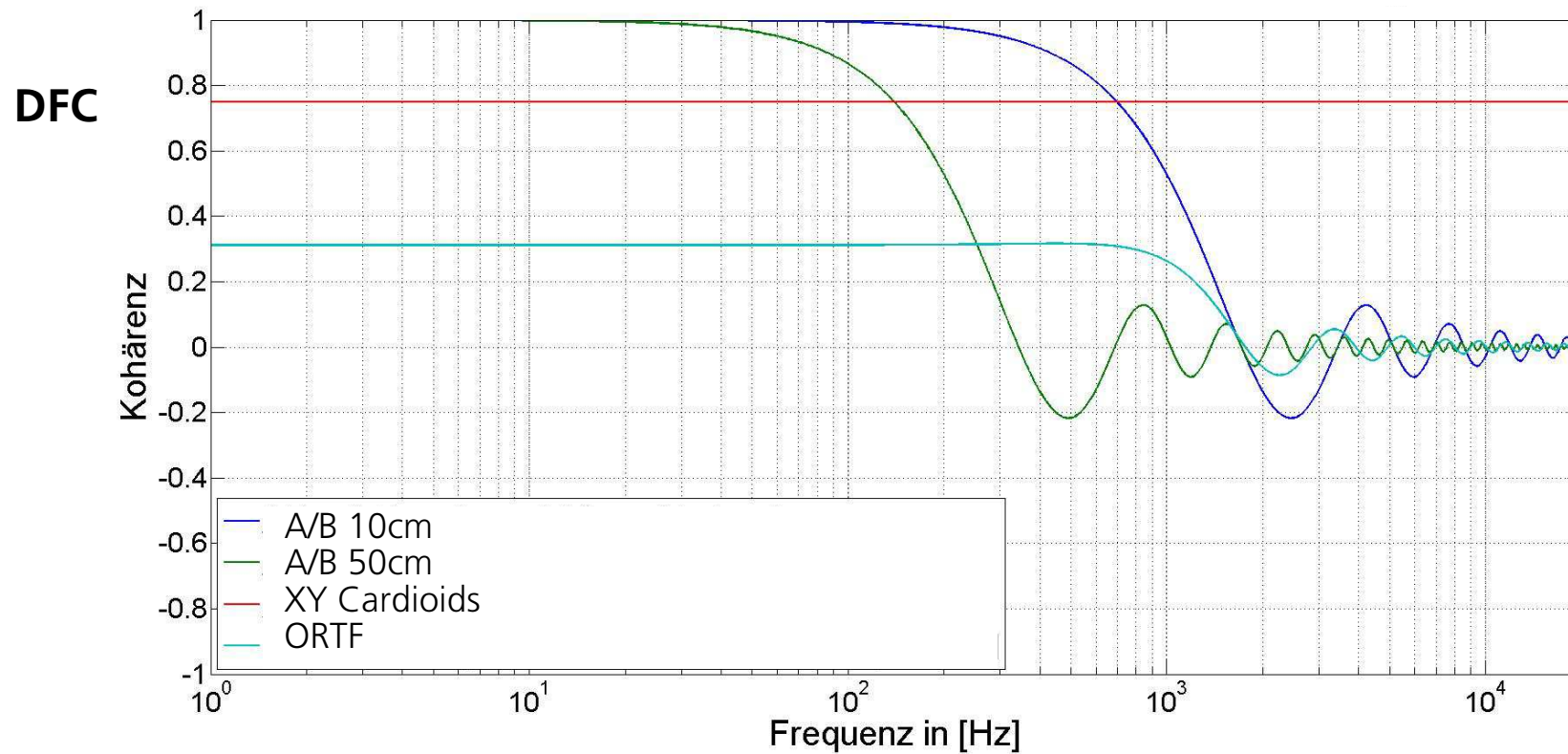
Setup	XY, 90°, Cardioids	XY, 120°, Super-cardioids	Blumlein, 90°, Figure-8
<b>DFC</b>	<b>0.75</b>	<b>0.23</b>	<b>0</b>
			

# Diffuse field correlation (DFC): coincident setups



# Diffuse field correlation (DFC)

## Diffuse field correlation (DFC)



from: [Riekehof et al., TMT 2010]

Ambience components: diffuse sound

## Signal type

## Microphone signal properties

1



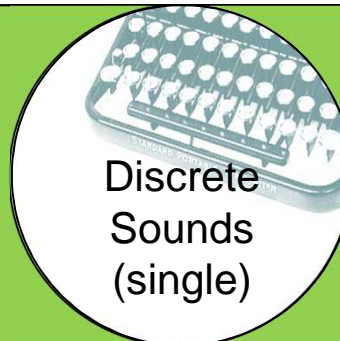
- Uncorrelated signals
- Balanced energy distribution

2



- Correlated signals
- Balanced directional distribution

3



- Correlated signals
- Balanced directional distribution
- Real or realistic directional imaging

What is ambience?



## Choice of the setup: 3 Steps

### Step 1. Ambience layer mix: what is my ambience composed of?

Diffuse Layer	Reflection Layer	Direct sound layer	Example	Possible microphone setup for 5.1 Surround
<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	- (with Center)	Film ambience without discrete noise	5 Omnis
<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	- (without Center)	Conzert hall ambience	Hamasaki Square
<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b> (without Center)	Stadium ambience for Sports	ORTF Surround
<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b> (with Center)	Documentary ambience with discrete sources	5 wide cardioids
<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b> (3 only in front)	Orchestra in the concert hall	OCT Surround, OCT + Hamasaki
	<b>X</b>	<b>X</b>	Dry outside ambience	Double M/S, ORTF Surround
		<b>X</b>	Dry radio drama recording in the studio	Double M/S

## Choice of the setup: 3 Steps

Step 2. The individual taste of the tonmeister and his priorities:

- Choise of the **directivity pattern** and the **microphone type**
- Relative weight of **sound colour, depth, immersion, room impression, directional imaging, naturalness, stability**, etc.

Step 3. Practical Aspects

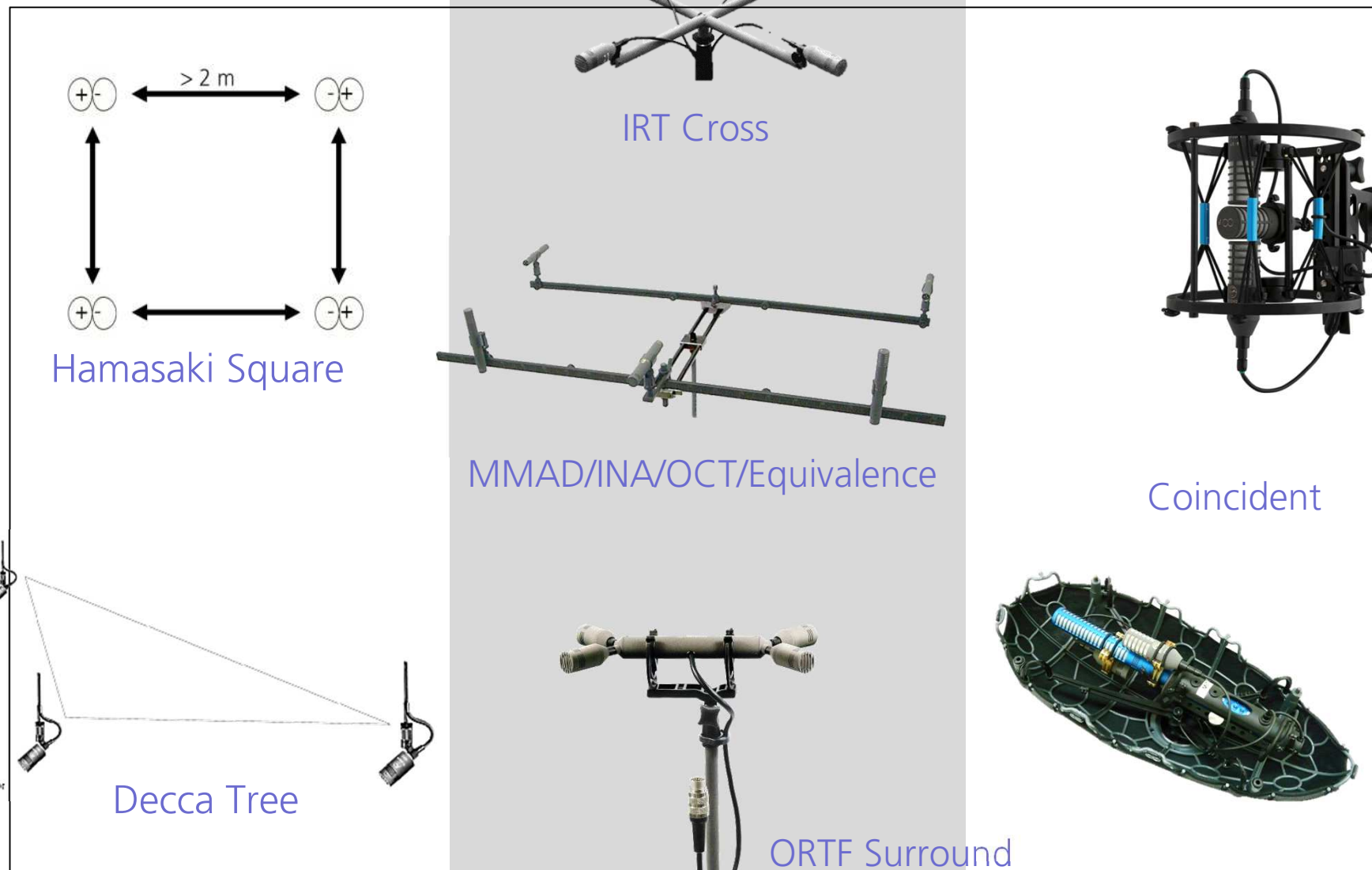
- **Size, suspension, windshield, flexibility, ease of use, simplicity, price, postpro-options**, etc.

# Ambience microphones for Stereo



Ambience microphones for

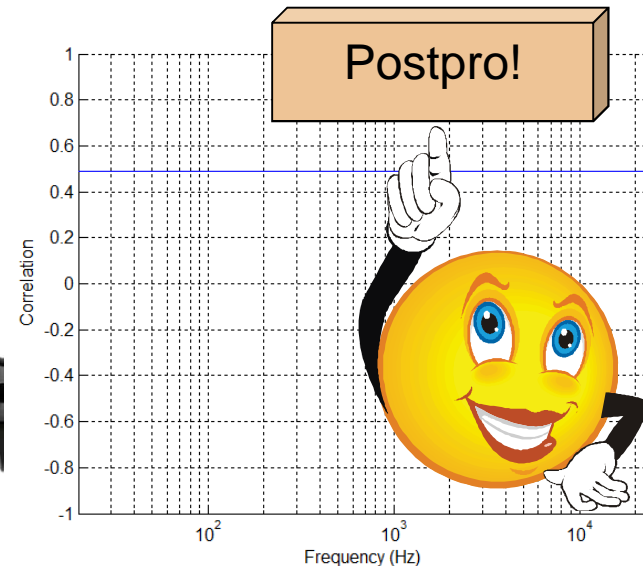
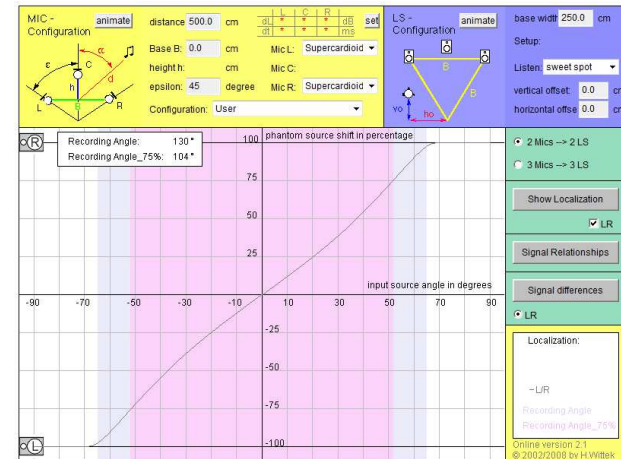
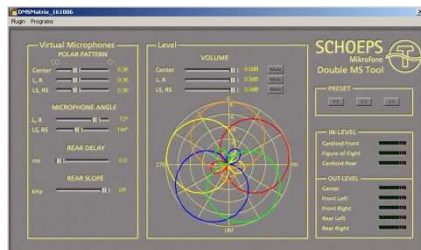
Surround



Ambience microphones for Surround

# Double M/S

- Compact, flexible and practical
- Only 3 channels for Surround
- Decoding with 2 \* M/S-Matrix, Hardware decoder or Plug-in
- High DFC if more than 3 output channels are used; maximum 4 Outputs are feasible
- If decoded properly:
  - Average room properties
  - Good sound colour; good imaging properties



## Double M/S with shotgun

- Using a shotgun for the Centre channel: ideal setup for documentary
- Compact: Surround setup with windshield not larger than for Mono
- flexible und practical
- If decoded properly, good spatial properties
- Only 3 channels for Surround: shotgun, Fig-8, Cardioid
- Simple decoding with 2 normal M/S-Matrices



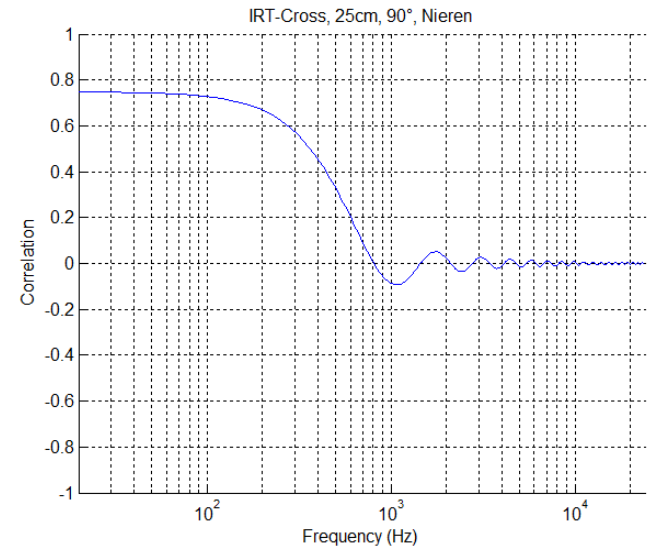
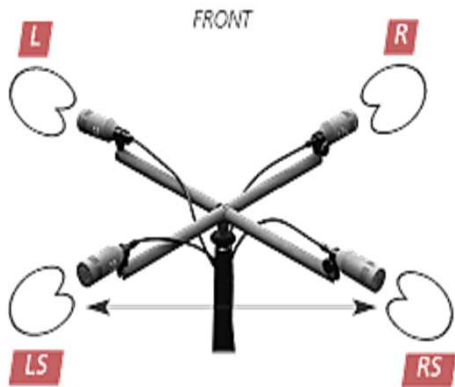
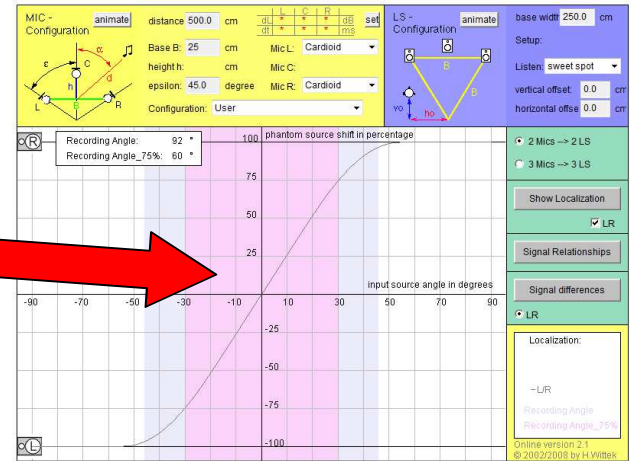
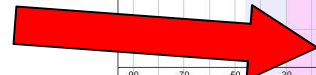
Compact!



# IRT Cross

- Open room sound, very good 360°-Imaging
- Basis spacing:
  - 4 cardioids: 25cm
  - 4 supercardioids: 18cm
  - 4 wide cardioids: 31cm

360°  
Imaging



- IRT Cross: Application



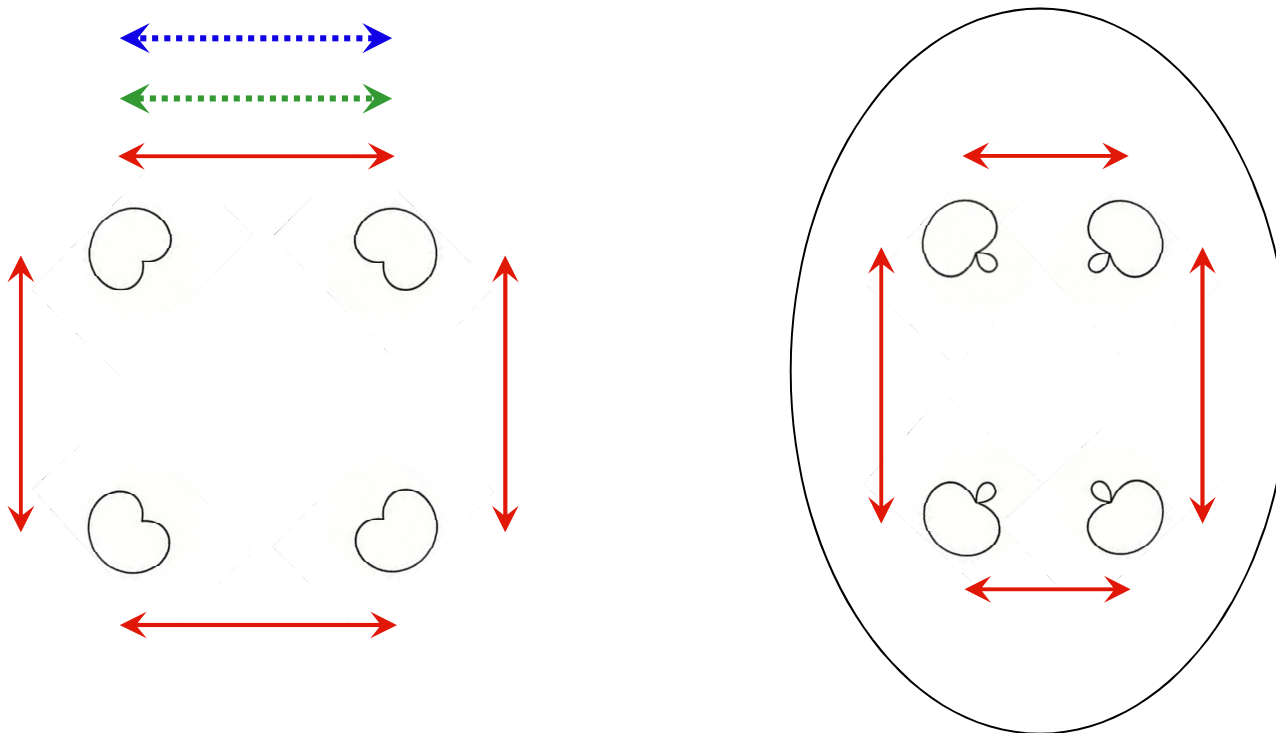
## 2.6. Spatial reproduction by multichannel stereophony

Mikrofone



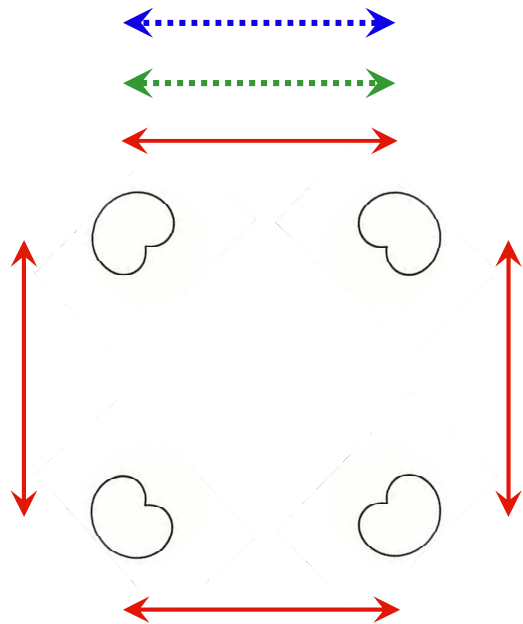


- IRT cross for Surround atmos:
  - 4 Cardioids at 20 cm - 90°
  - 4 Supercardioids at 14 cm - 90°
- “ORTF Surround” for Surround atmos:
  - 4 Supercardioids at 10/20 cm - 100°/80°

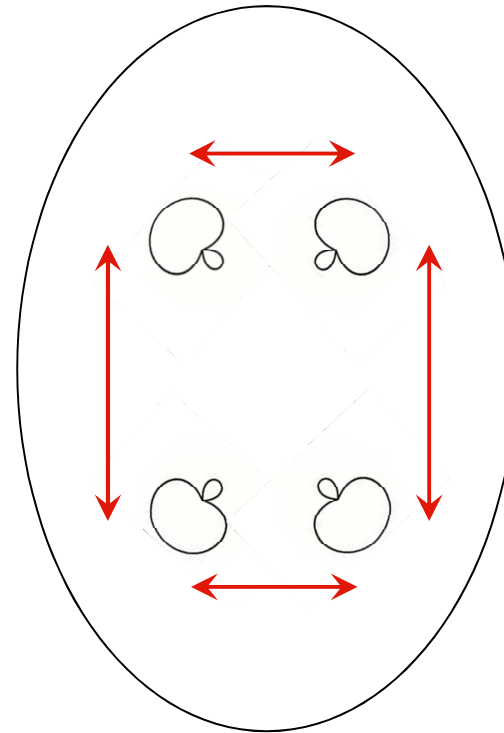


## 2.6. Spatial reproduction by multichannel stereophony

- IRT cross for Surround atmos
  - 4 Cardioids at 20 cm - 90°
  - 4 Supercardioids at 14 cm - 90°



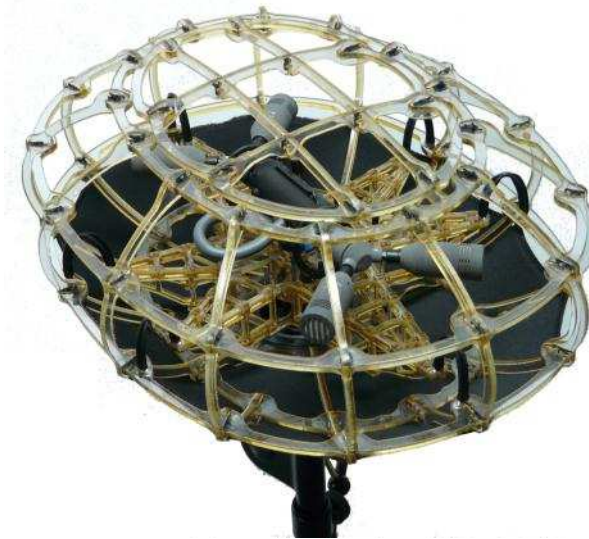
- "ORTF Surround" for Surround atmos
  - 4 Supercardioids at 10/20 cm - 100°/80°



- IRT cross for Surround atmos
  - 4 Cardioids at 20 cm - 90°
  - 4 Supercardioids at 14 cm - 90°



- "ORTF Surround" for Surround atmos
  - 4 Supercardioids at 10/20 cm - 100°/80°



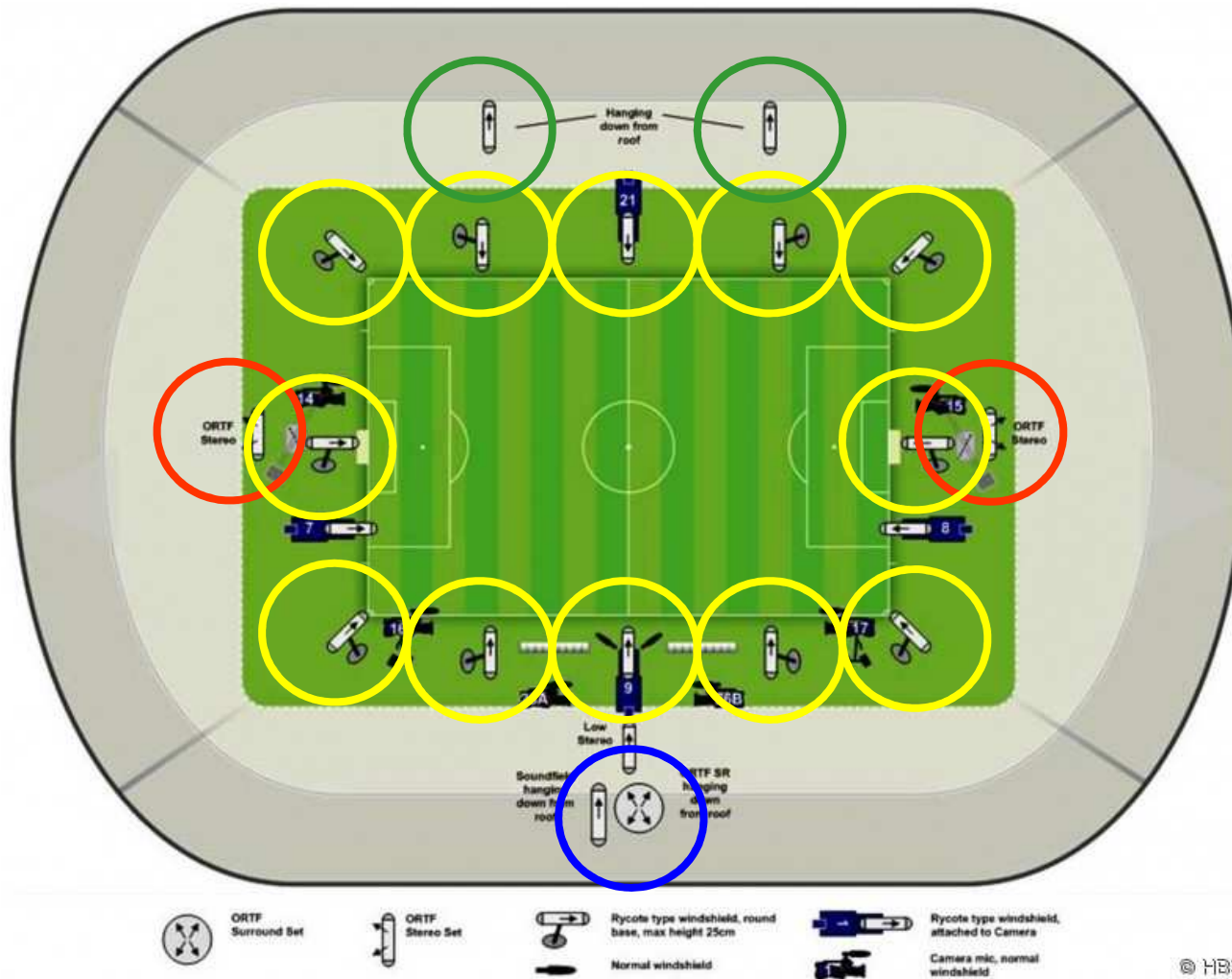
## 2.6. Spatial reproduction by multichannel stereophony

- ORTF Surround below the stadium roof



ORTF Surround: Football

1. Main mic:  
ORTF Surround
2. Stereo spots:  
ORTF Stereo
3. „Close-Ball“:  
SuperCMIT
4. Mono spots:  
Single CCM

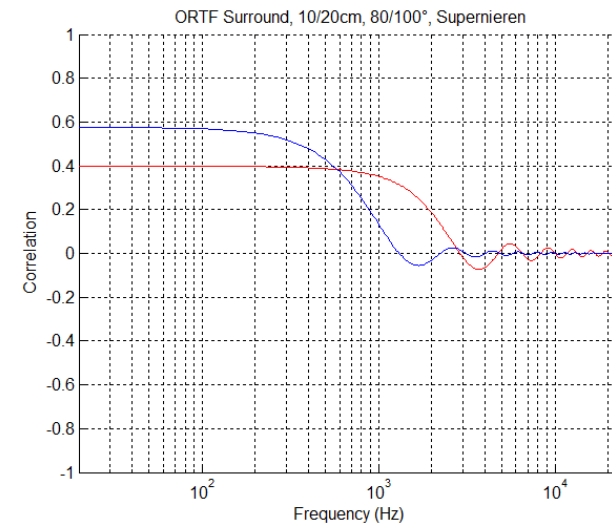
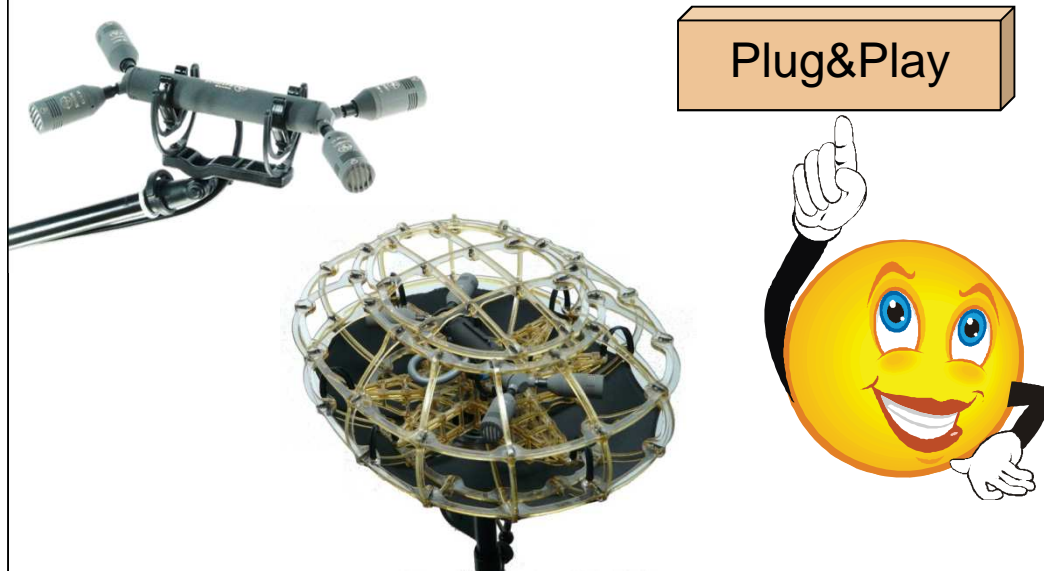
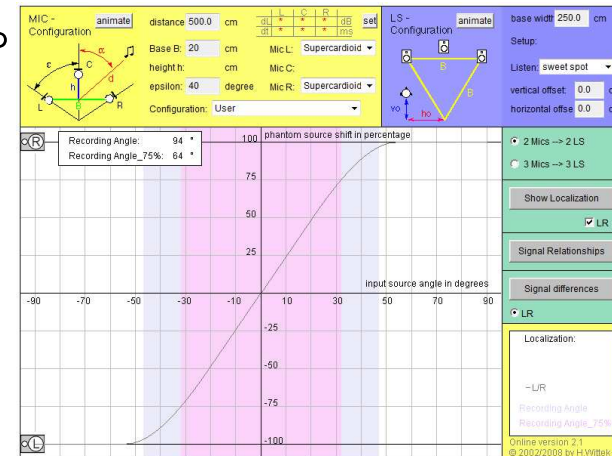


The standard multilateral microphone plan

ORTF Surround: FIFA-WorldCup

# ORTF Surround

- 4 Supercardioids, 10cm/100°+ 20cm/80°
- Compact and practical
- Open room sound + ideal 360°-Imaging (same as the IRT cross)
- **Plug&Play:** special windshield, suspension, Multicore mit Multipin-Plug

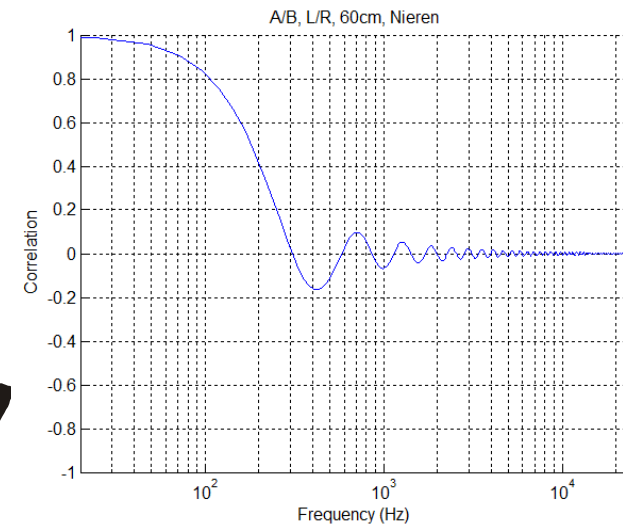
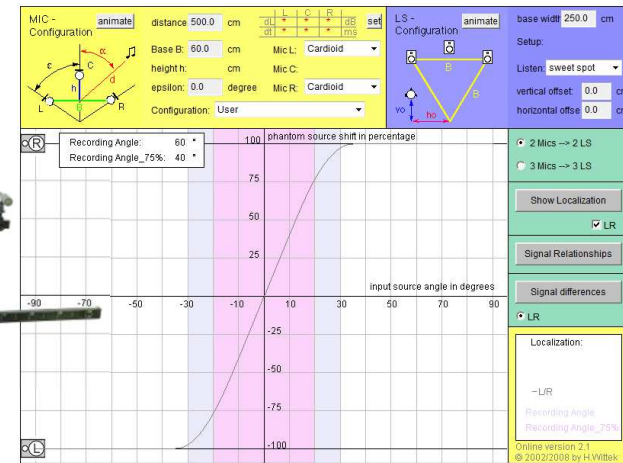
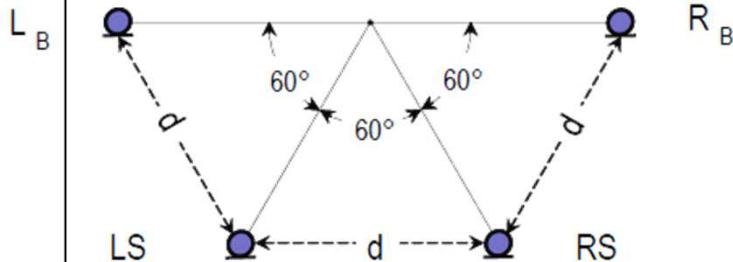


# Theile trapezoid

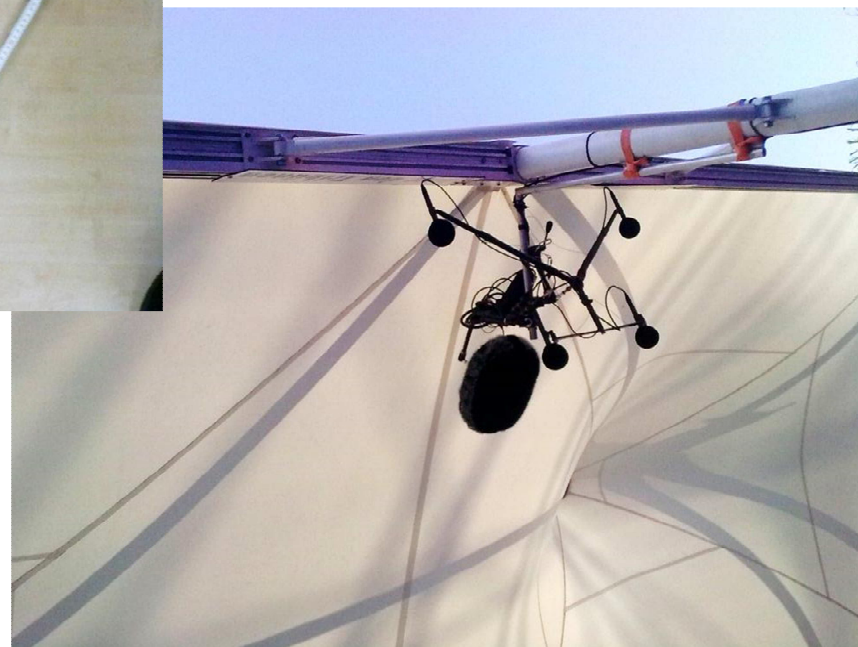
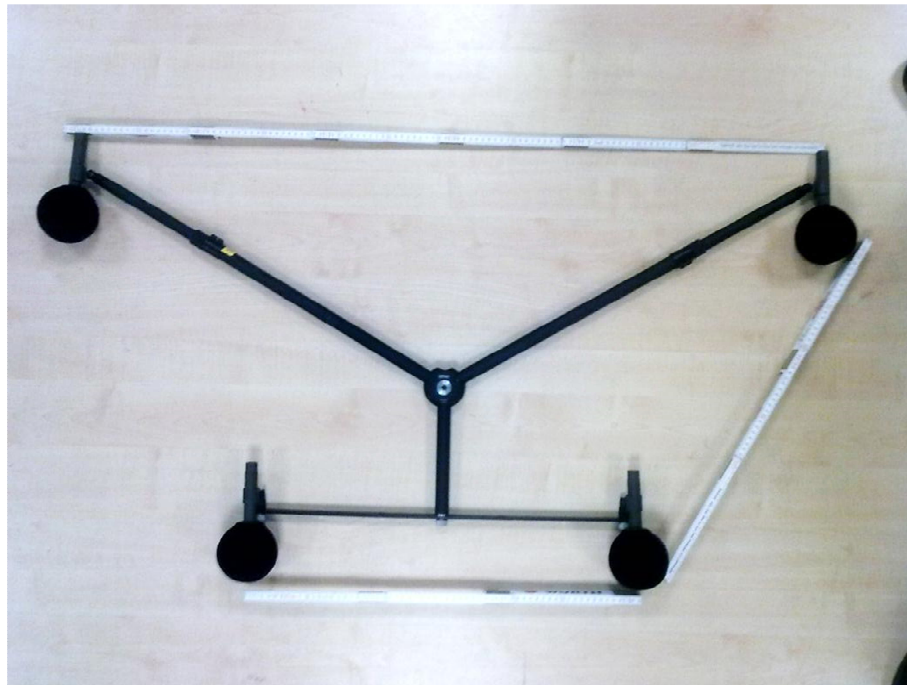
- Room microphone for Front-Back-Scenario; not for Layer 3, ideal for layers 1 und 2
- 4 cardioids, facing backwards;  $d = 60\text{ cm}$
- Optimal attenuation of direct sound from  $0^\circ$



Audience microphone



## Theile trapezoid





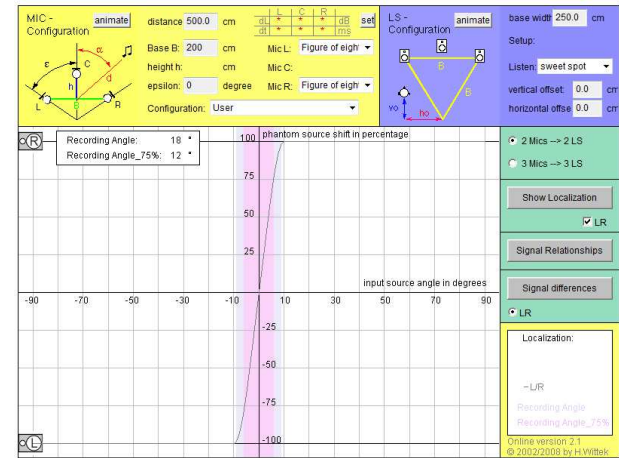
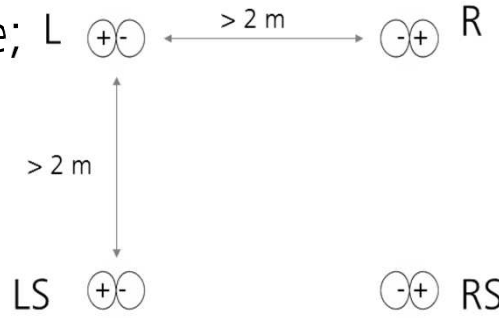
Photos: R. Bihler, SWR

Ambience microphones for Surround

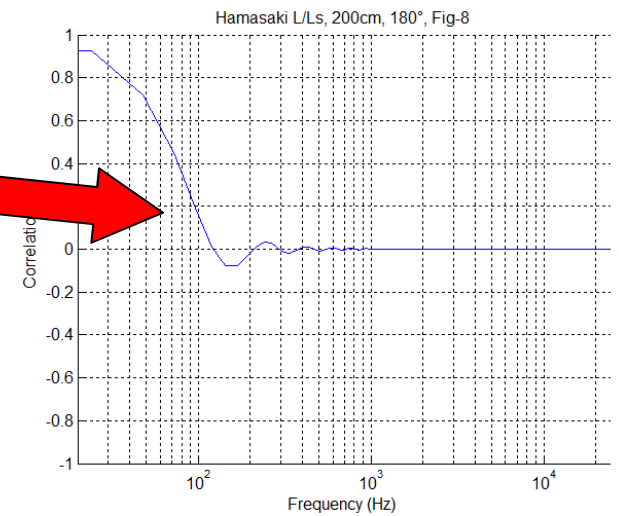


# Hamasaki Square

- Room microphone; L   $\longleftrightarrow$   $> 2\text{ m}$   R
- not suitable for Layer 3-Signals, ideal for Layer 1 and Layer 2
- Extremely large spacing, not handy
- Open room sound, extremely low DFC
- Large attenuation of direct sound from  $0^\circ$ !
- Optimal reproduction of early lateral reflections



DFC = 0!

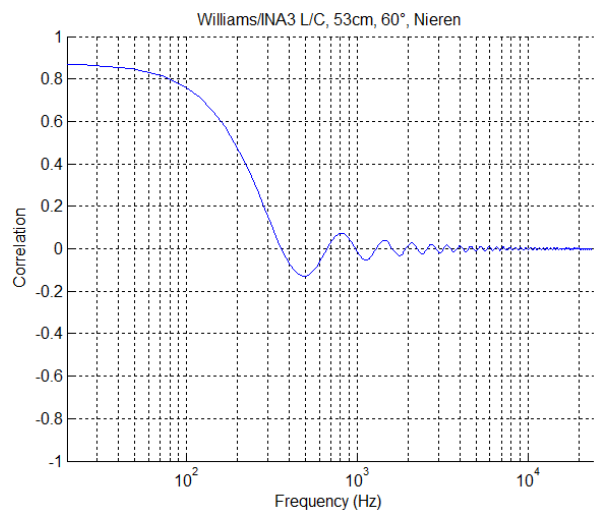
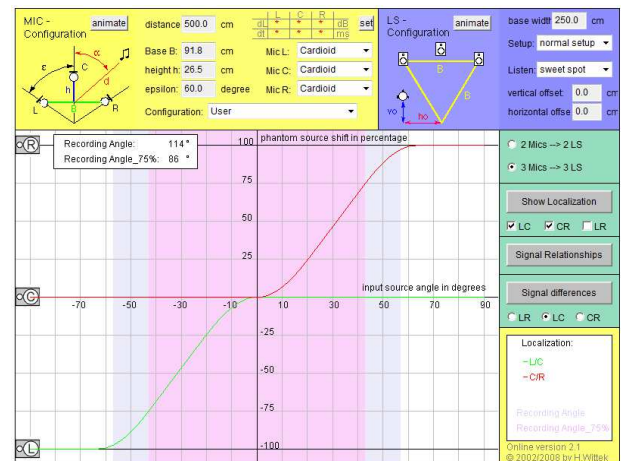


Figures for the pair L/Ls; d=200 cm

# 5ch – Equivalence setup after Williams/Theile/Wittek

- With Centre channel
- Geometry is calculated after e.g. Williams MMAD, INA or „Image Assistant“
- With normal, open or wide cardioids
- Very good sound colour
- Very good room and imaging properties
- Not compact; needs large spacings and single windshields

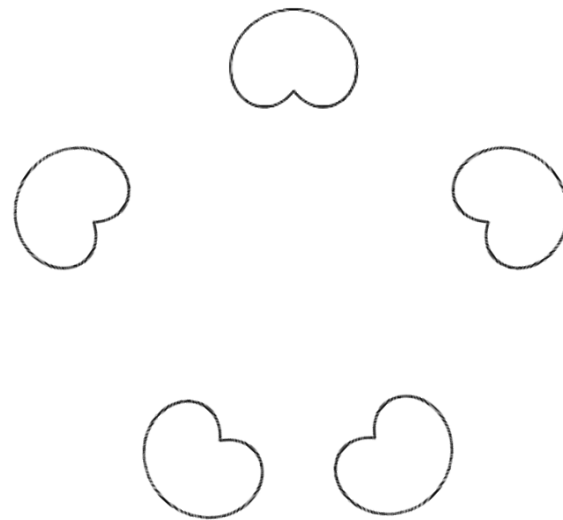
Stabile  
360°  
Abbildung,  
toller Klang



Figures for „INA 3“

# 5ch – Equivalence setup after Williams/Theile/Wittek

*Williams „Umbrella“: flexible suspension*

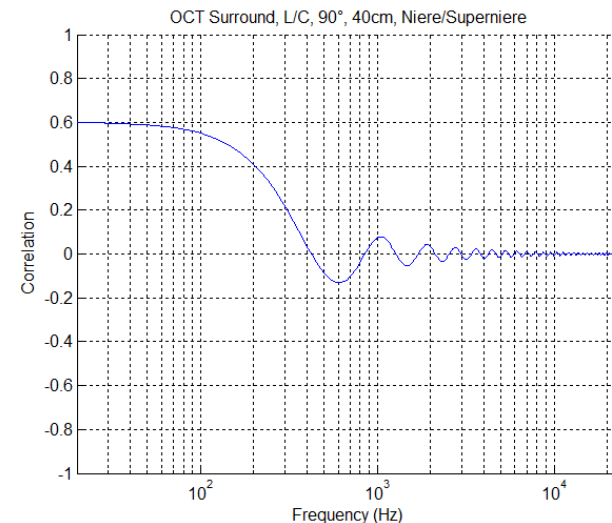
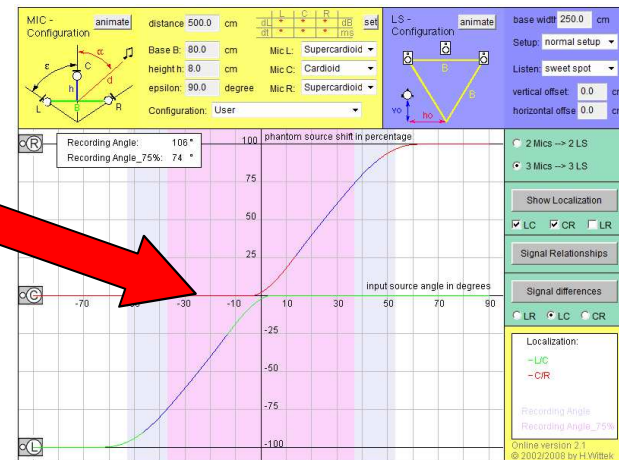


Ambience microphones for Surround

# OCT Surround

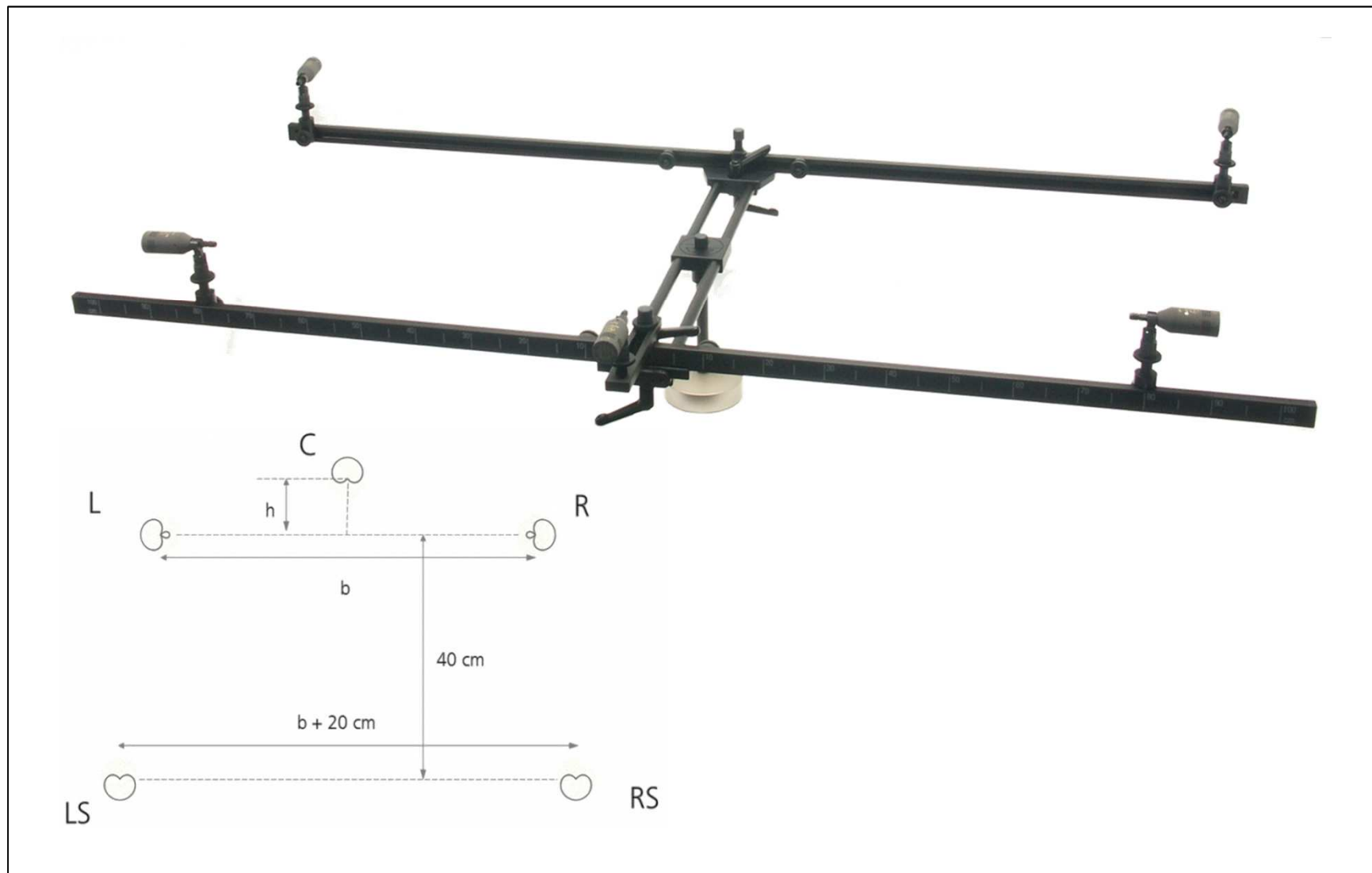
- Ideal for Front-Back-Scene (Layer 3 only in front)
- Very natural room and imaging properties
- Not compact
- Good sound colour
- Optimal attenuation of Crosstalk → large stability of the image
- More Flexible: OCT + Hamasaki Square

Ideal for Front/Back-Scene



Figures for the pair L/C and C/R

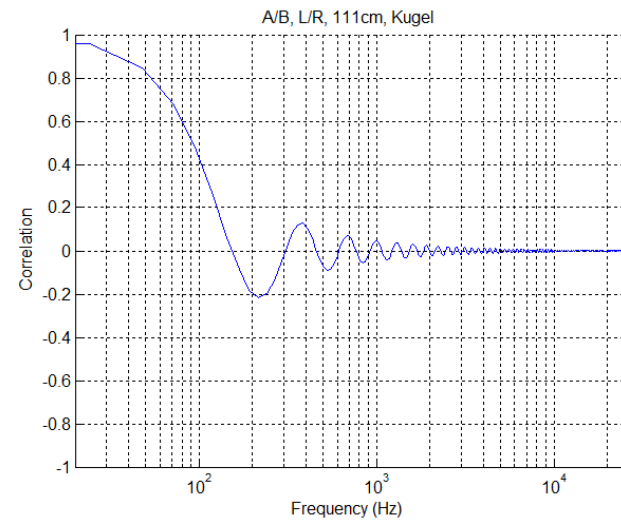
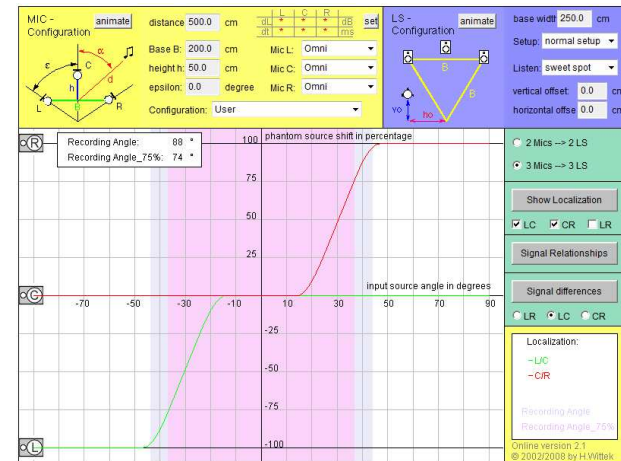
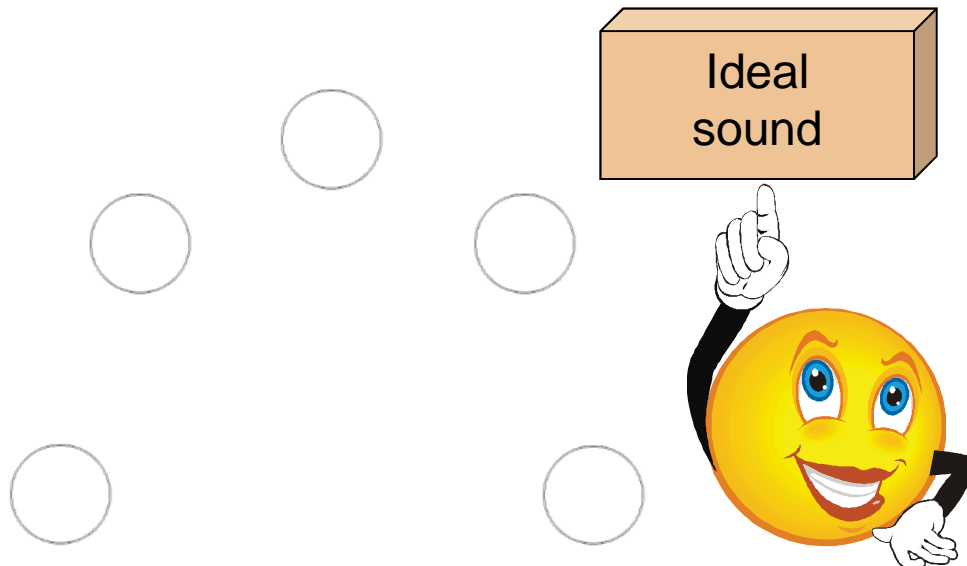
# OCT Surround



Ambience microphones for Surround

# Omni setup

- Very large, not compact
- Uses Omnis → often preferred sound colour
- Very good room properties
- Average imaging properties, yet stable



Figures for L/C=111 cm

# Practice: Sports

*Soccer: ORTF in the curve*

*Soccer World Cup:  
Double M/S and ORTF Surround*



# Practice: Film



*Double M/S with  
shotgun (A. Zacher)*

*IRT Cross*



*„Sound only“ with M/S*

*5 wide cardioids  
(F. Camerer)*

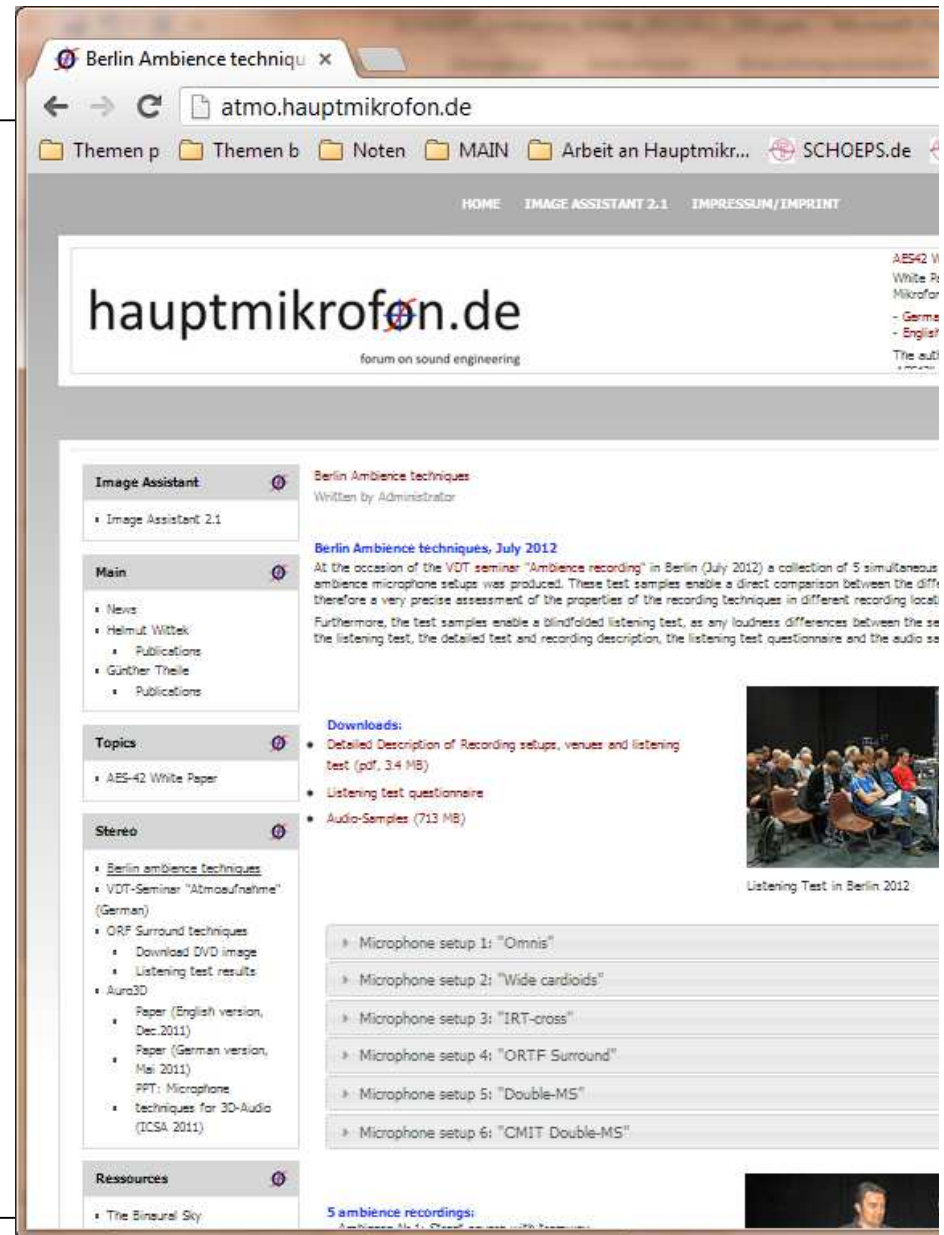




# VDT Seminar ATMO(Ambience)

[ambience.hauptmikrofon.de](http://ambience.hauptmikrofon.de)

- 5 \* 6 Audio samples for Download
- Listening test can be performed
- Descriptions of the setups
- Download of all Seminar talks and videos
- **Thank you very much!**
- [wittek@schoeps.de](mailto:wittek@schoeps.de)



[ambience.hauptmikrofon.de](http://ambience.hauptmikrofon.de)

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Mikrofone 