
EECS 225D

Audio Signal Processing in Humans and Machines

Lecture 17 – Source Separation

2012-3-19

Professor Nelson Morgan

today's lecture by John Lazzaro

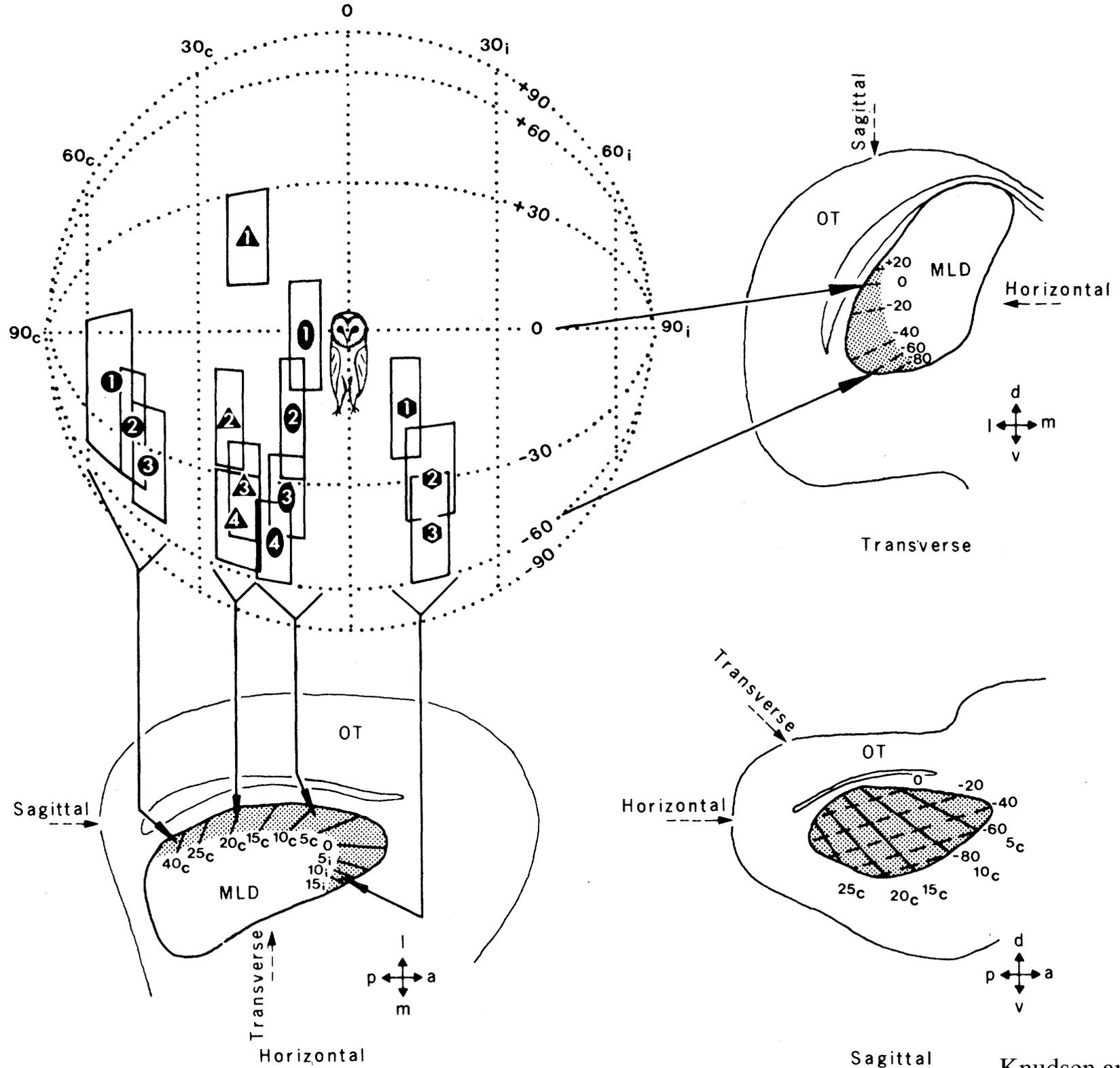
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Today's lecture: Source Separation

- * **Two approaches to the problem ...**
 - * Auditory scene analysis
 - * Microphone array techniques
- * Research project ideas ...





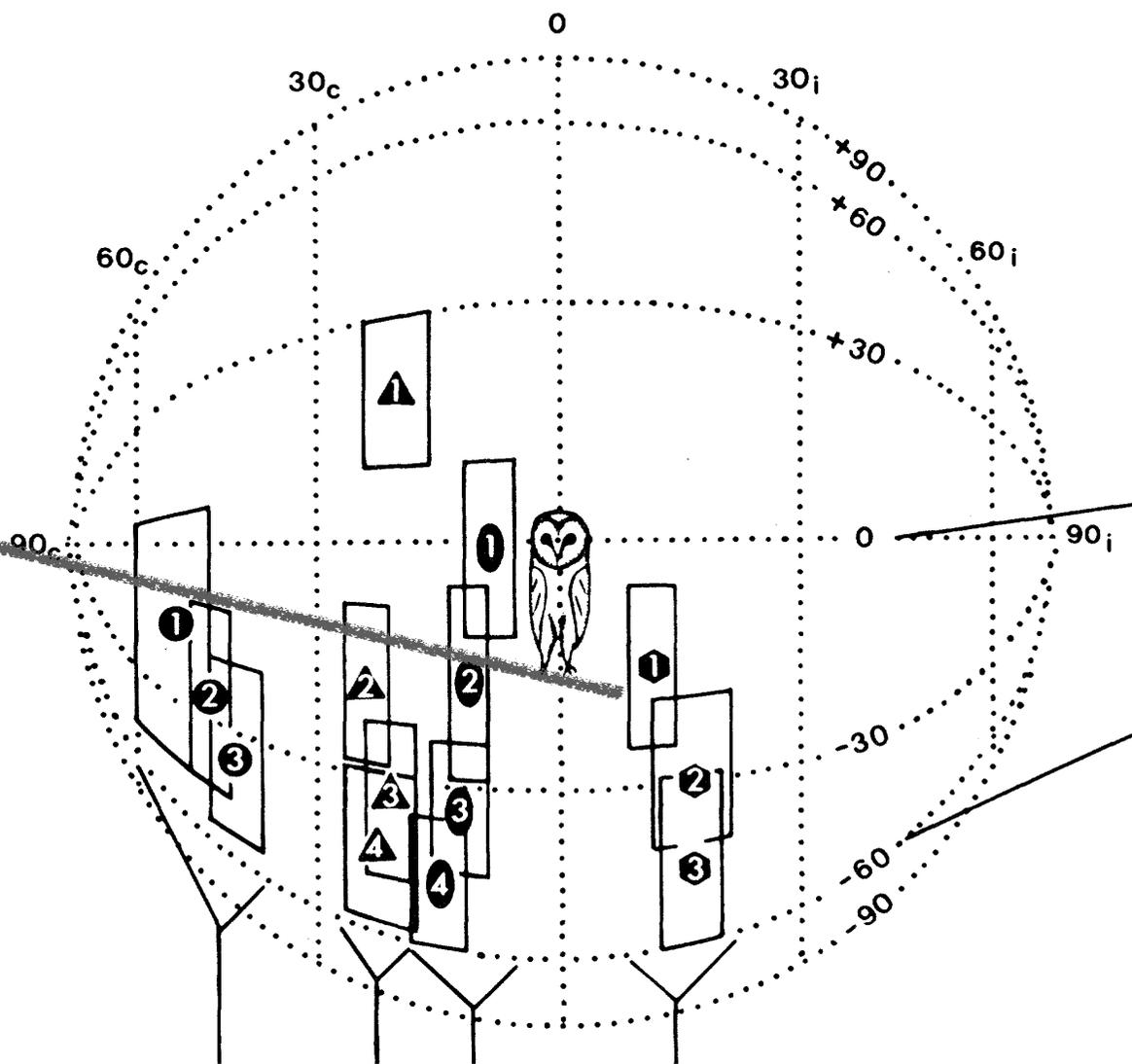
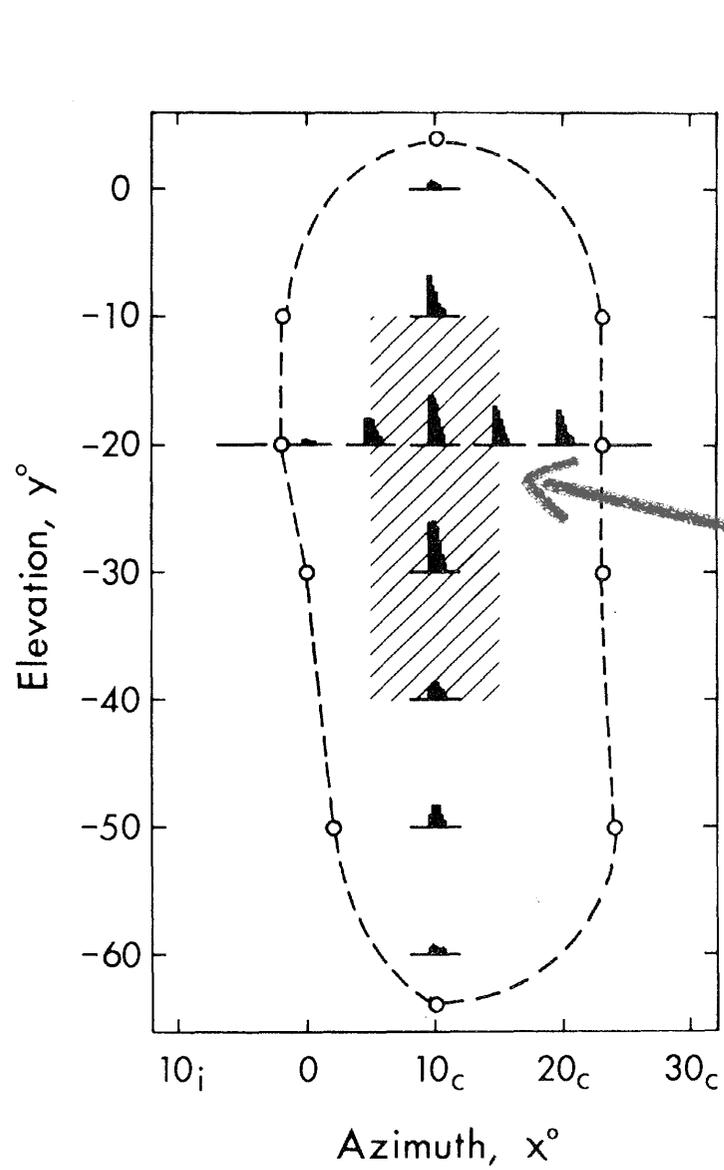
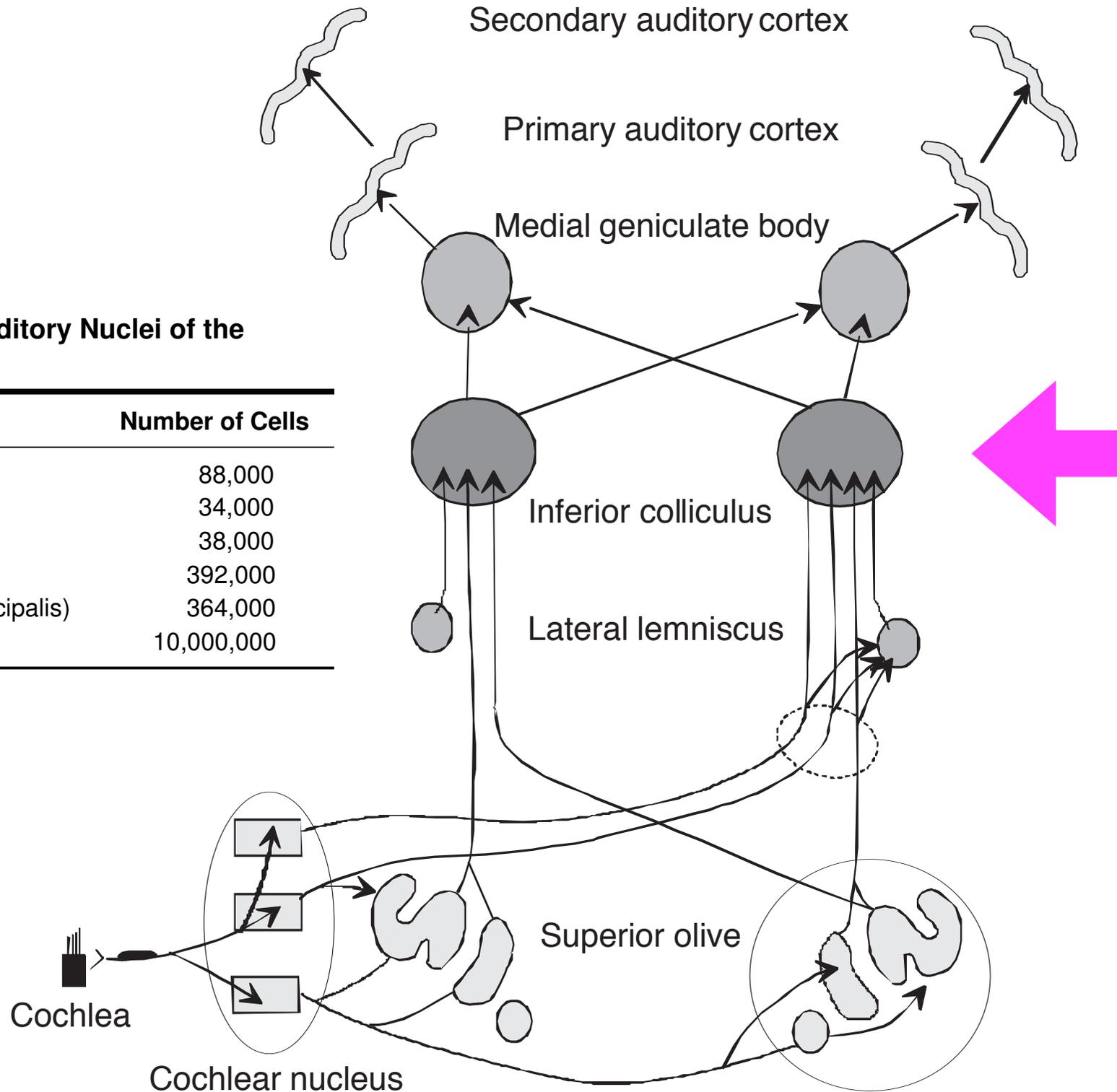


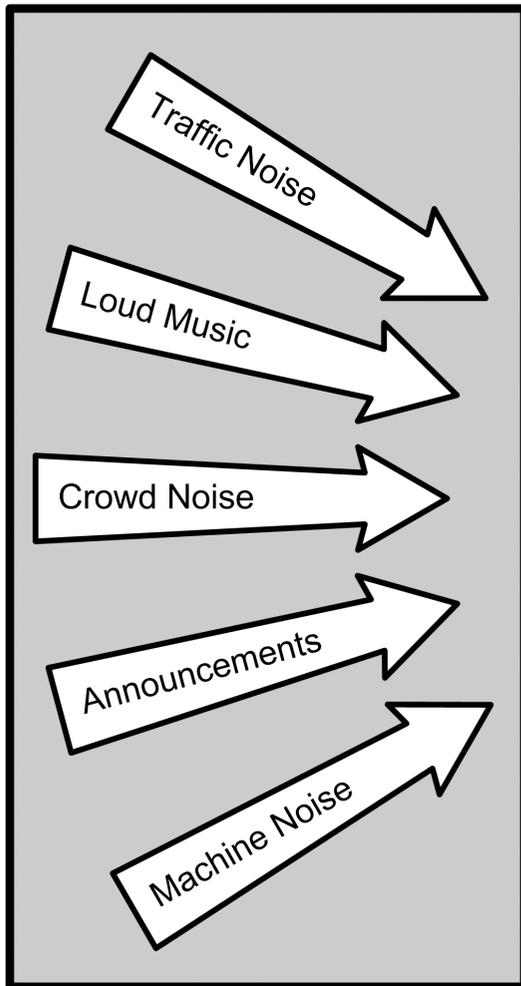
TABLE 14.1 Cells in the Auditory Nuclei of the Monkey^a

Central Auditory Nucleus	Number of Cells
Cochlear nuclei	88,000
Superior olivary complex	34,000
Nuclei of lateral lemniscus	38,000
Inferior colliculus	392,000
Medial geniculate body (pars principalis)	364,000
Auditory cortex	10,000,000

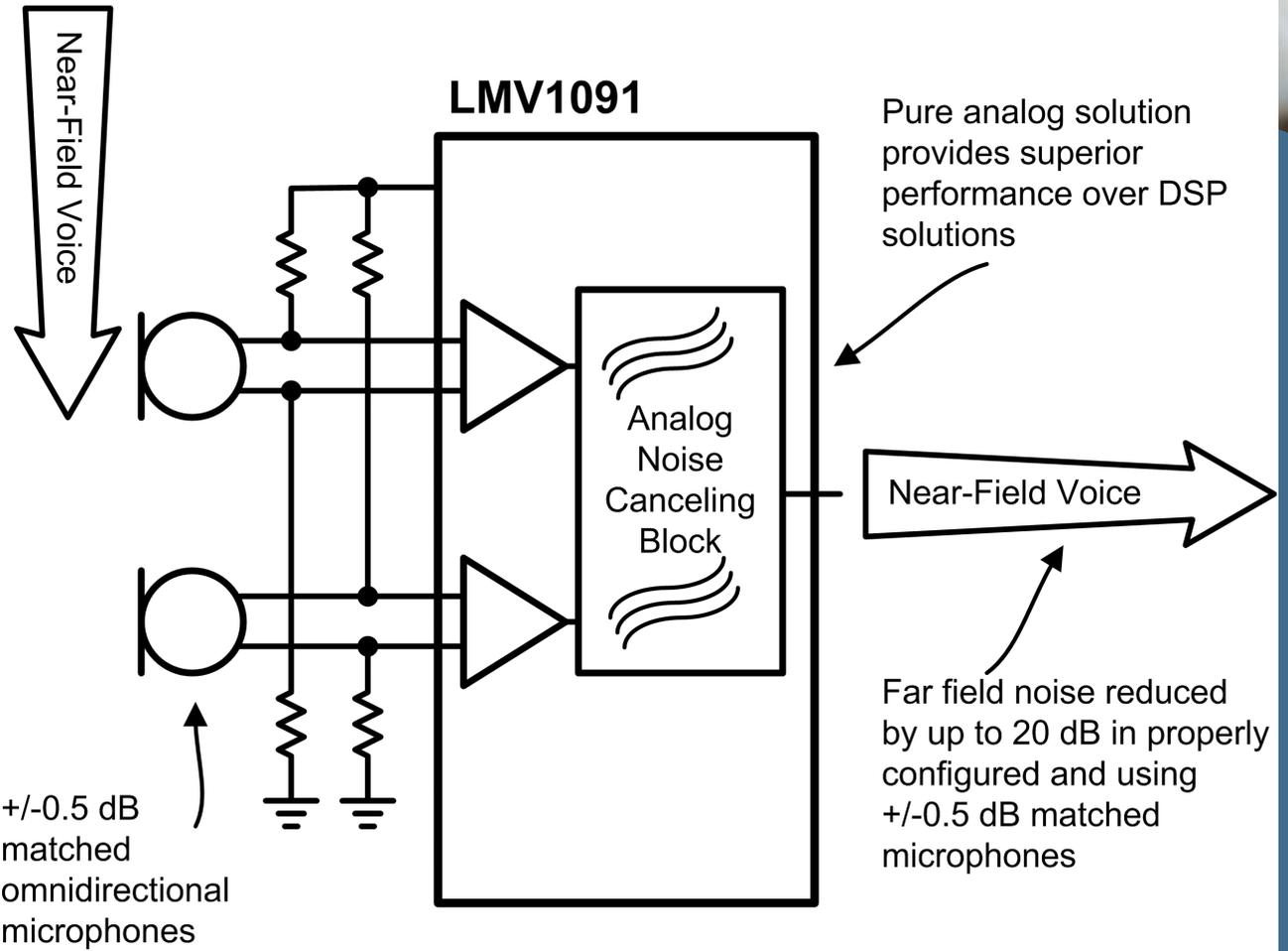




Far-field noise, > 50 cm



Up to 4 cm

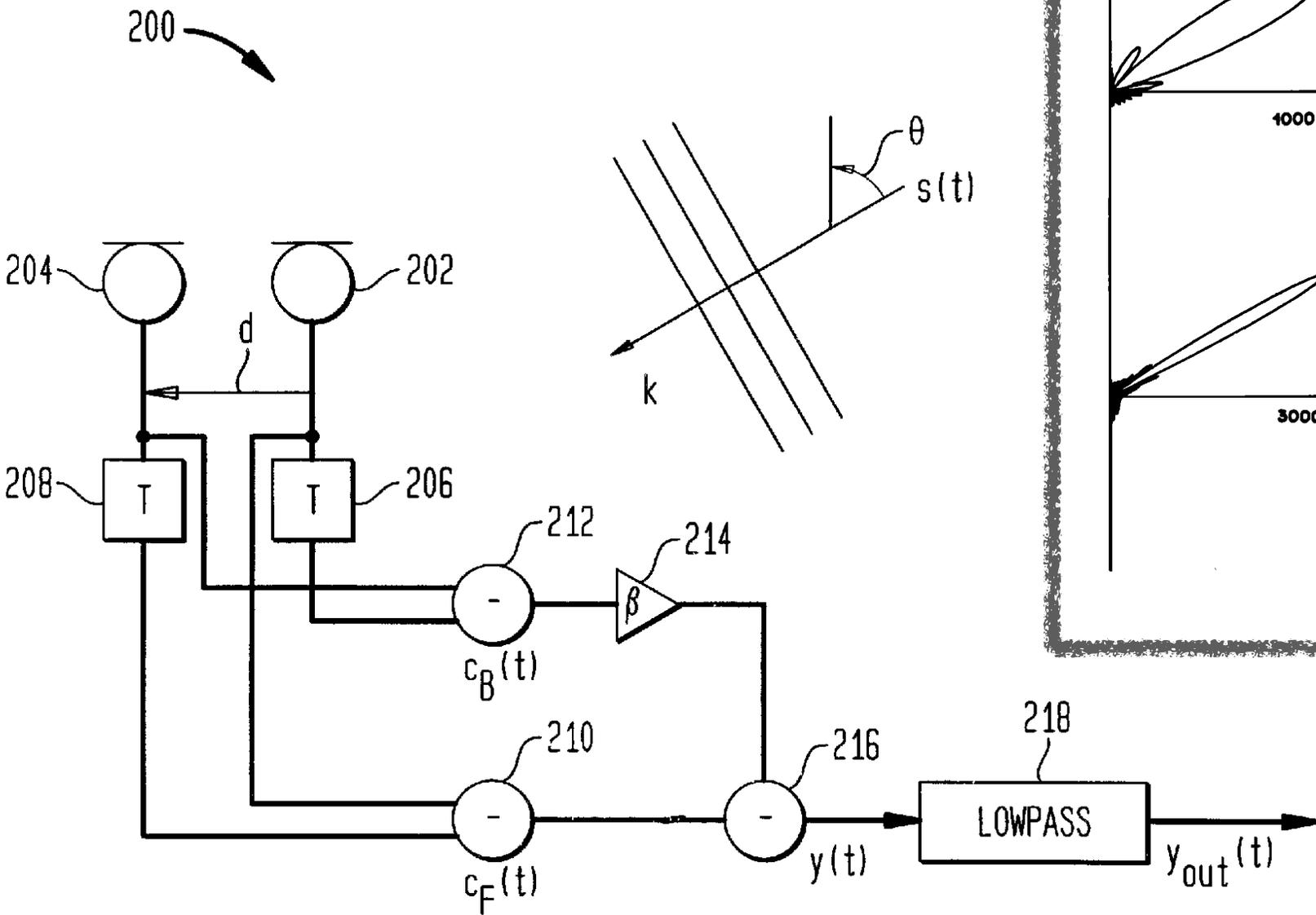
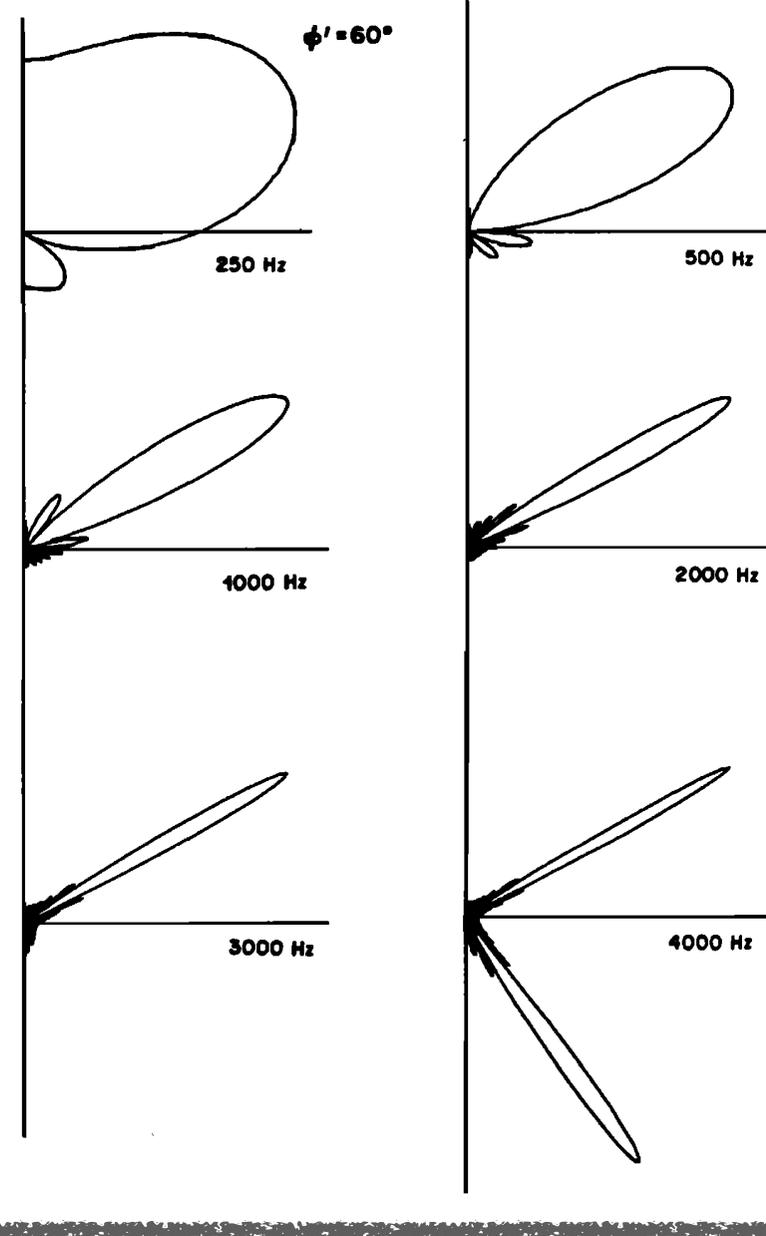


+/-0.5 dB matched omnidirectional microphones

Pure analog solution provides superior performance over DSP solutions

Far field noise reduced by up to 20 dB in properly configured and using +/-0.5 dB matched microphones

$$d_{mm'}^n(\beta) = \xi_{mm'} \sqrt{\frac{s!(s+\mu+\nu)!}{(s+\mu)!(s+\nu)!}} \\ \times \sin\left(\frac{\beta}{2}\right)^\mu \cos\left(\frac{\beta}{2}\right)^\nu P_s^{(\mu,\nu)}(\cos\beta)$$

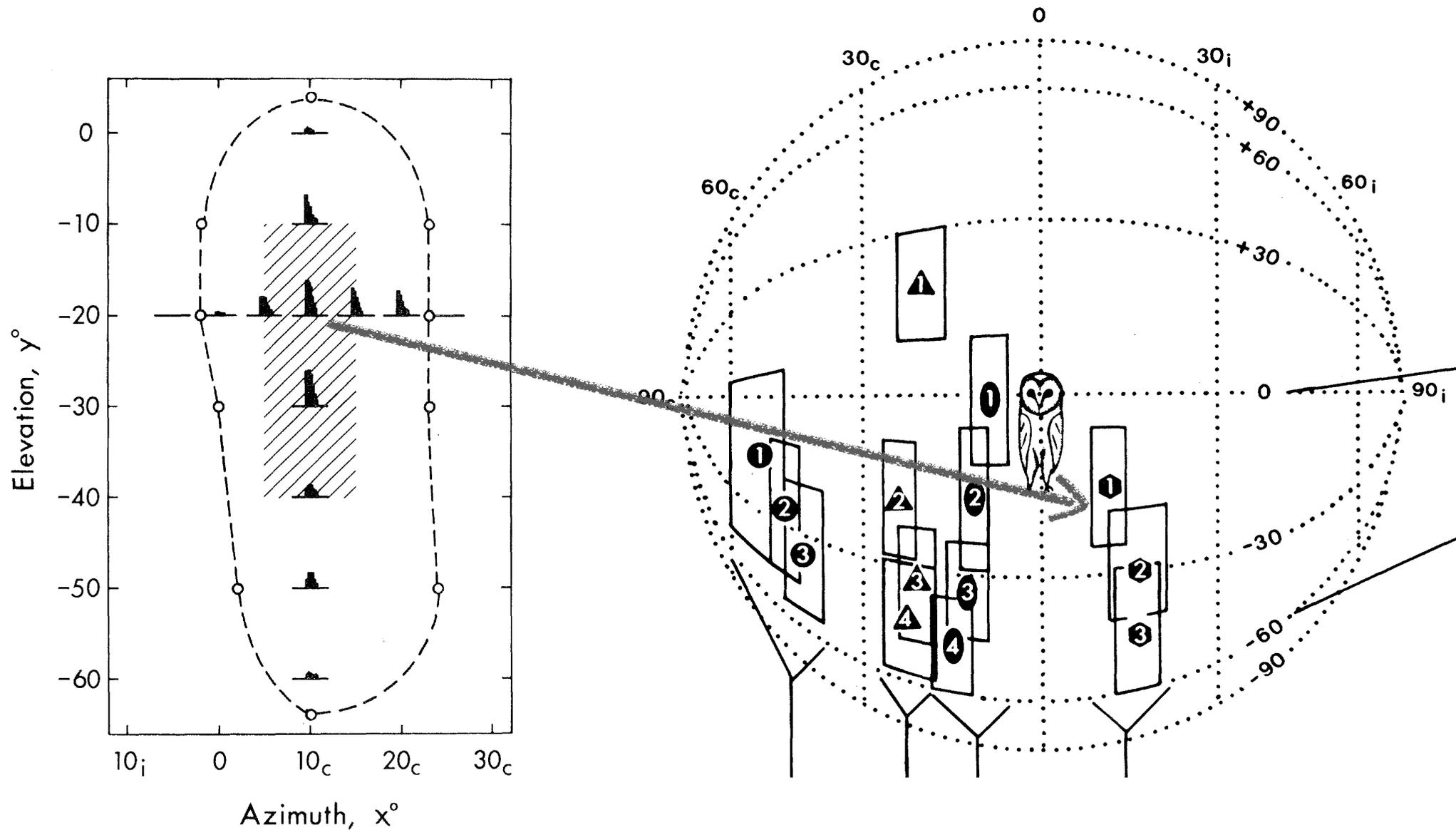




Today's lecture: Source Separation

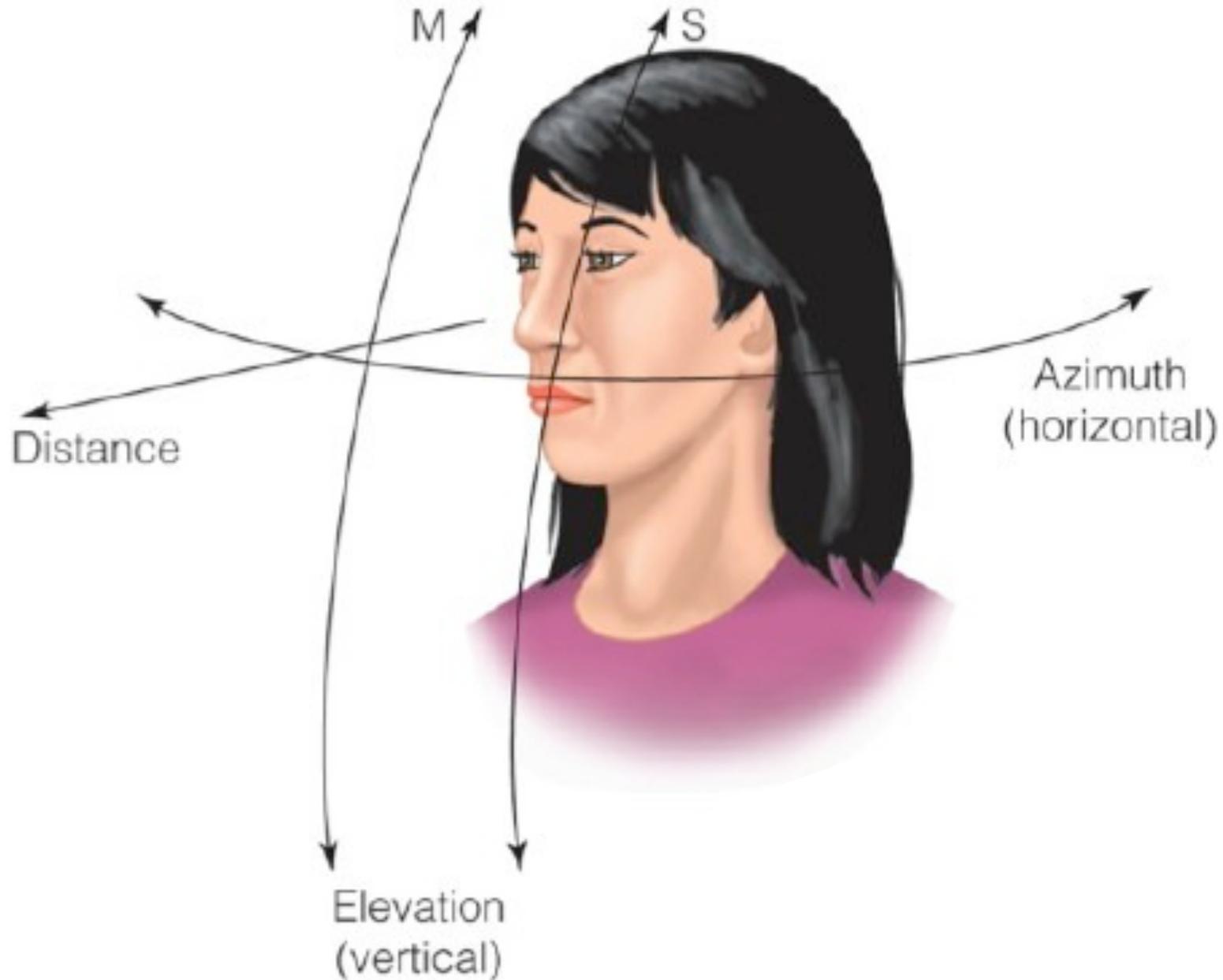
- * Two approaches to the problem ...
 - * **Auditory scene analysis**
 - * Microphone array techniques
- * Research project ideas ...

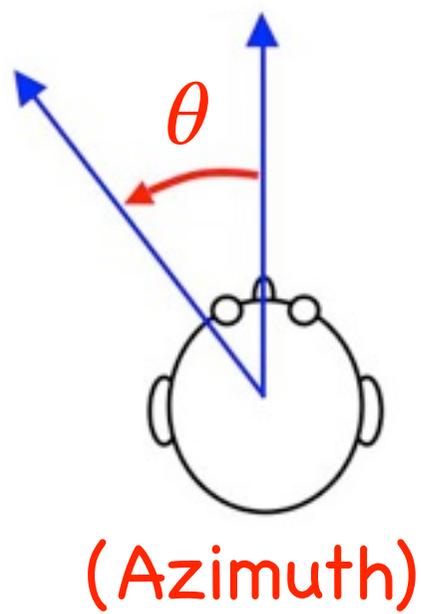
Where do we begin to understand **how** auditory spatial maps are **computed** in the brain?



Spatial hearing cues ...

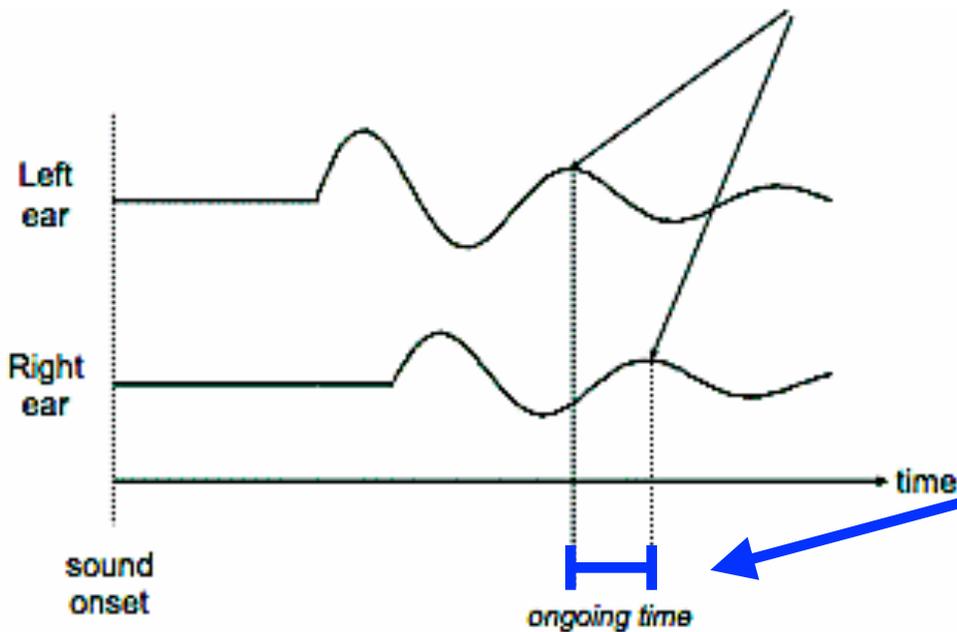
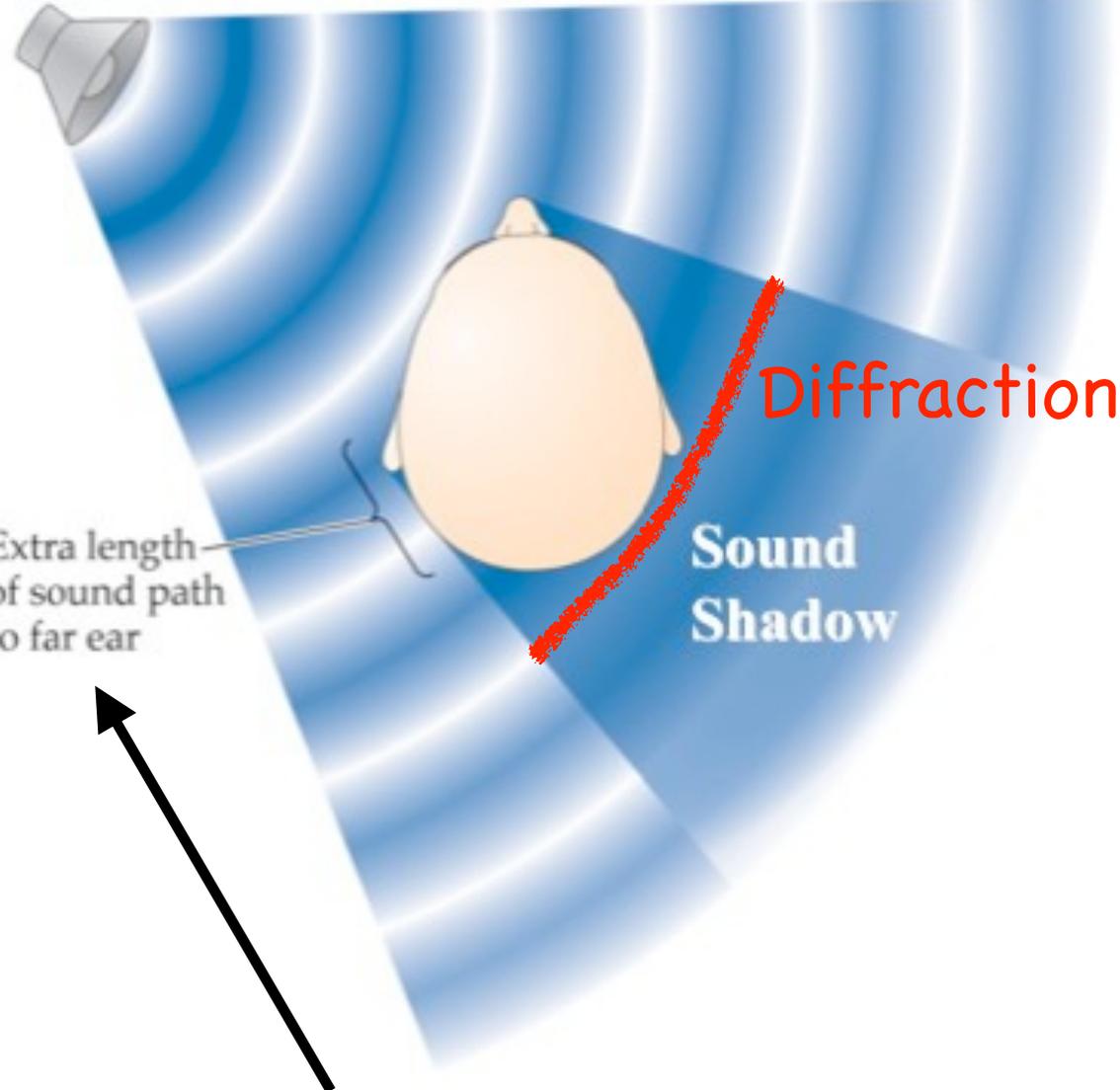
The story begins with acoustics of the head ...





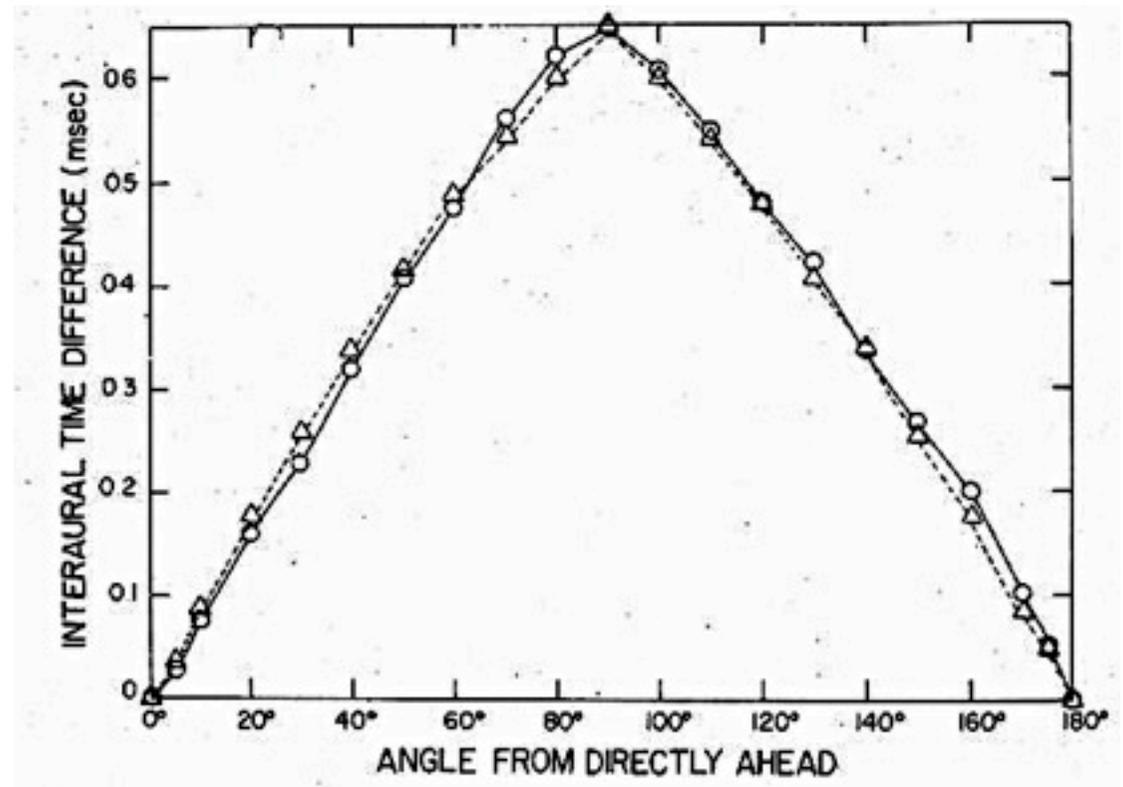
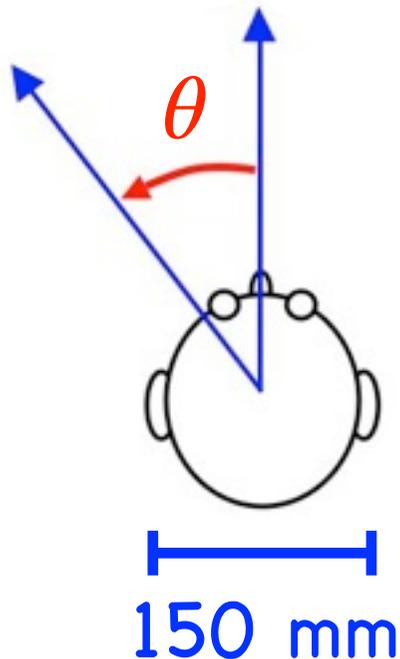
Trigonometry maps θ to "extra length"

Sound source

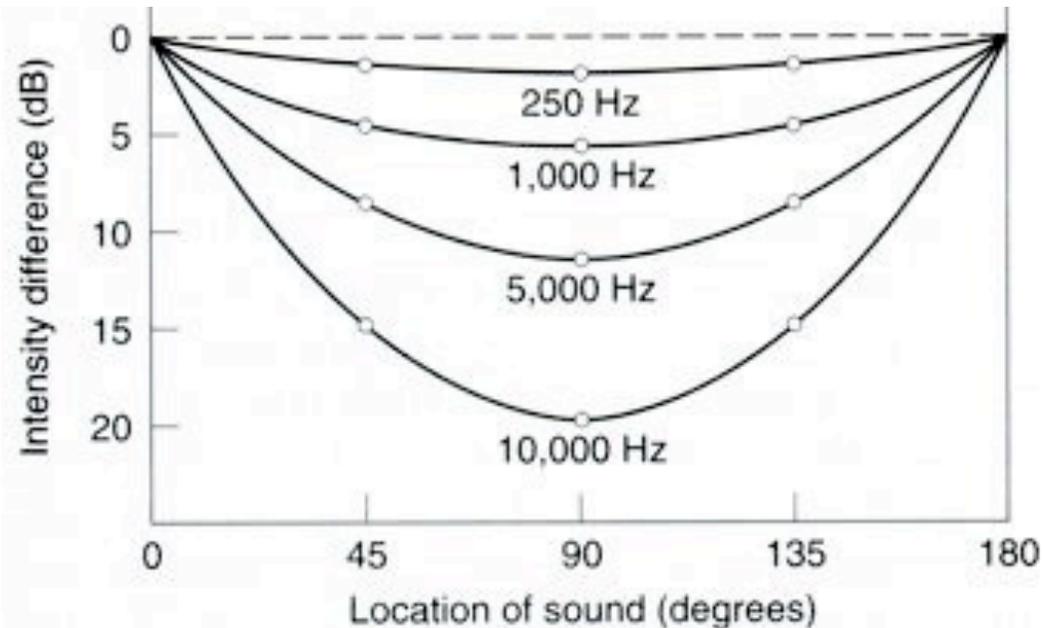
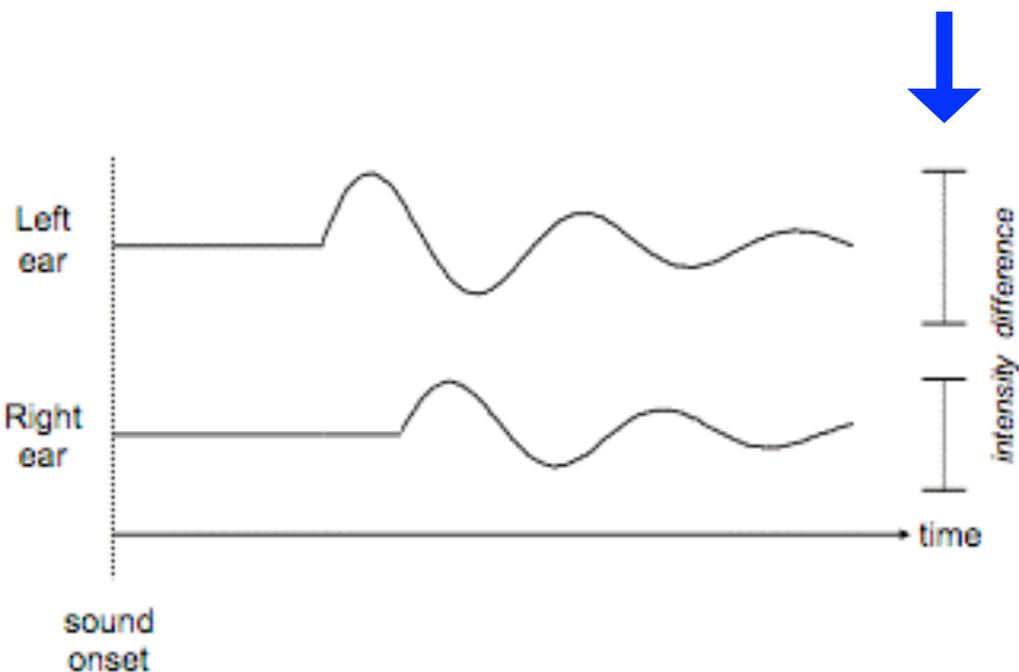
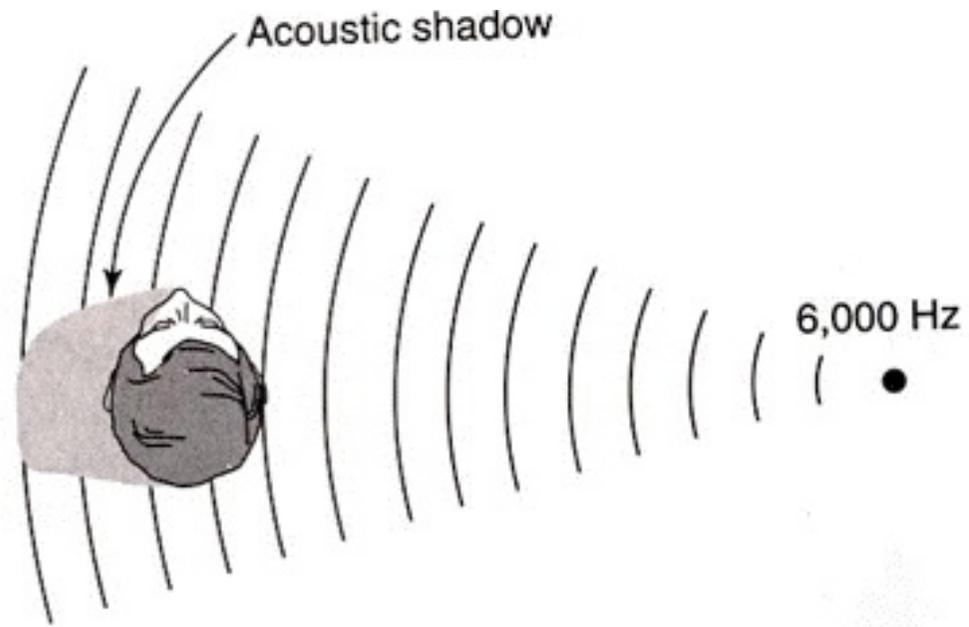


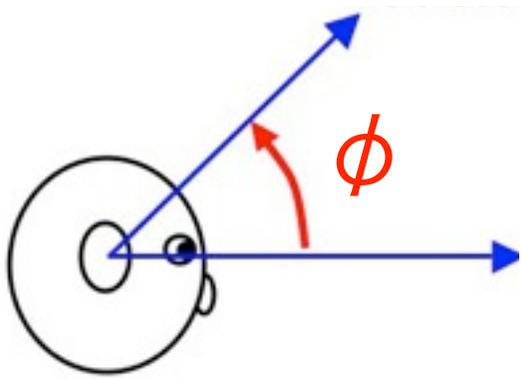
Speed of sound determines time difference that corresponds to the "extra length".

150 mm average human head size limits the interaural timing cue to $600 \mu\text{s}$, corresponding to detecting the phase of a 1.7 kHz sine wave

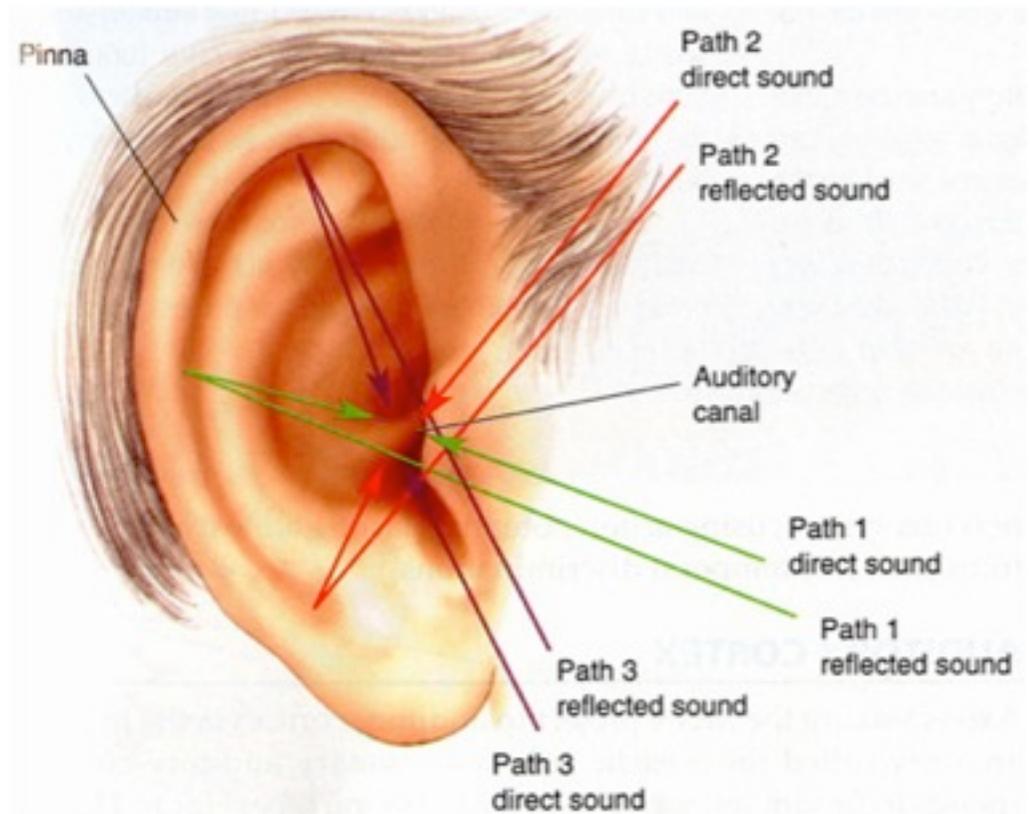
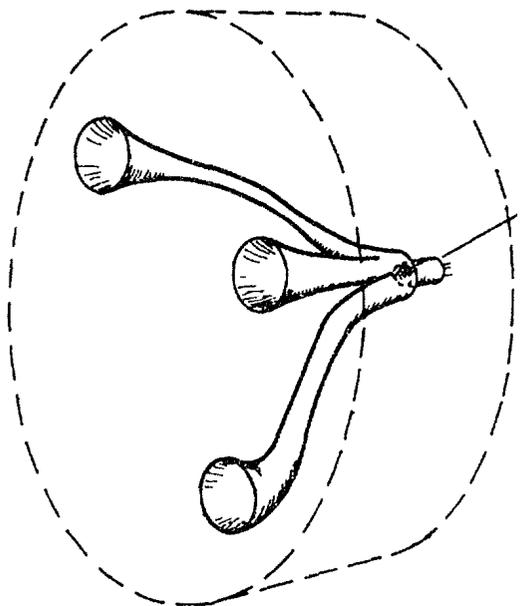


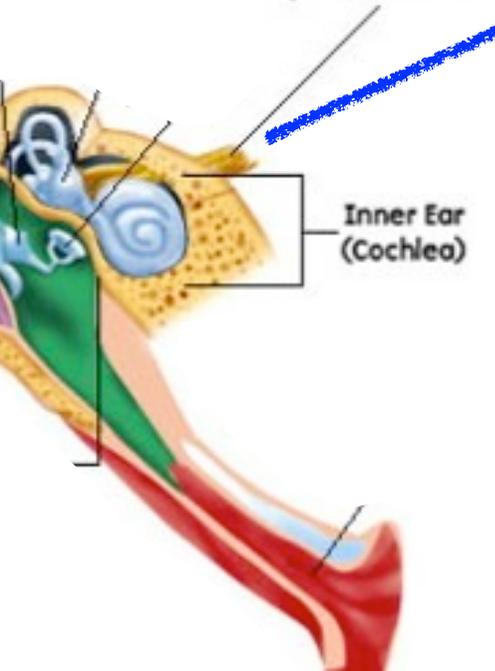
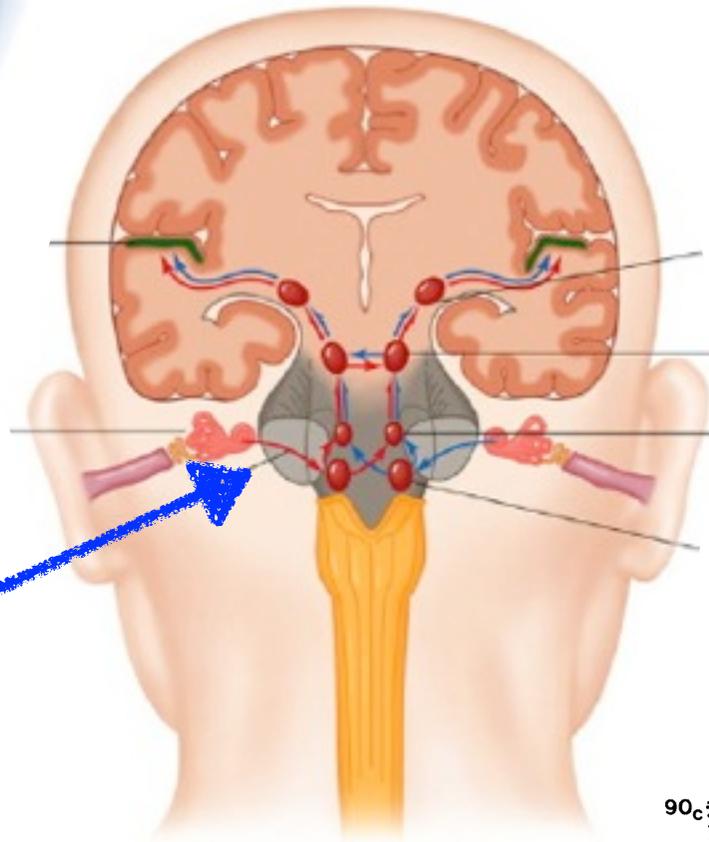
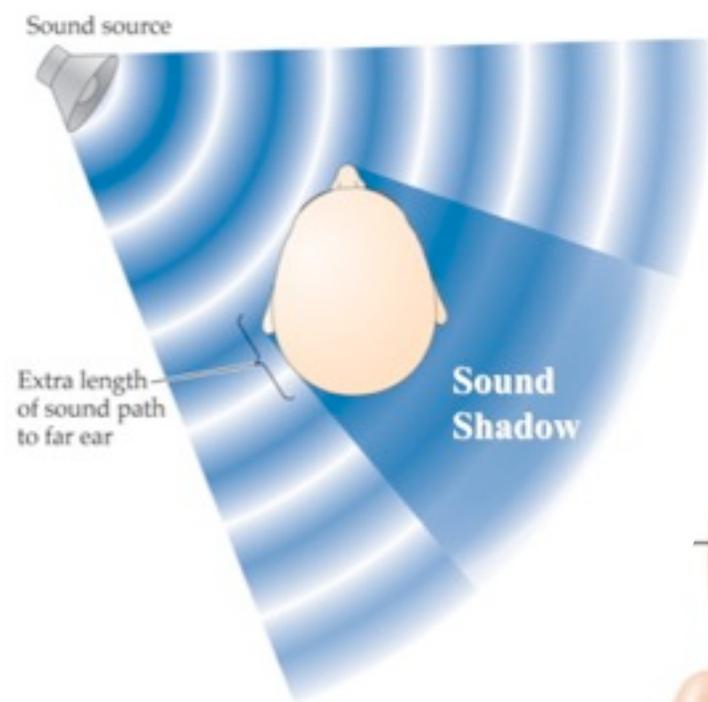
For kHz sound energy, **azimuth** can be computed by comparing interaural **intensity** cues generated by the **head shadow** effect.





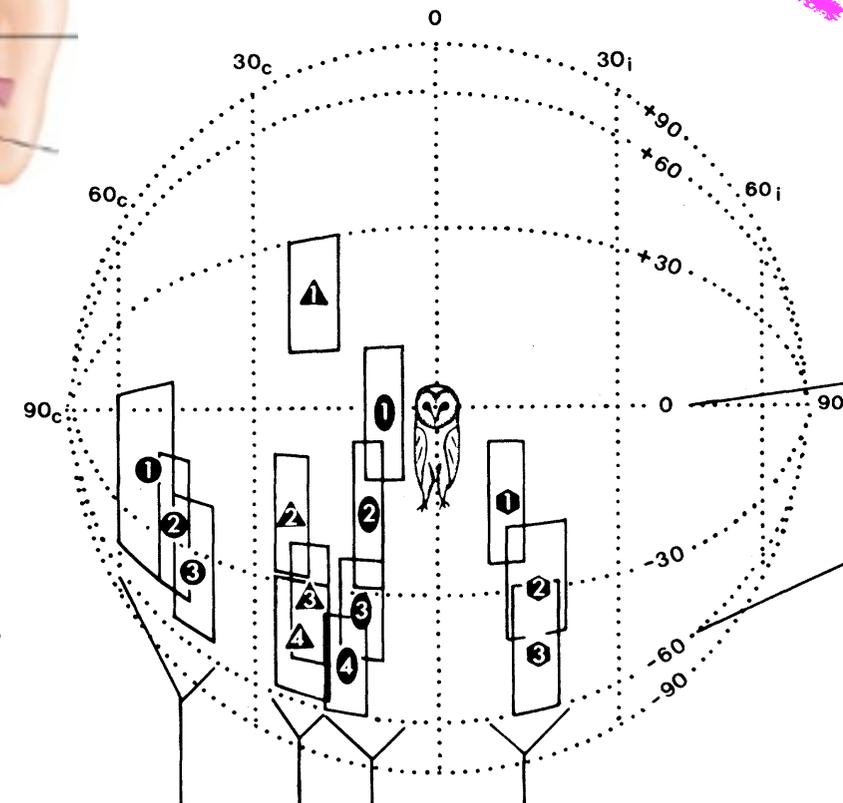
Elevation cues
are coded by
acoustic **comb**
filtering in
the outer ear.

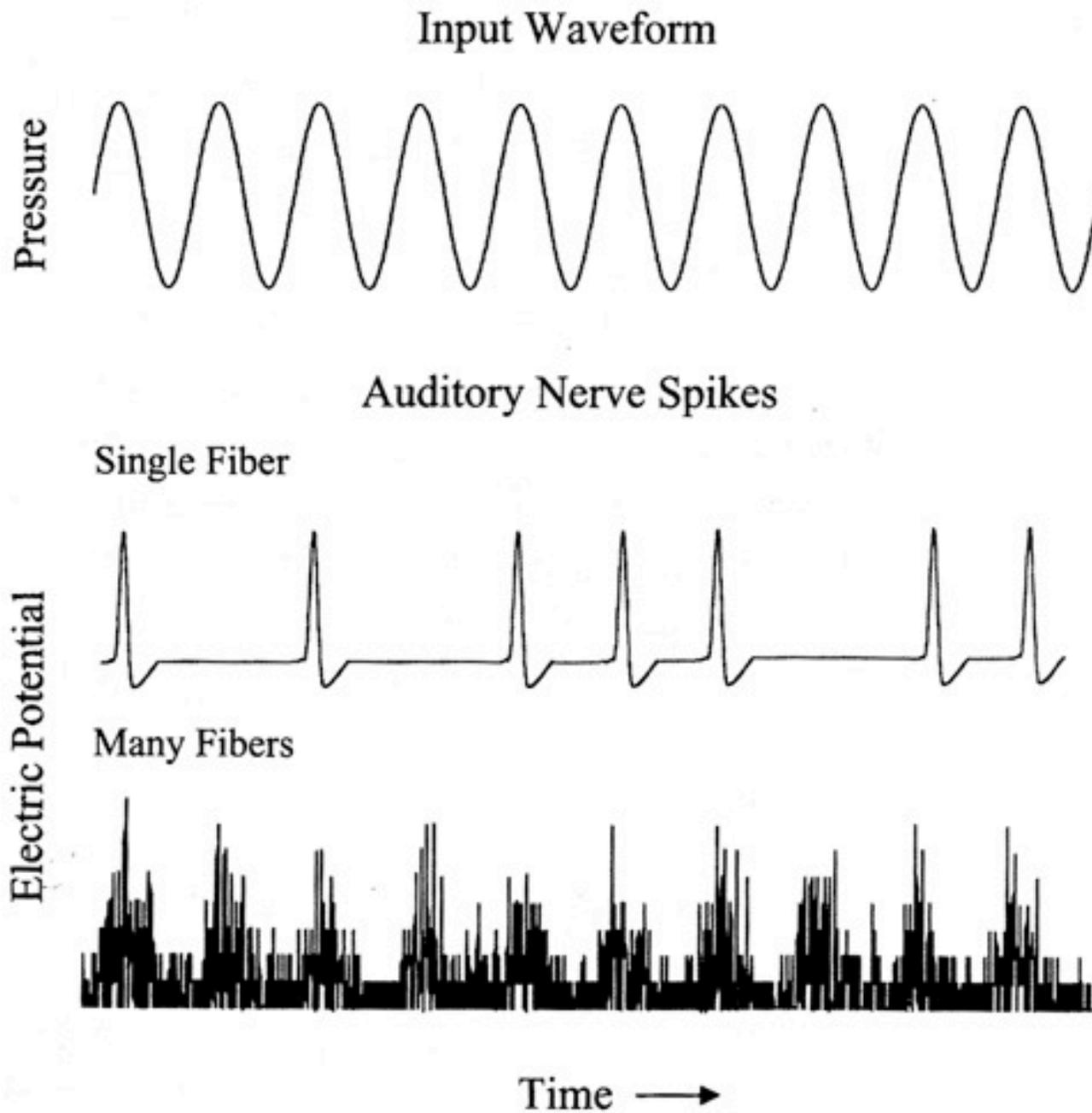




Q. How does the brain compute neural maps of space from acoustic cues ?

A. By processing the data coded by the auditory nerve.





Cycle-by-cycle
acoustic
waveform
shape
can be
reconstructed
from the
spike trains of
multiple
auditory
nerve
fibers.

Auditory Nerve: A "neural microphone" up to multi-kHz.

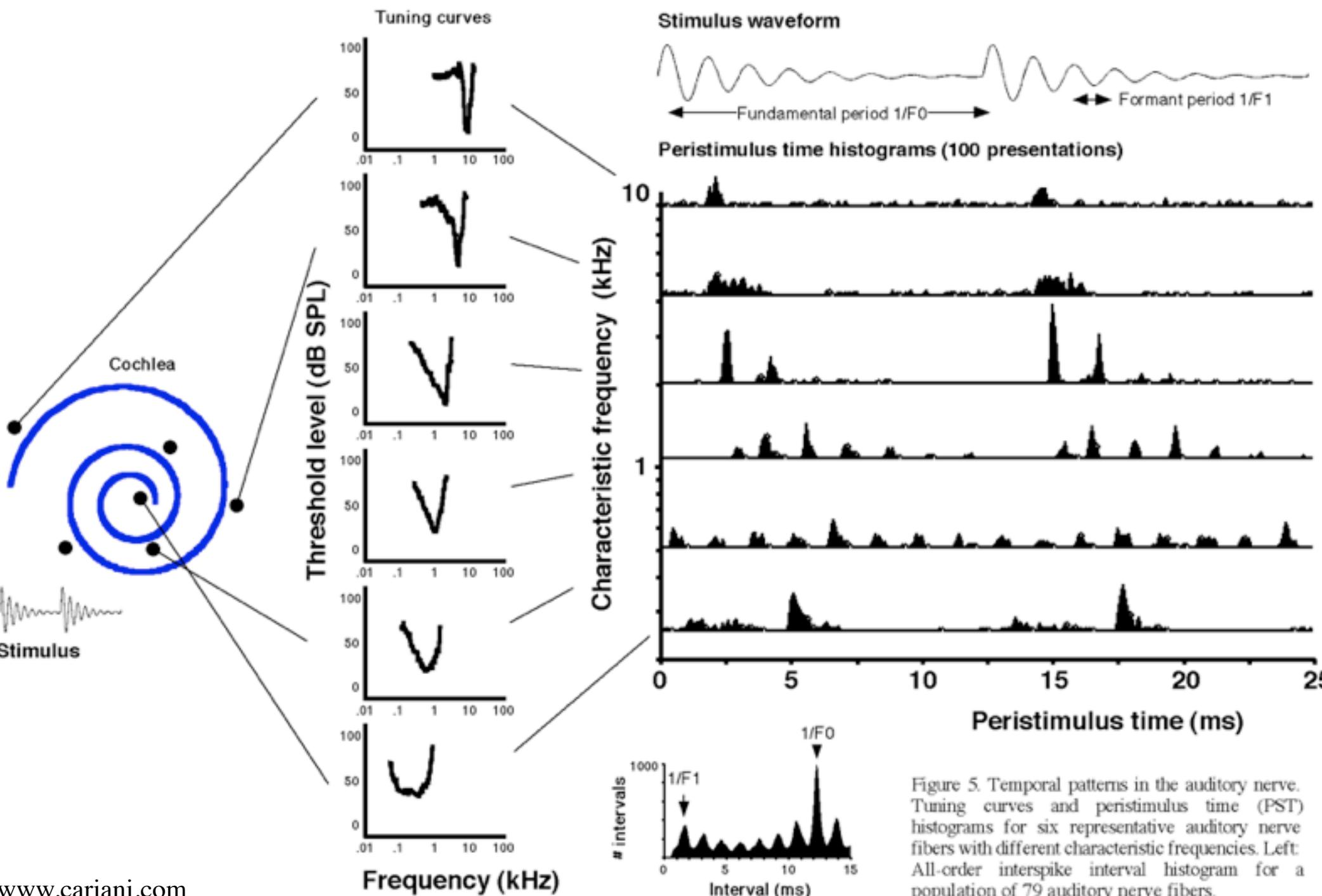
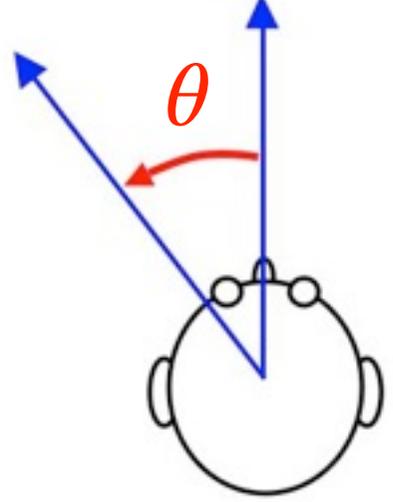
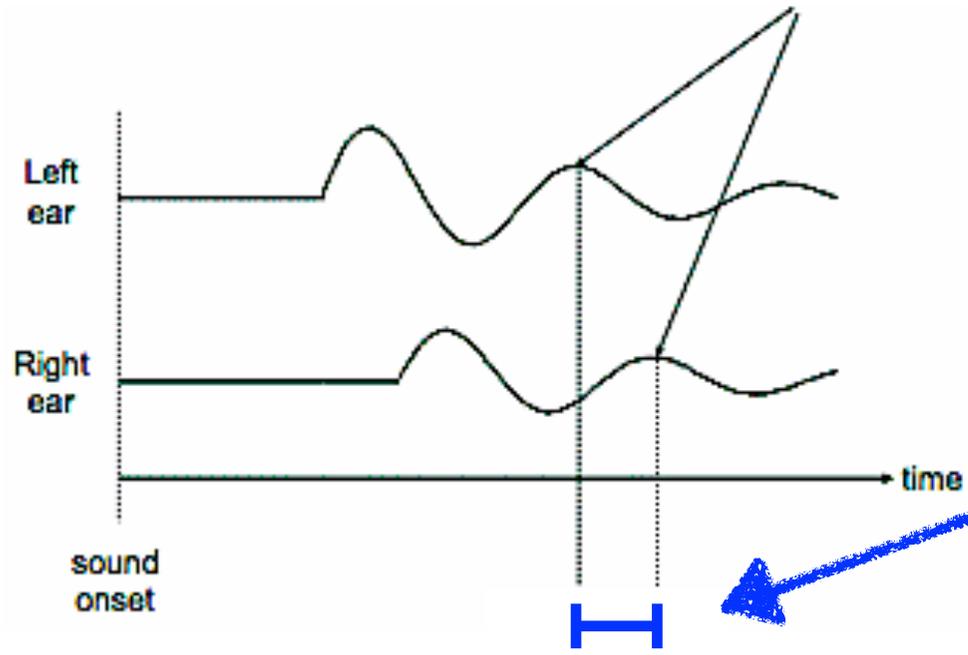


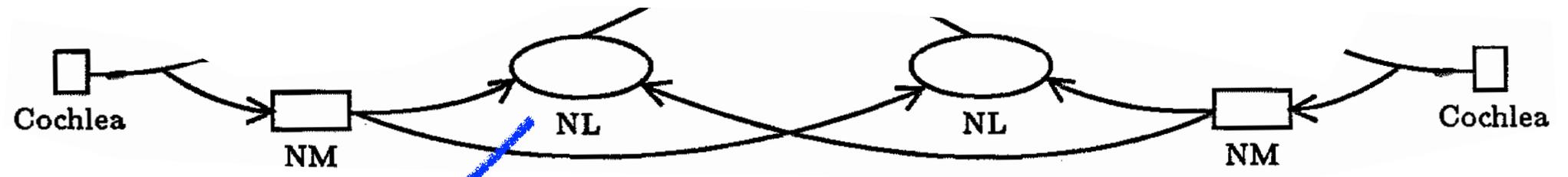
Figure 5. Temporal patterns in the auditory nerve. Tuning curves and peristimulus time (PST) histograms for six representative auditory nerve fibers with different characteristic frequencies. Left: All-order interspike interval histogram for a population of 79 auditory nerve fibers.



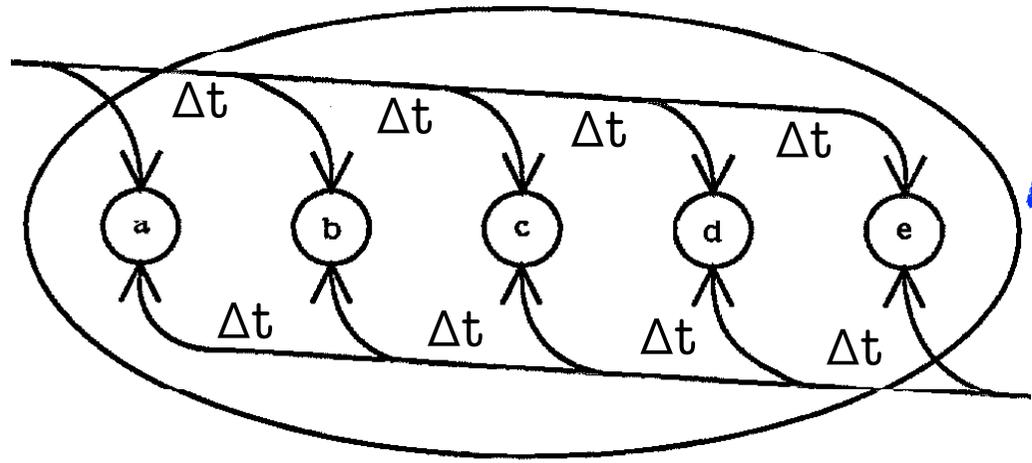
(Azimuth)



To compute the time delay, **cross-correlate** the waveforms encoded by the auditory nerve of the **left and right cochlea**.



Nucleus Laminaris: Neural structure in owl auditory pathway that appears to be a **spike cross-correlation** module (Jeffress model).



Incoming axon from contralateral ear

Nucleus Laminaris

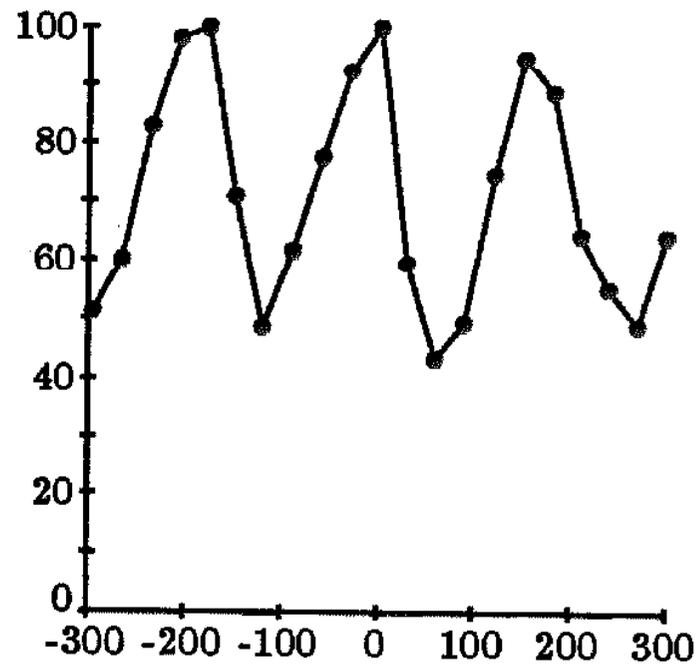
Incoming axon from ipsilateral ear

Dorsal surface of brain

Nucleus Magnocellularis

Anatomy (left) and neurophysiology (below) that show the plausibility of cross-correlation structures in the auditory brainstem for interaural time delay computation.

Normalized Response (%)



Interaural Time Difference (μsec)

Engineers borrowed this concept, and built **computational auditory maps** of interaural time differences ...

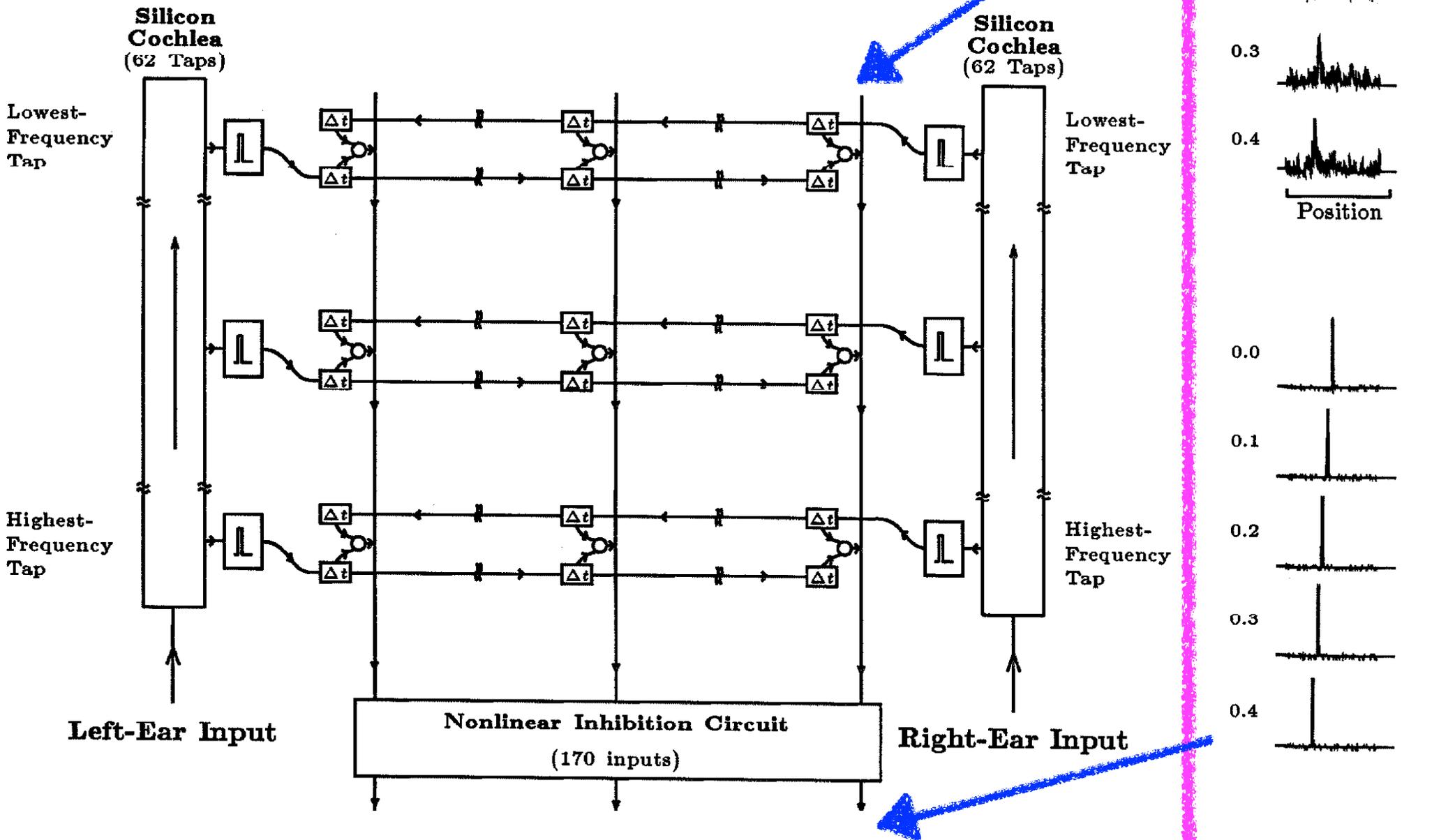
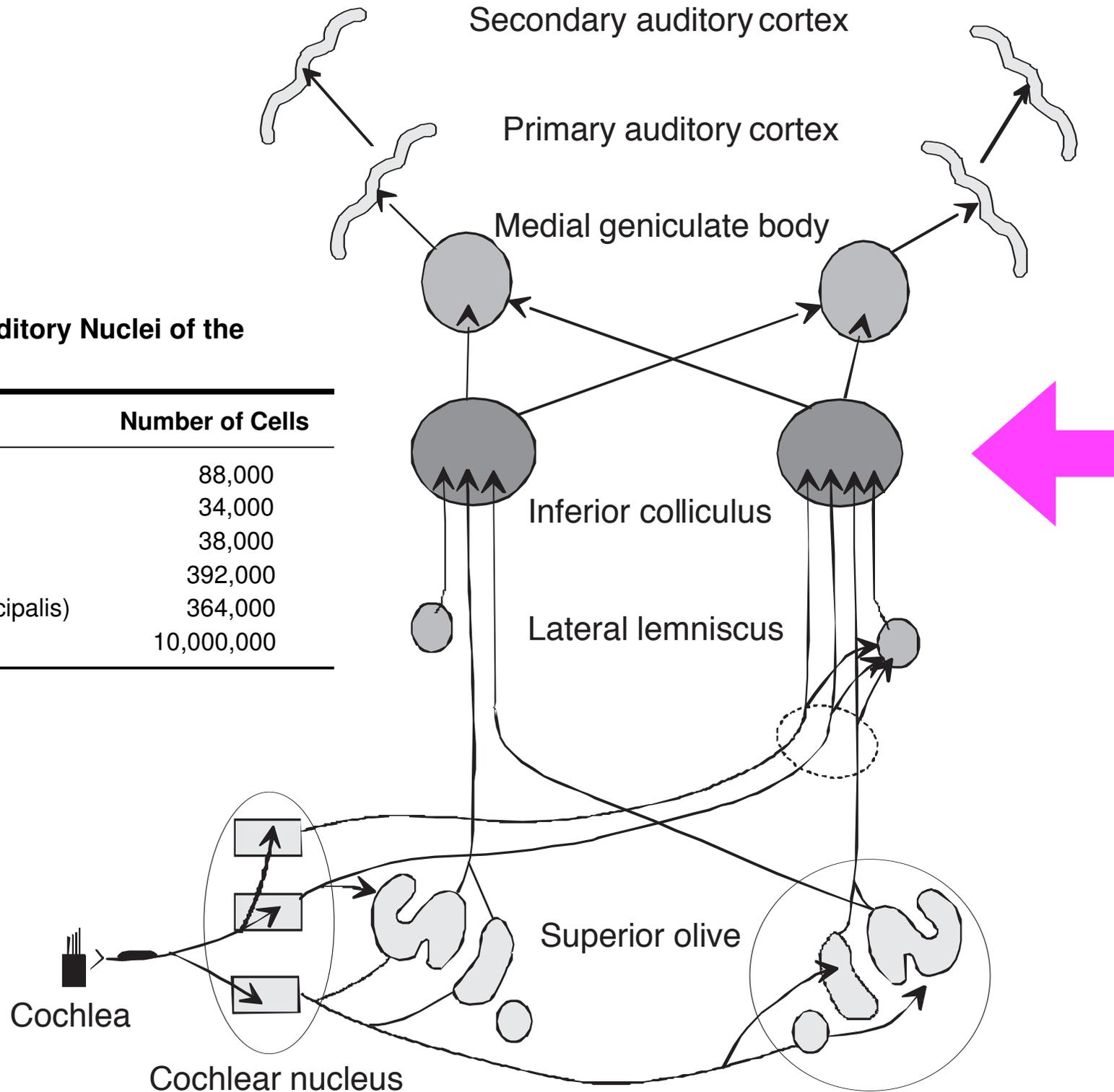


TABLE 14.1 Cells in the Auditory Nuclei of the Monkey^a

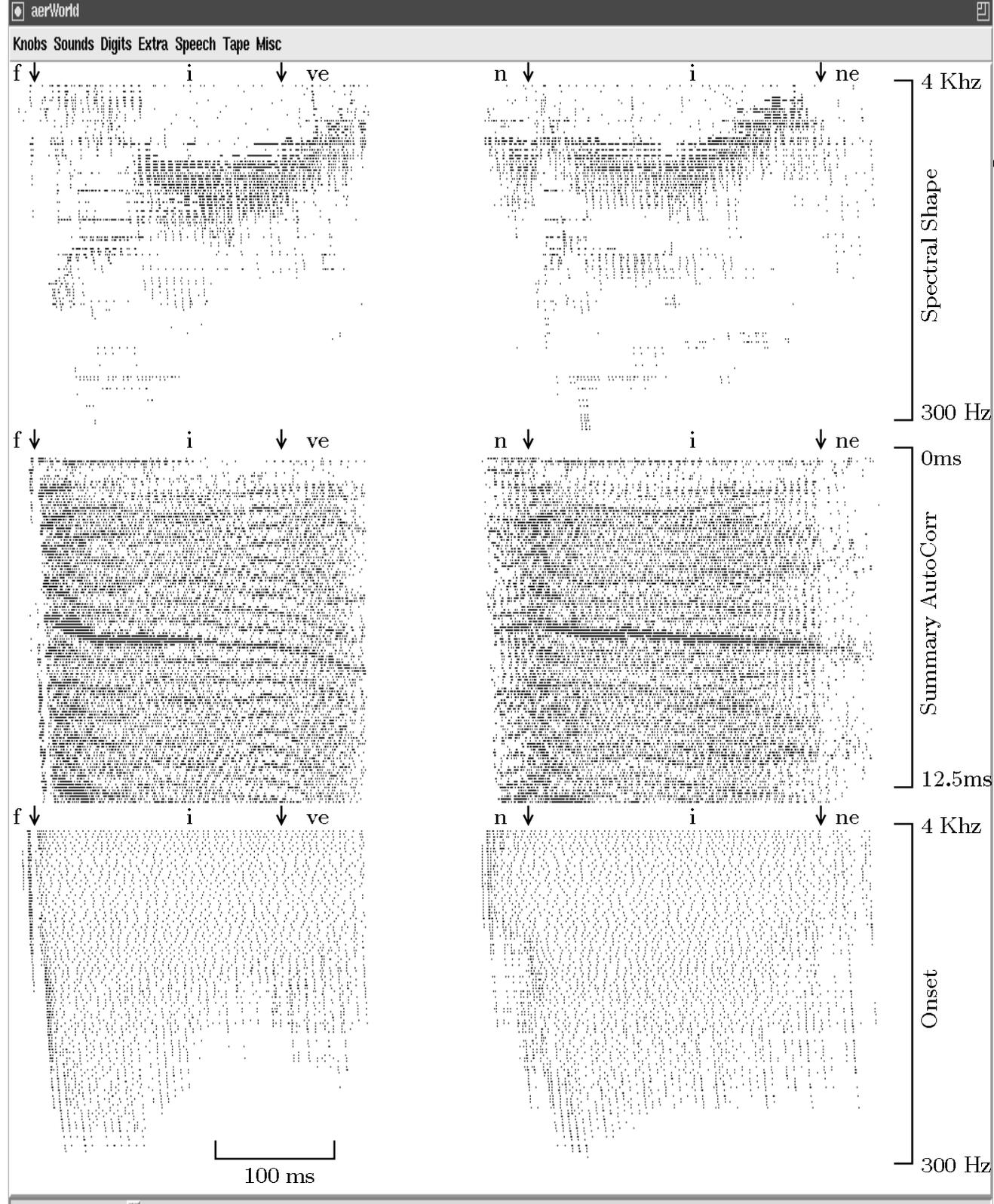
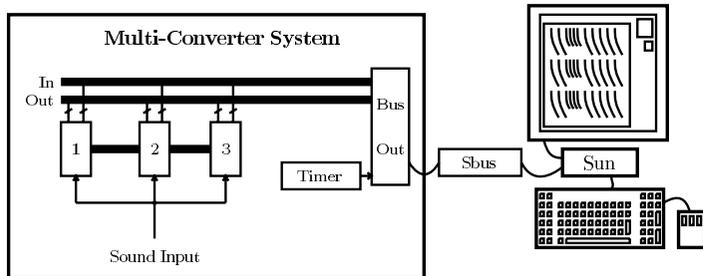
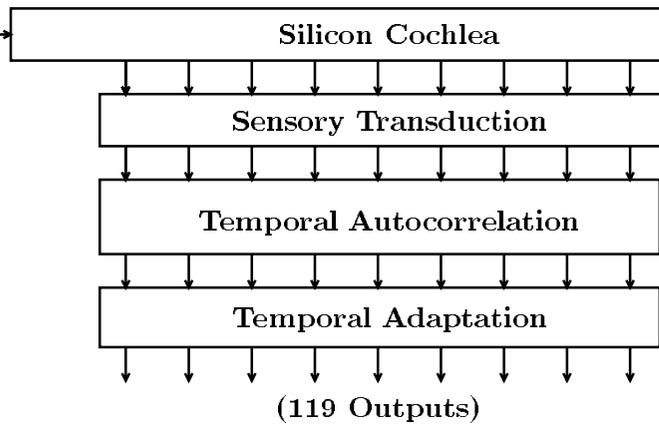
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... and multi-map systems to compute periodicity, onsets, spectral shape, etc.

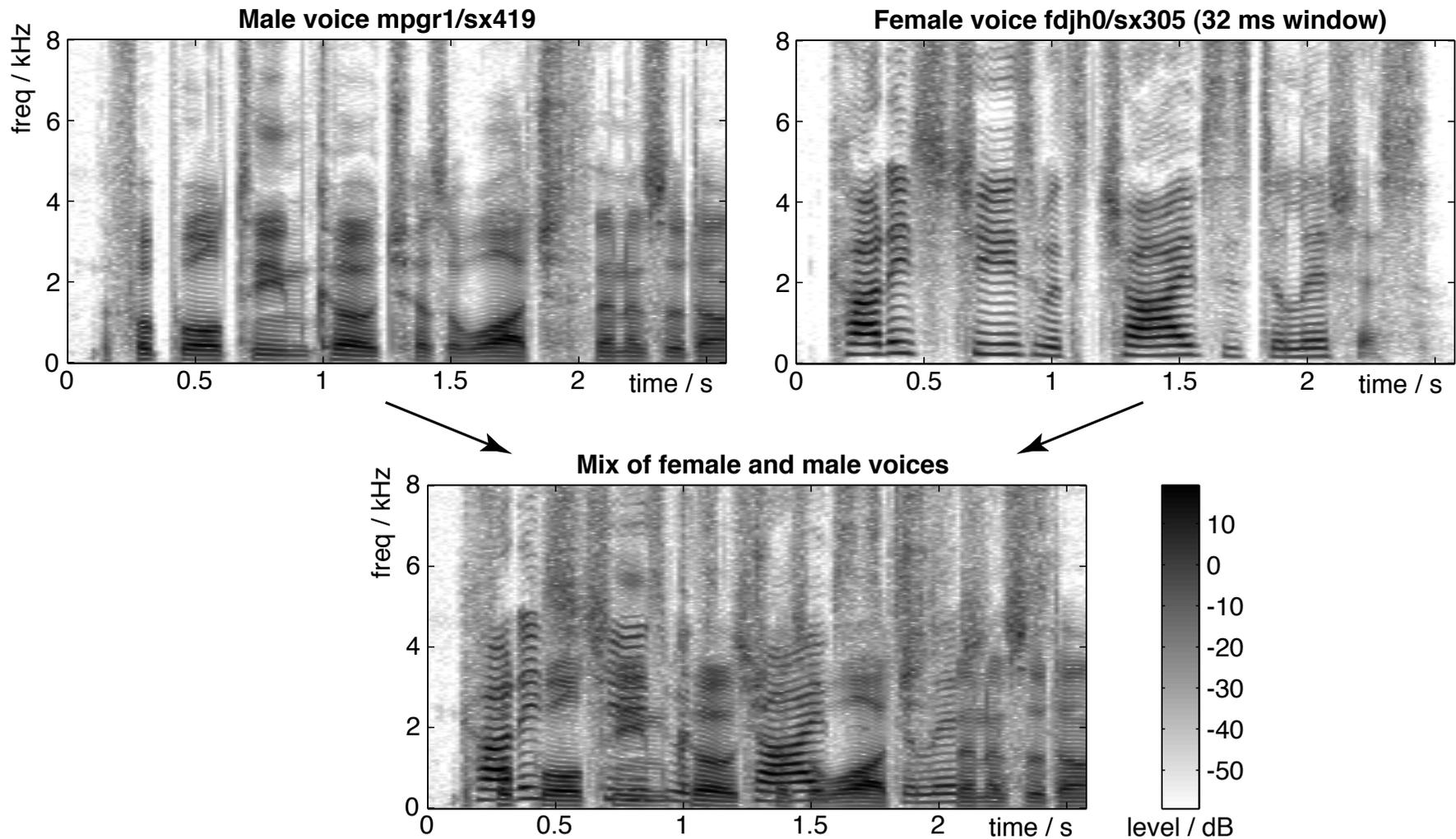
“Turn audition into the vision problem”

Audio Input



Computational Auditory Scene Analysis

Typical problem: Separate 2 voices captured by 1 microphone.



... by using a **auditory** scene analysis pipeline that is inspired by the Gestalt school of **visual** processing.

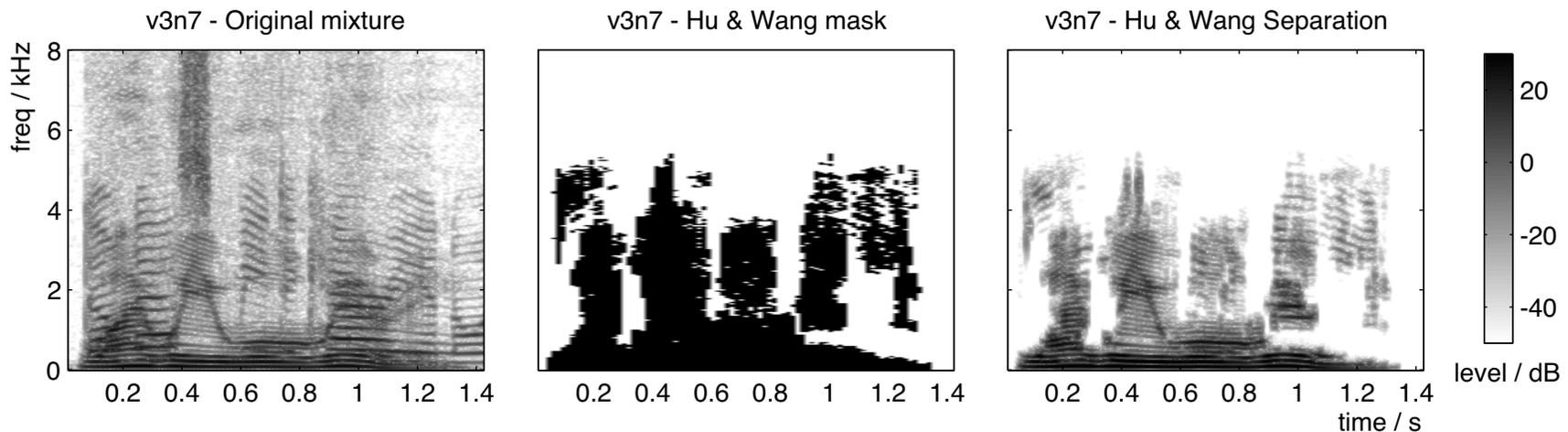
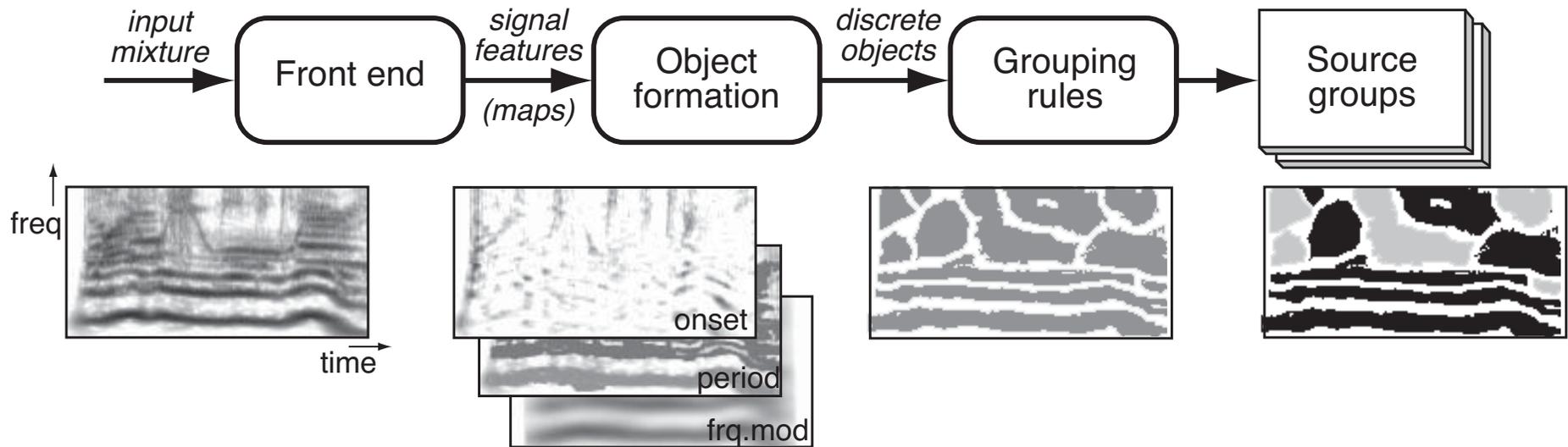


FIGURE 39.7 Example of CASA signal separation via time-frequency masking. Left pane is a spectrogram of a two-voice mixture. Middle pane shows the mask indicating cells dominated by the target voice on the basis of detected harmonicity cues by Hu & Wang [21]. Right pane shows reconstructed target voice.

Other approaches to auditory scene analysis use machine learning techniques, such as factorial HMMs.

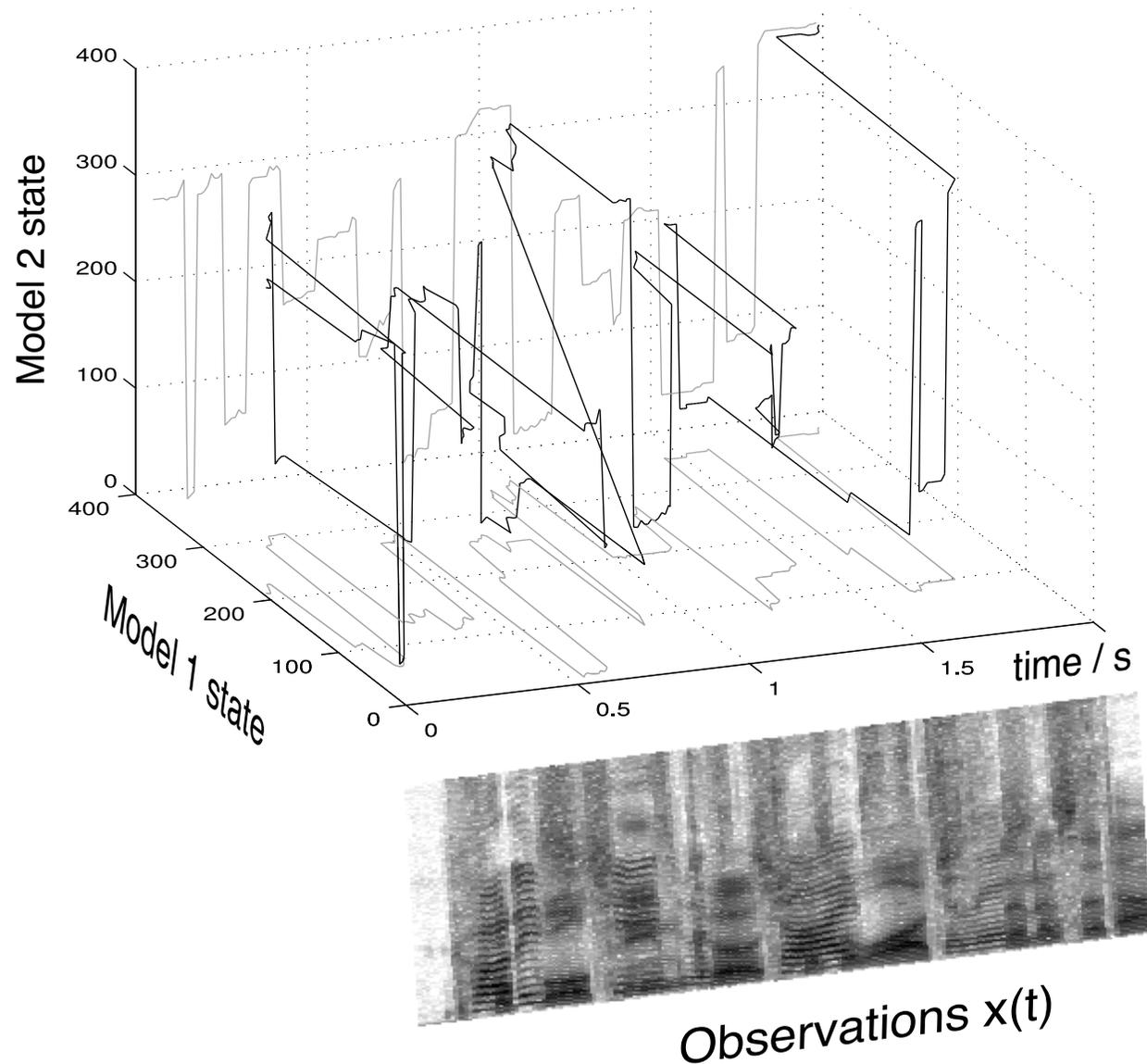
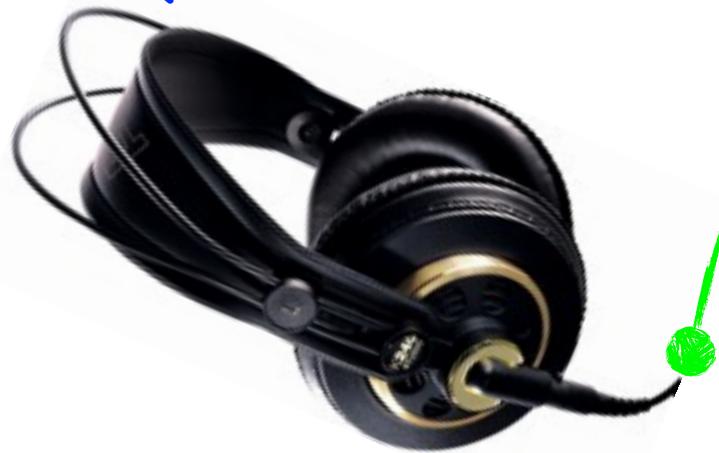


FIGURE 39.8 Illustration of a factorial HMM. The observed mixture is modeled as the combination of two, independent hidden Markov models; the best state sequence is thus a trajectory in a 3-dimensional volume with axes model 1 state, model 2 state, and time. (Figure drawn by Ron Weiss.)

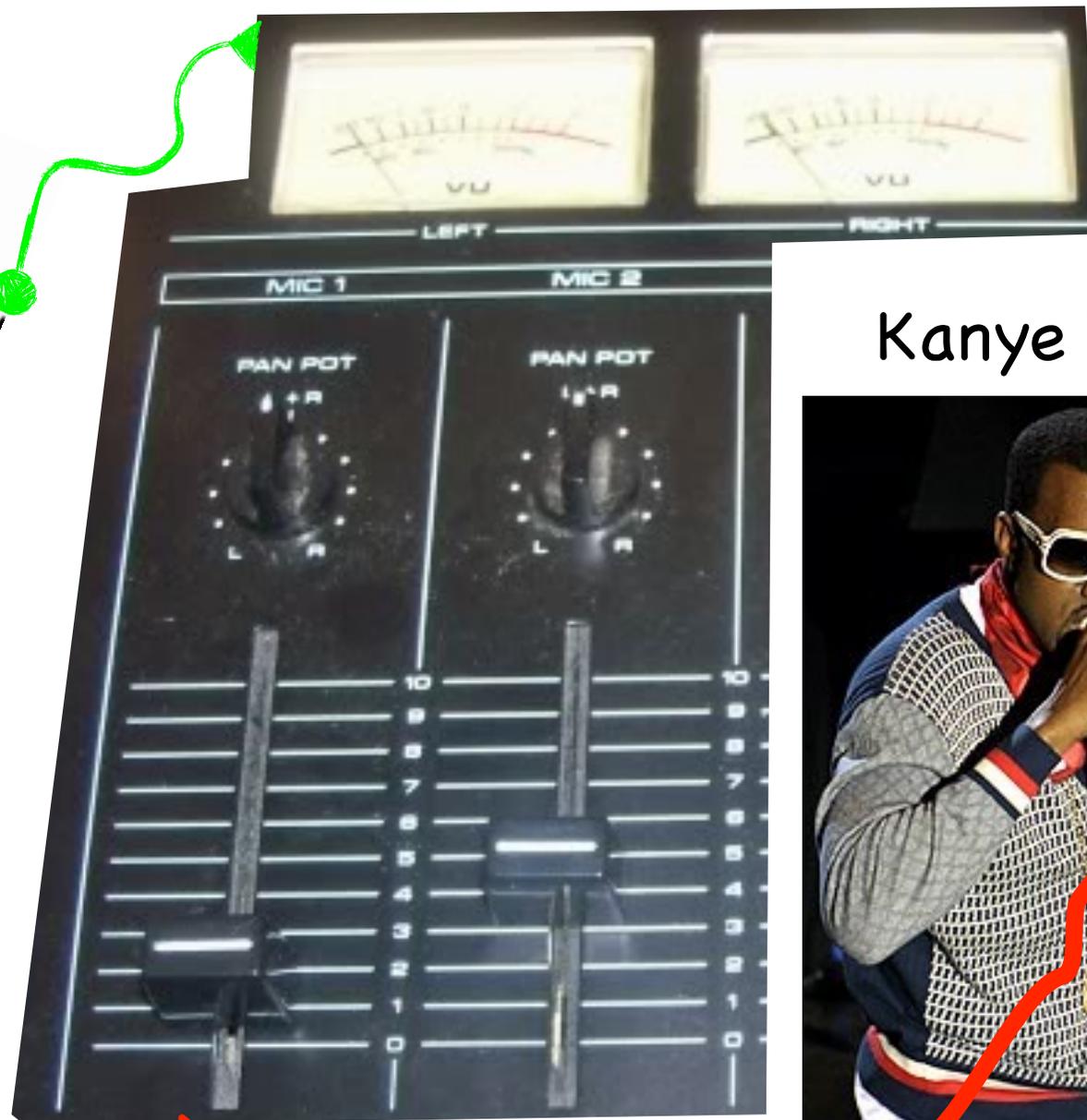
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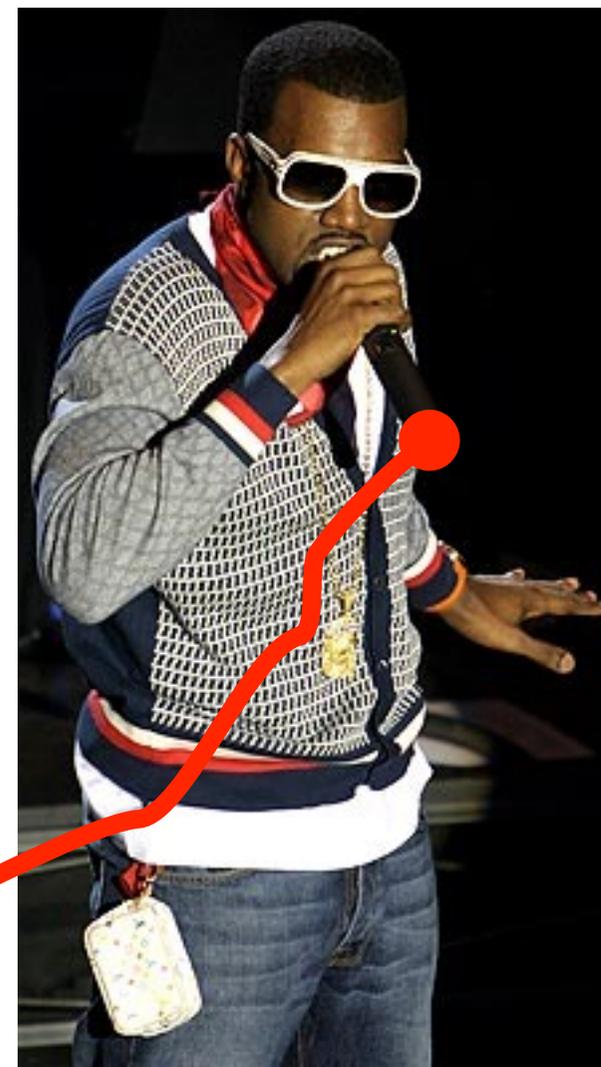
(Close-mic'd voices, different L/R panning for each voice)



Jay-Z

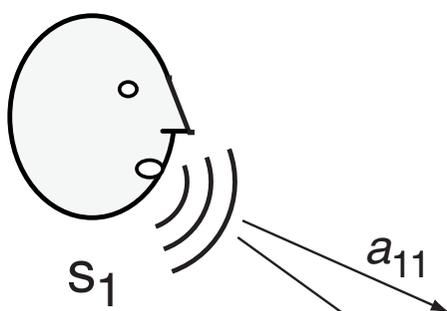


Kanye West

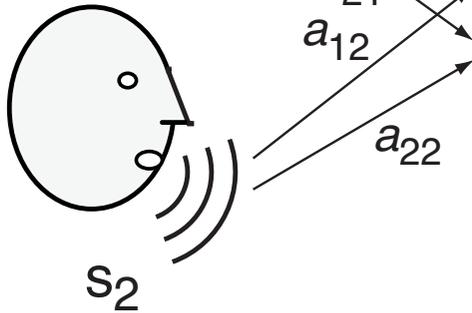


Task: Separate Jay-Z & Kanye from headphone outs

Jay-Z



Kanye



$a_{11}/a_{21}/a_{12}/a_{22}$
are derived
from panpot
and volume
settings.



$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1(t) \\ x_2(t) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} s_1(t) \\ s_2(t) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{A}\mathbf{s}$$

To separate:

$$\hat{\mathbf{s}} = \mathbf{W}\mathbf{x}$$

Where:

$$\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{A}^{-1}$$

What's the catch?

Left = x_1



Right = x_2

What's the catch?

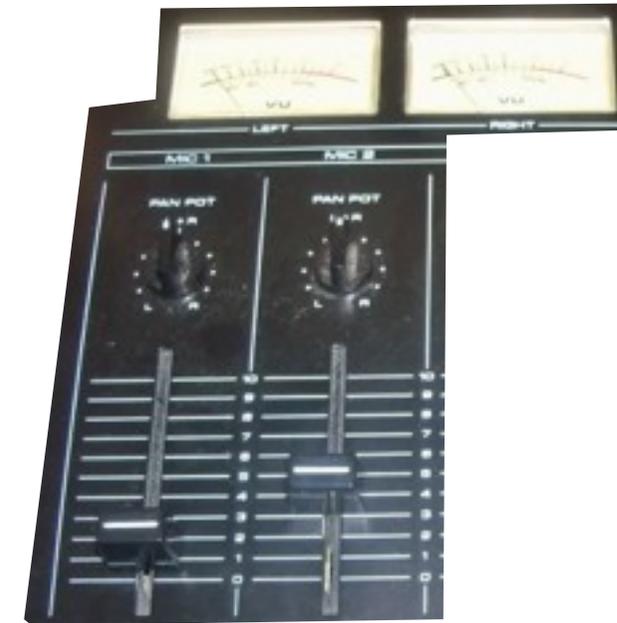
$$\mathbf{W} = \mathbf{A}^{-1}$$

What if matrix **inverse** of \mathbf{A} doesn't **exist**?

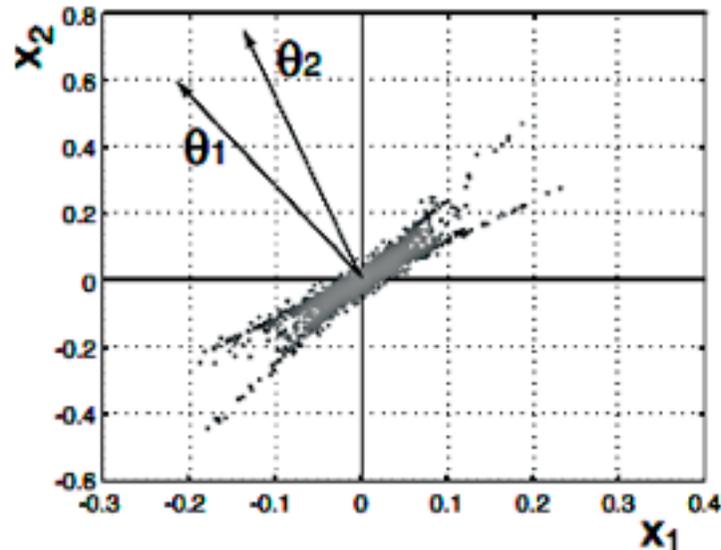
$$\begin{bmatrix} w_{11} & w_{12} \\ w_{21} & w_{22} \end{bmatrix} = \frac{1}{\det \mathbf{A}} \begin{bmatrix} a_{22} & -a_{12} \\ -a_{21} & a_{11} \end{bmatrix}$$

Also, numerical stability issues, etc ...

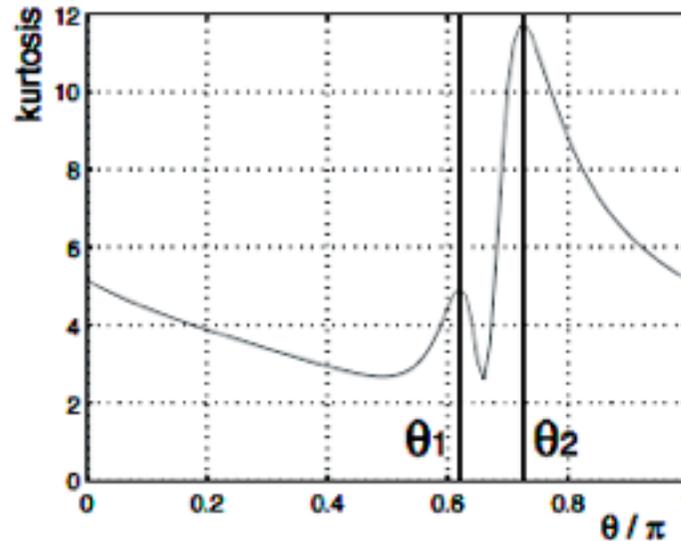
$a_{11}/a_{21}/a_{12}/a_{22}$ are generally not known. We need to "learn" them from the signals over time.



Mixture Scatter



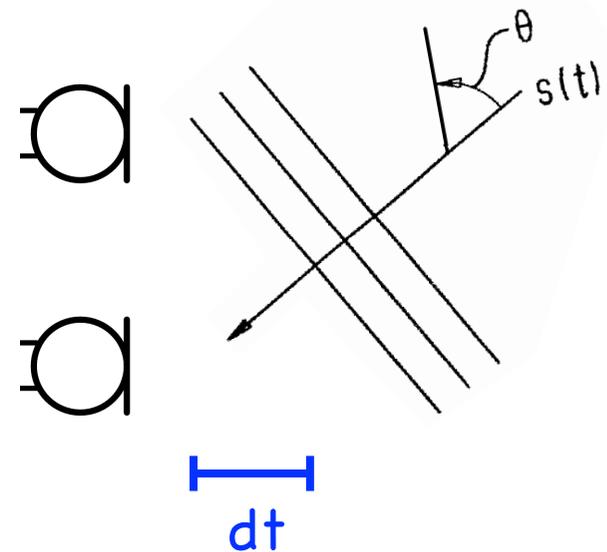
Kurtosis vs. θ



Independent Component Analysis (ICA) can be used to learn \mathbf{A}

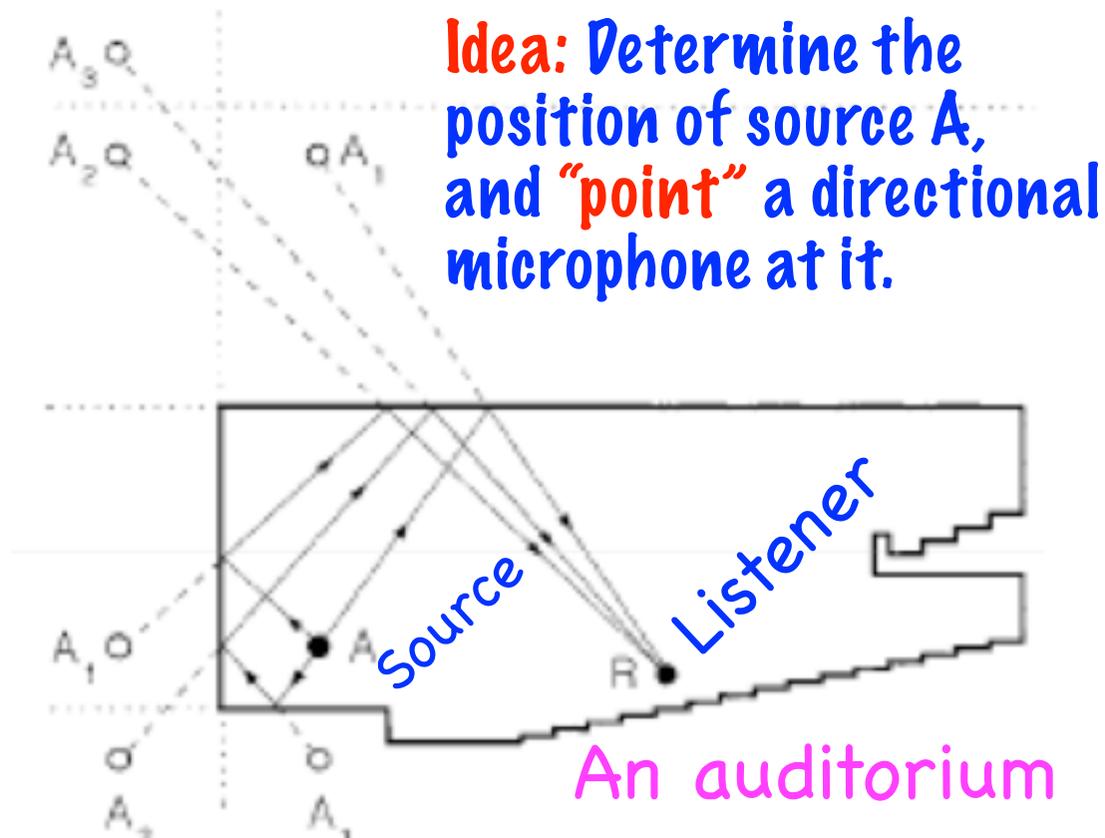
What's the catch?

Real-world voices combine
"in the air", not a mixer.
The speed of sound is finite,
and so each mic hears each
voice with a (relative) delay.

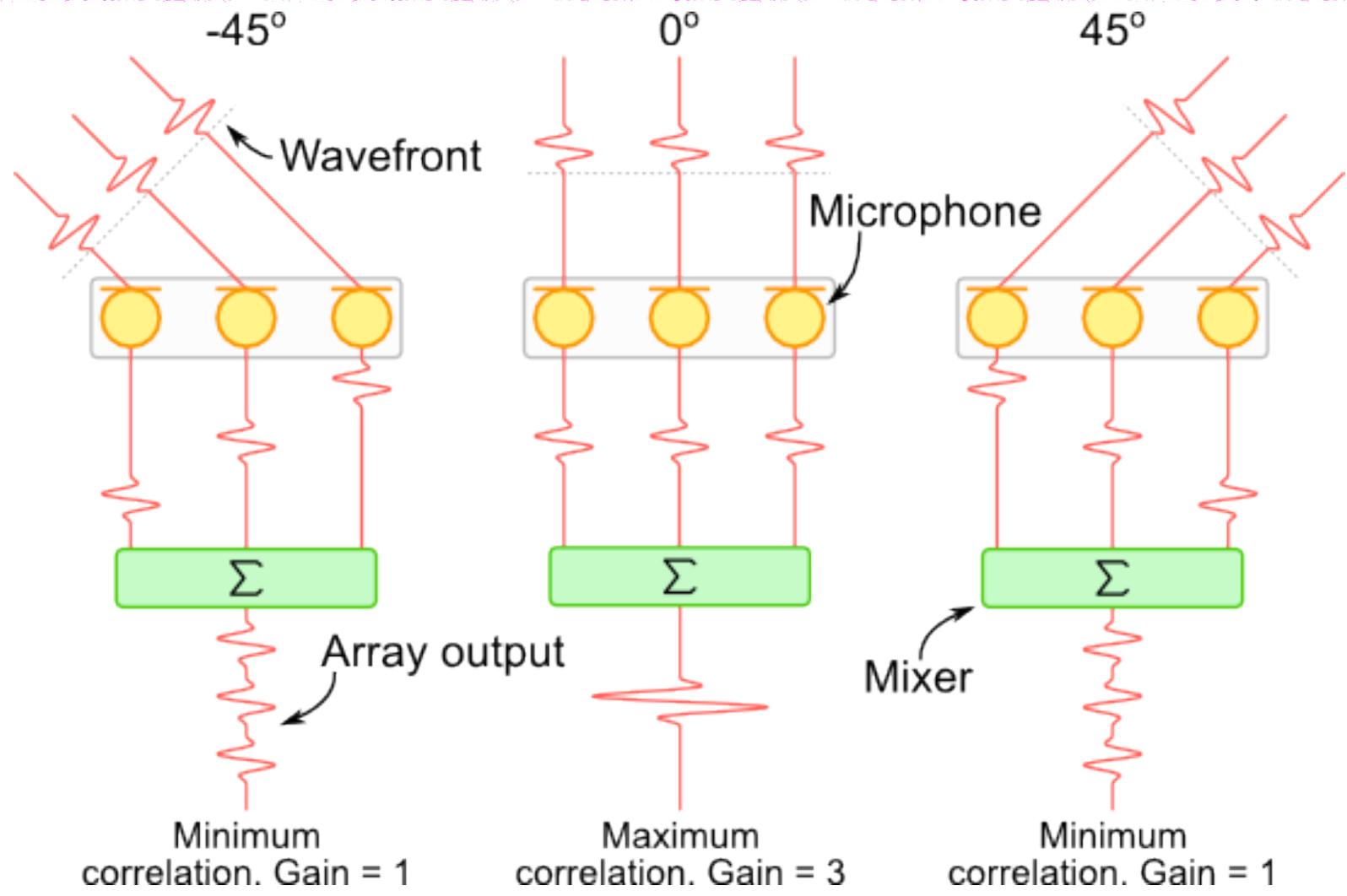
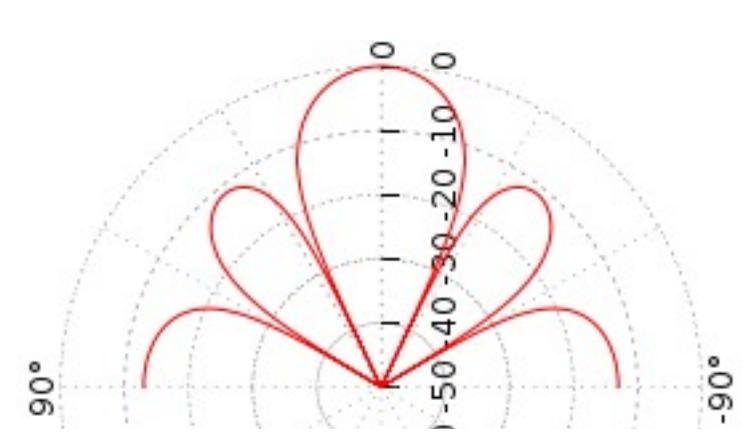
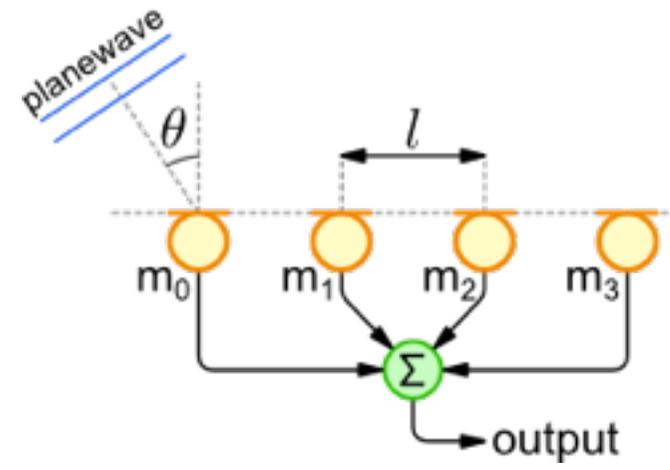


Doing "un-mixing" AND "un-delaying" is harder ...

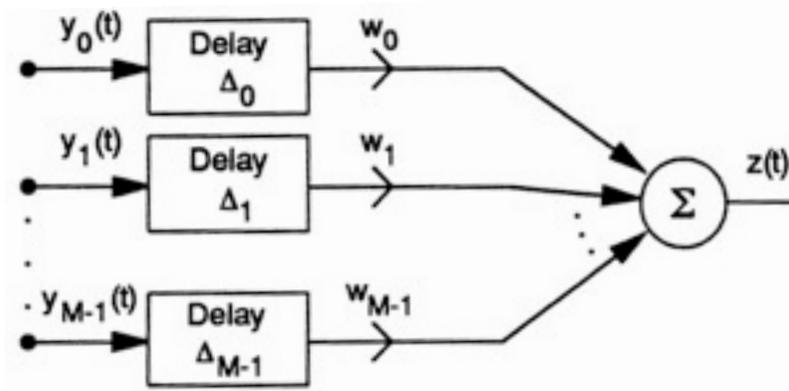
Real rooms are **not**
anechoic chambers.
"Early reflections" of
a source A act like
"virtual sources,"
(labelled $A_1 \dots A_6$)
that **confuse** simple
unmixing algorithms.



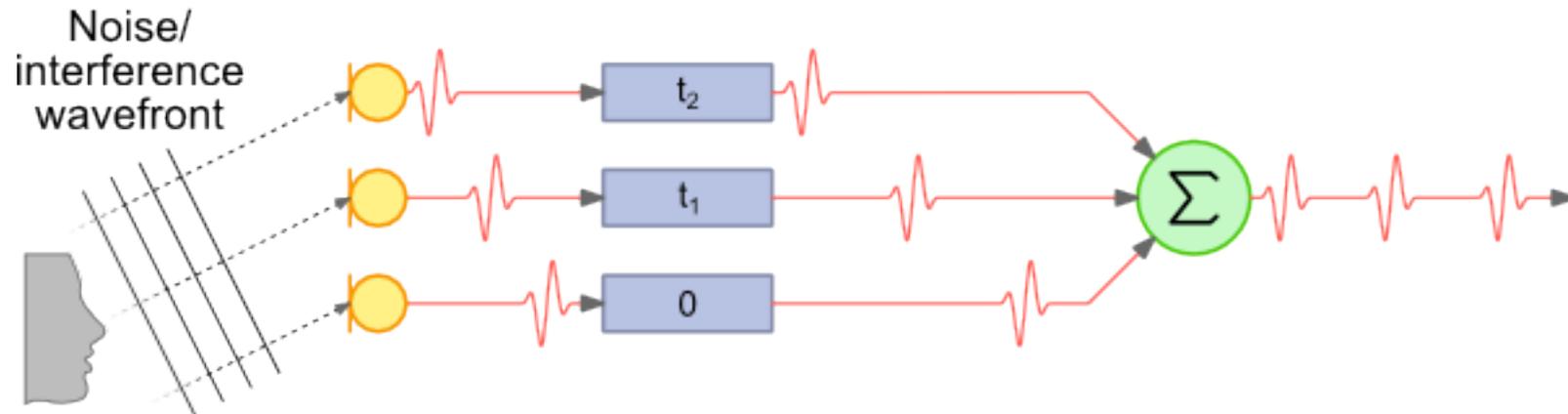
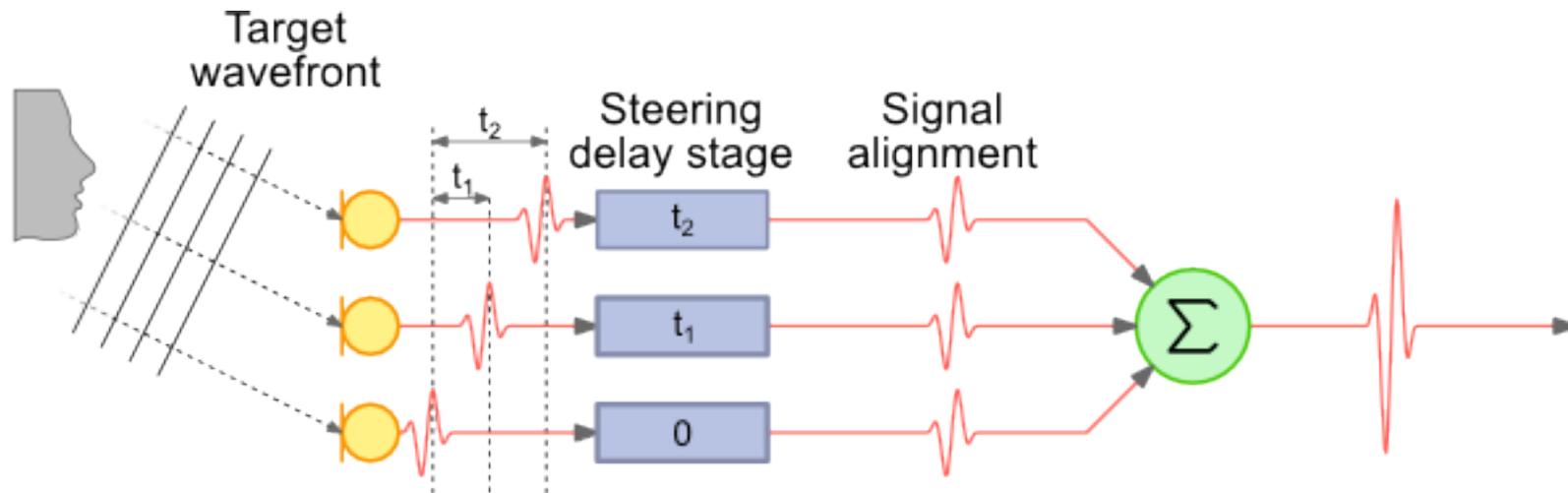
Broadside array



Steerable beam ...

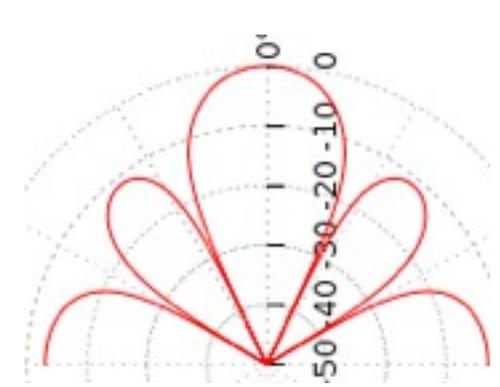


By changing the **delays**, we can **steer** the beam to **track** a target.

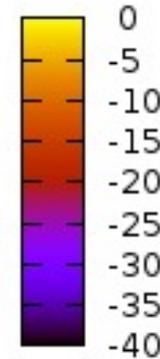
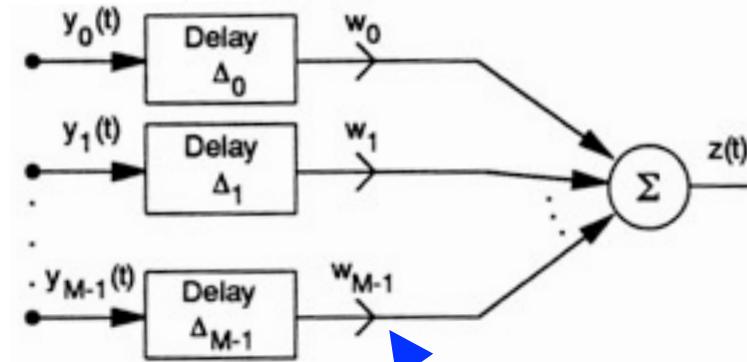
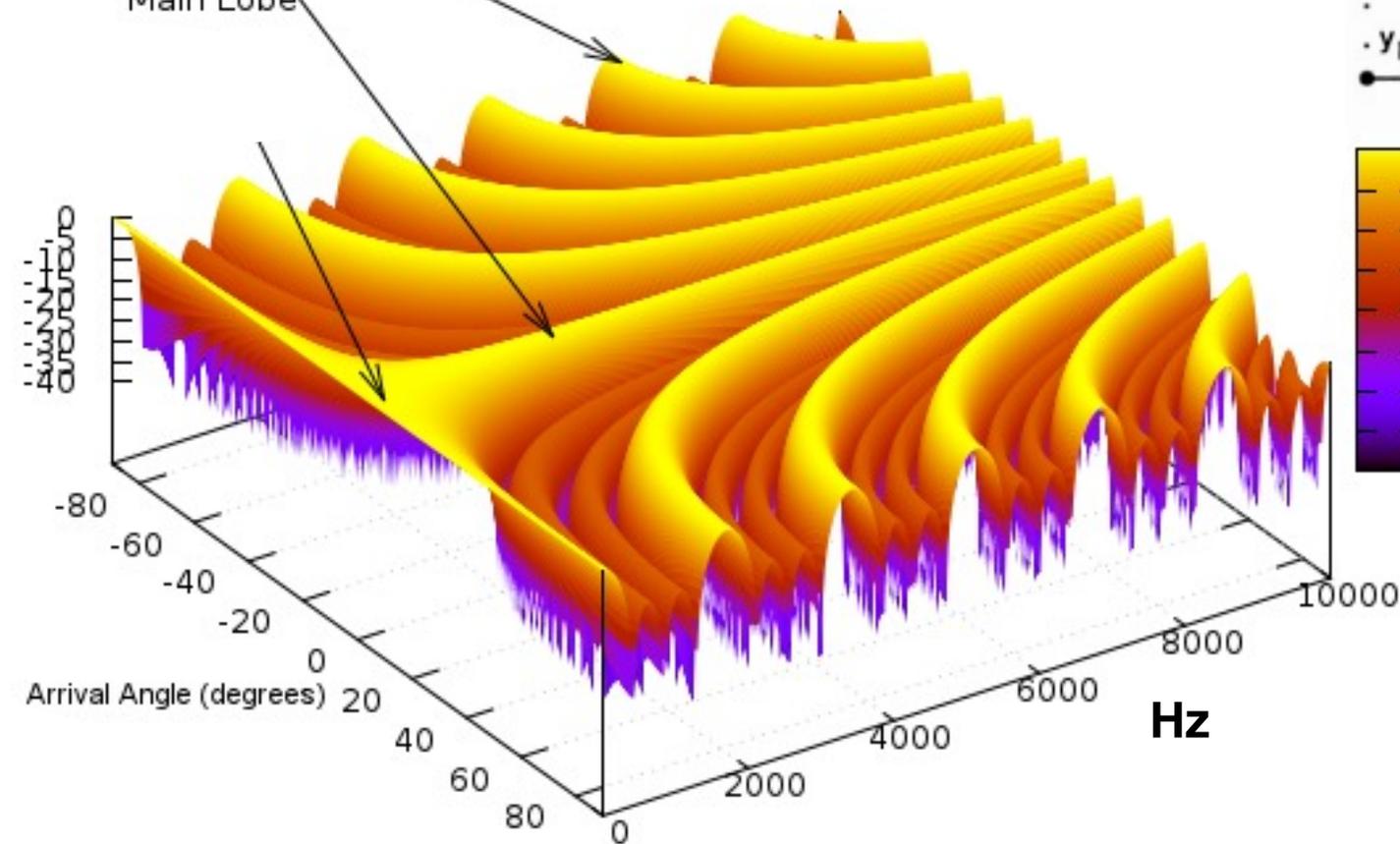


Off-axis response

The main lobe has a flat frequency response, but the side lobes are comb filters ... yielding an unnatural off-axis sound



Grating Lobe
Main Lobe



The weight values can be chosen to minimize the combing effects ... see book for details.

A more flexible approach is to add an **adaptive filter** to the architecture, so that signal quality can be optimized on-line.

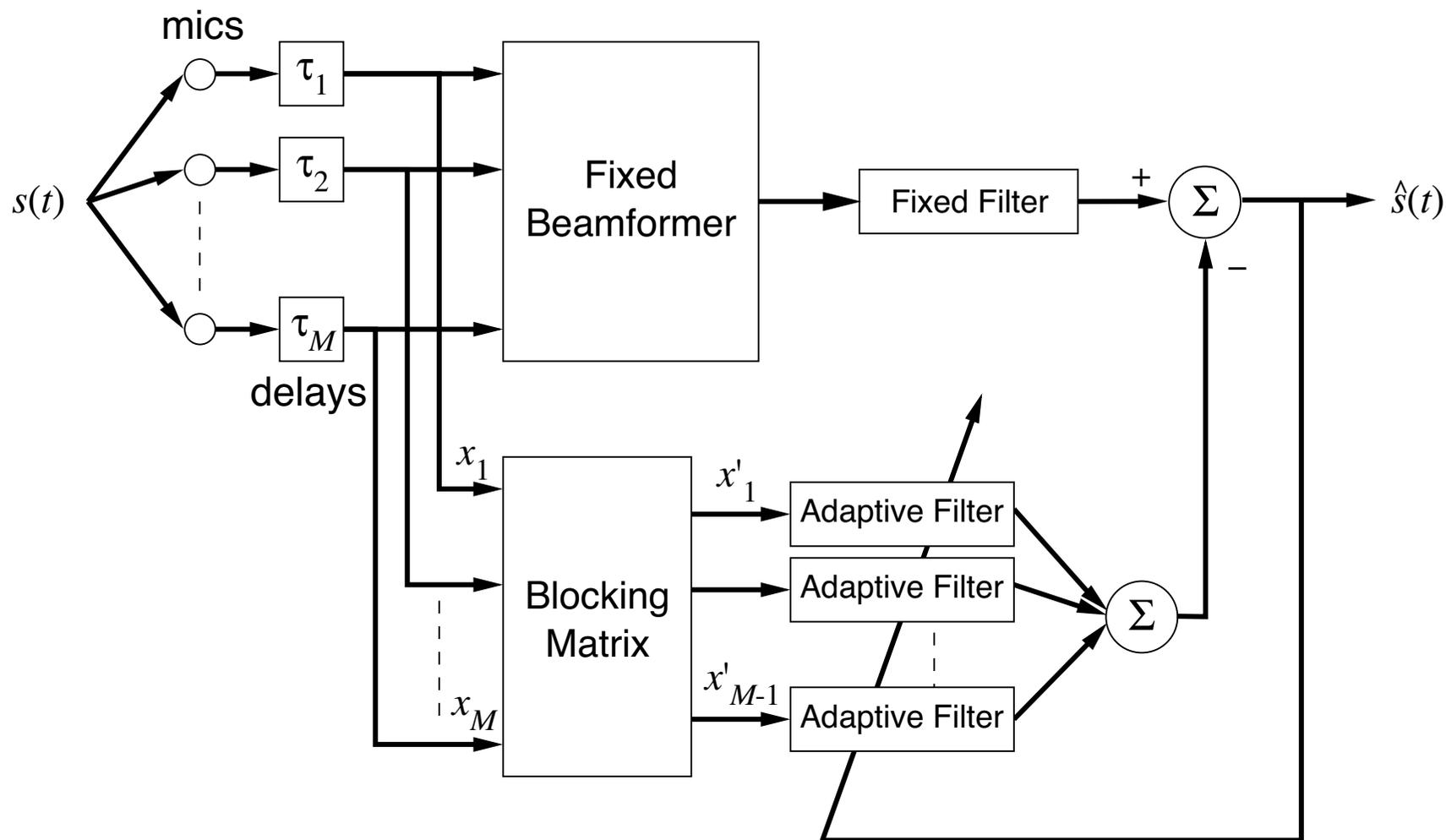
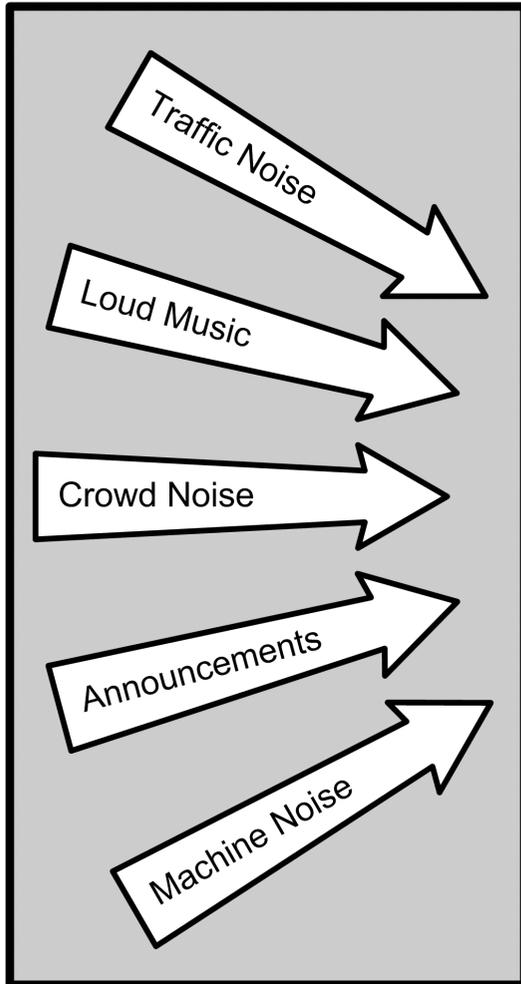


FIGURE 39.4 The Generalized Sidelobe Canceller.

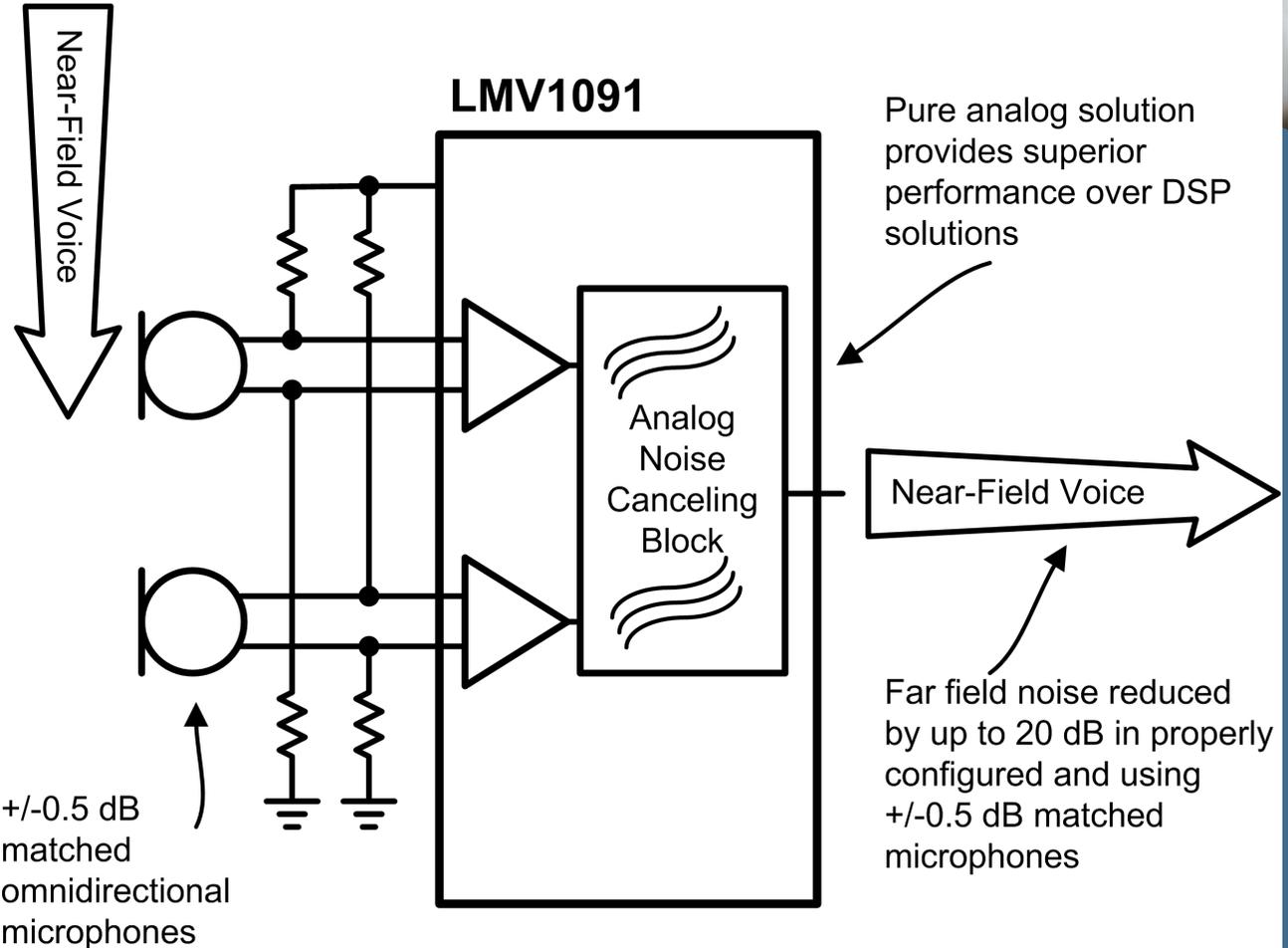
Recall ...



Far-field noise, > 50 cm



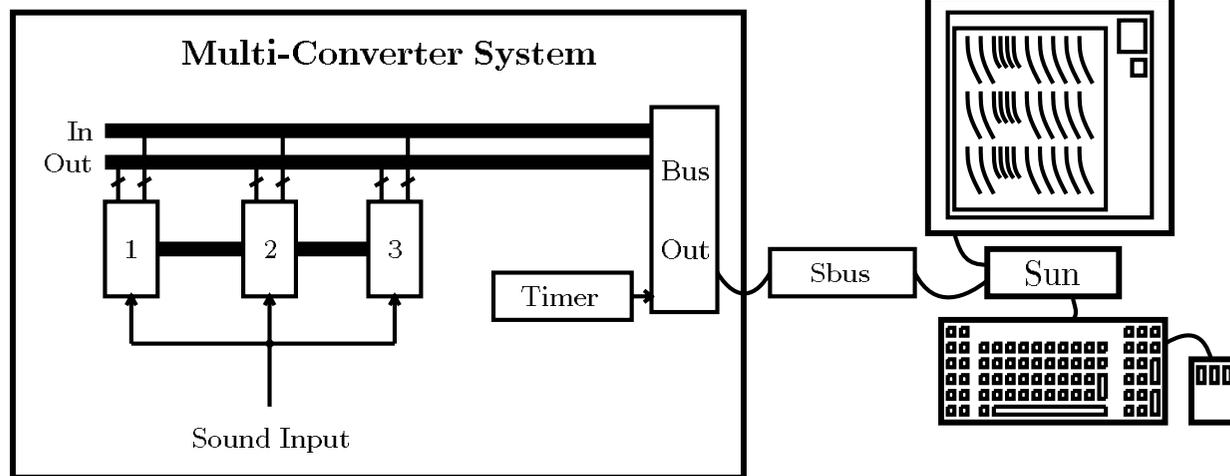
Up to 4 cm



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- * Two approaches to the problem ...
 - * Auditory scene analysis
 - * Microphone array techniques
- * **Research project ideas ...**
 - Auditory scene analysis ... why isn't the future here yet?

The Recognizer - Representation Gap.



Auditory Models	Speech Recognition
Adaptive Sampling	Uniform Sampling
Specialized Features	General-Purpose Features
Multiple Representations	Single Representation
High-Dimensional	Low-Dimensional
Correlated Features	Uncorrelated Features