Contents

General information ........................................................................................................................................ 3
System requirements .................................................................................................................................... 3
Installation and Upgrade ................................................................................................................................. 3
  Command line arguments (optional) ................................................................................................................ 3
  Project directory structure .............................................................................................................................. 3
Support ......................................................................................................................................................... 4
Preface ........................................................................................................................................................... 4
Checklist for designing a loudspeaker .............................................................................................................. 4
Main program ................................................................................................................................................. 6
Menus .............................................................................................................................................................. 6
Drivers tab ..................................................................................................................................................... 7
  Driver list ................................................................................................................................................... 7
  Frequency responses ..................................................................................................................................... 8
  Impedance response ..................................................................................................................................... 8
Supported frequency and impedance response file types ............................................................................... 9
  Microphone offset........................................................................................................................................ 9
Crossover tab ................................................................................................................................................ 10
  Filter schematic ........................................................................................................................................... 10
  Driver layout ............................................................................................................................................... 15
Creating library blocks .................................................................................................................................. 16
Room tab ....................................................................................................................................................... 17
Graphs ......................................................................................................................................................... 18
  SPL ......................................................................................................................................................... 18
  Power & DI ............................................................................................................................................... 19
  Directivity ................................................................................................................................................ 20
  Group delay & Phase ................................................................................................................................. 21
  Filter ....................................................................................................................................................... 21
  Impedance ............................................................................................................................................... 21
Optimizer ..................................................................................................................................................... 22
  SPL Target curve of Driver .......................................................................................................................... 22
  Optimizing ................................................................................................................................................ 22
Parts list ....................................................................................................................................................... 23
Impulse response ......................................................................................................................................... 24
Power dissipation ....................................................................................................................................... 25
Options ......................................................................................................................................................... 26
Tools ..................................................................................................................................................29
Enclosure tool .....................................................................................................................................29
Driver database ..................................................................................................................................29
Driver configuration ...........................................................................................................................33
Radiator type .......................................................................................................................................33
Tabs ......................................................................................................................................................34
Export functions ...................................................................................................................................36
Graphs ..................................................................................................................................................36
Merger tool .........................................................................................................................................37
Calculator tool ....................................................................................................................................39
Responses ..........................................................................................................................................39
Multiple output ..................................................................................................................................39
Single output .......................................................................................................................................41
Additional options .............................................................................................................................43
Graph ...................................................................................................................................................43
Diffraction tool .....................................................................................................................................43
SPL Trace .............................................................................................................................................45
Auxiliary calculator .............................................................................................................................47
Time window .......................................................................................................................................47
Wave length .......................................................................................................................................47
Near field ............................................................................................................................................47
Sample time .......................................................................................................................................48
Box volume .........................................................................................................................................48
Time align ..........................................................................................................................................48
Convert IR to FR .................................................................................................................................50
General information

VituixCAD

The Loudspeaker Simulation Tool

User Manual

Version 2.0.30.0 (2019-11-05)
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VituixCAD is loudspeaker simulation software. Design philosophy is to simulate loudspeaker behavior in full space or half space. Even though emphasis is on power response, polar responses and directivity index, it is possible to design a loudspeaker without comprehensive angled measurements. This is not encouraged though.

Software package includes everything one needs for simulating and designing a loudspeaker. Additional to crossover simulator, there is enclosure simulator, diffraction simulator, response tracer, response merger, response calculator, auxiliary calculator and FFT tool included.

System requirements

- VituiCAD is tested on Windows XP, 7, 8 and 10.
- Minimum screen resolution is 1024x768 (4:3) or 1280x720 (16:9), but 1600x900 or more is recommended.

Installation and Upgrade

Public folders created by setup program:

\Users\Public\Documents\VituixCAD\Enclosure Local driver database (VituixCAD_Drivers.txt)
\Users\Public\Documents\VituixCAD\Library Library blocks (.vxl, .png)
\Users\Public\Documents\VituixCAD\Projects Response file samples (.txt)
\Users\Public\Documents\VituixCAD\Template LTspice templates (.asc, .plt)

User folders created while running if not already exist:

\Users\username\Documents\VituixCAD\Download Download folder for auto update
\Users\username\Documents\VituixCAD\Enclosure LTspice files (.asc, .plt, .log, .net, .raw)
\Users\username\Documents\VituixCAD\Projects User projects (.vxp, .vxe, .vxm, .vxb, .txt, .frd, .zma, …)

Command line arguments (optional)

VituixCAD.exe “path\filename” Opens VituiCAD project file ending with “.vxp”, “.vxe”, “.vxm”, “.vxb”

Project directory structure

All files included in loudspeaker project should be located to \Users\username\Documents\VituixCAD\Projects\projectname and it’s subdirectories in order to help archiving as zip-file and enable distribution to other users. For example:
Preface

This user guide is a chronological walkthrough on how to design a loudspeaker with VituixCAD. Commonly, design process starts with deciding enclosure size, drivers, radiator type, alignment etc. Enclosure tool is used for simulating enclosures, different radiator types and alignments. Next step is to have comprehensive set of acoustic and electrical measurements of the construction. Diffraction and Merger tools are used for combining far field and near field responses. After these prerequisites are met, simulation phase can be started. Whether Your goal is to design a speaker with or without interim listening tests, You’ll need quality control of some sort. Some prefer their ears, some prefer measurements. If a loudspeaker measures perfectly, but sounds worse than anything You’ve ever heard, something is terribly wrong. This guide will not teach You how to listen a loudspeaker, but will cover basic QC steps.

Building prototypes and crossovers are not covered in this guide. This guide will also assume You have suitable measurement gear and software and understanding about how to measure loudspeaker drivers for design purposes. See Preparation of response measurements for crossover simulation with VituixCAD:

- Measurements with ARTA 1.9.1 or later
- Measurements with REW 5.20 beta 7 or later

Checklist for designing a loudspeaker

Investigate acoustic parameters, dimensions, materials and speaker placement possibilities of the listening room. It is wise to fix issues of bad environment (the room) first rather than trying to handle everything with massive and complex speaker design.

Basic engineering

- Decide acoustic design; type and amount of directivity, radiator types, ways, driver size and count.
- Estimate possible sensitivity range and crossover frequency ranges.
- Select initial drivers and directivity components to reach previous targets
- Simulate low frequency radiators with Enclosure tool
- Simulate baffle diffraction and export cabinet impact response
- Design the cabinet.
Construction

- Build flexible prototype or final cabinet depending on uncertainties in the design
- Connect temporary cables to individual drivers (or driver groups) for acoustical and electrical measurements.

Measurements

- Prepare turning table for polar response measurements. Manual turning table is easy to make and fast to use for example with Clio 10-12 or ARTA 1.9 or REW 5.20 beta.
- Choose directions for off-axis measurements. You are not forced to measure full or half circle around the speaker with constant 5 or 10 deg steps, but it is recommended to get correct power & DI result and simulate reflections and rotate/tilt drivers. Simulation is possible with less than 10 directions per axis. Don’t waste Your chance to get all measured data at once. There is no need to measure vertical axis if vertical measurement would be “equal enough” to horizontal measurement. For example full range driver in the center of square box is symmetrical in both directions.
- Measure polar response of each driver (or driver group) as far field measurement. Use equal off-axis angles for all drivers, though not mandatory. Don’t let measuring program to corrupt timing: use semi-dual (or full dual) channel measurement to lock time reference to mic capsule. Measure time-windowed responses from the same or at least known/measured distance to the reference point to maintain common time reference with different ways & drivers. Note! Filenames should include plane (hor/ver) and angle in degrees.
- Measure near field responses of midrange and woofer cone(s) and port(s) if anechoic environment is not available. Arrange radiator to half space to avoid baffle loss. Some amount of baffle loss exists with small cabinets in full space even if measurement distance is less than 8 mm. Use the same output voltage with far field measurement (if possible without clipping or excessive distortion) to help merging of near field and far field measurements.
- Measure impedance responses of each driver or driver group.

Export frequency responses with Convert IR to FR tool if measured with CLIO or ARTA. This is not needed with REW 5.20 beta 7 or later having group export.

Merge and manipulate response data

- Merge far field and near field responses with Merger tool if you didn’t measure low frequency radiators (<300 Hz) from far field in anechoic environment.
- Include cabinet impact response (from diffraction simulator) in near field responses.
- Export merged responses as separate txt-files.

Simulate loudspeaker with VituixCAD

- Create new empty project and enter Description
- Add driver types in Drivers tab
- Enter driver names, nominal SPL and Z
- Insert frequency responses, Adjust scaling, delay, polarity and smoothing if needed.
- Insert impedance response, Adjust scaling if needed.
- Outline rough targets for axial response and power response
- Outline rough targets for axial responses per driver
- Design the crossover
- Insert filter blocks
- Adjust parameter/component values of filter blocks manually
- Play with circuit topologies and parameter/component values until axial response, power response, directivity index, polar responses and impedance response meet Your targets.
- Save project periodically. Save most promising intermediate results to project file or crossover variant.

Build and install crossover.

Quality control

Mandatory QC-measurements

- Angled measurements in horizontal and vertical planes, at least 30 deg steps
- Impedance response
Additional QC-measurements
- Excess group delay
- Harmonic distortion
- Intermodulation distortion
- Compression
- Acoustic compatibility to your listening room; room response, clarity parameters.

Listen to Your favorite tracks.
If you are not satisfied → back to drawing board.

Main program

Main window is divided into two sections, control section on the left and graphs on the right.

Menus

File
- New: Create new empty project
- Open: Open existing project
- Recent >: Open previously opened project
- Save (Ctrl+Shift+S): Save current project
- Save as...: Save current project with a different filename
- Create library block: Save selected components as a block into VituixCAD\Library folder
- Edit library block parameters: Modify parameters, variables and expressions of library blocks
- Export >: Export of Frequency response, Frequency response of Driver, Listening window average, Power response, Directivity Index, Room response, Load impedance of Generator, Load impedance of Buffer, Group delay, Filter gain of Driver, Polar frequency responses
- Exit: Exit VituixCAD

View
- Optimizer (Ctrl+P): Open SPL Target setting and Optimizer window
- Parts list: Open Parts list window
- Impulse response: Open Impulse response window for preview and export
Power dissipation
- Open Power dissipation window

Units
- Show engineering units (Ohm, F, H) in crossover schematic

Part #
- Show part numbers in crossover schematic

Power
- Show maximum power of resistors in crossover schematic

Grid
- Show snap grid in crossover schematic

Nodes
- Show electrical node numbers of crossover network

Tools
- Enclosure (F3): Open Enclosure tool
- Merger (F4): Open Merger tool
- Calculator (F5): Open Calculator tool
- Diffraction (F6): Open Diffraction simulator
- SPL Trace (F7): Open SPL Tracer tool
- Auxiliary (F8): Open Auxiliary calculator
- Convert IR to FR (F9): Open FFT tool

Options
- (Alt+O): Open Options window

Help
- Help (F1): Open user manual
- Online Manual DE: Open user manual in German
- Donate: Donation with PayPal
- About: Information about VituixCAD. View changelog.

Drivers tab

Driver list

Drivers in the project are listed in Drivers table. Give actual name for initial dummy driver “Driver #1”. Add the rest with (+) button and enter actual names. Enter nominal SPL and Z if you’re making just simple tests without measured
or simulated frequency and impedance responses. That will scale flat default responses without adjusting via Scaling text boxes.

Each driver instance added in the crossover can be provided with location relative to “design origin”. Location is entered to Parameters grid. Design origin is typically perpendicular endpoint of listening axis on front baffle surface. \( X [\text{mm}] \) is horizontal coordinate of center point; negative to left and positive to right. \( Y [\text{mm}] \) is vertical coordinate; negative down and positive up. \( Z [\text{mm}] \) is horizontal distance coordinate; negative closer to mic and positive further from mic.

Horizontal rotation \( R [\text{deg}] \) and vertical inclination \( T [\text{deg}] \) of drivers are also supported. Rotation \( R [\text{deg}] \) is positive to counter-clockwise from top view, and inclination \( T [\text{deg}] \) is positive to up.

Multiple drivers should be entered as a single driver if they are measured in the prototype cabinet as a package; all connected to power amplifier at the same time. Location is entered as a difference between measurement and design origins.

Example 1: Location \((X,Y,Z) = (0,0,0)\) if multiple driver package is measured on design (listening) axis.
Example 2: Location \((X,Y,Z) = (0,-400,0)\) if multiple driver package is measured 400 mm below design (listening) axis.

**Frequency responses**

Filenames must have valid coding for off-axis angle. ARTA style angle coding <name-prefix>_deg[+|-]<num>.txt is okay, as well as CLIO style <name-prefix><num>.txt where angle <num> is multiplied by 100. Different planes should be separated with a keyword, typically hor/ver. See Options for more information.

For example ‘M15CH002_hor_deg+110.txt’ or simply ‘M15CH002 hor 110.txt’ equals to M15CH002 to horizontal angle of 110 degrees with angle multiplier 1. ‘M15CH002 hor 11000.txt’ equals to horizontal 110 deg with CLIO naming style having angle multiplier 100.

Add driver’s frequency responses by clicking folder button or dropping files into response list. Delete button \( \times \) clears response list.

Maximum of 718 frequency responses per driver is supported in practice. Angle step of drivers’ off-axis responses could be denser, fewer or equal to angle step of simulation set in Options window. Measured angle step could be constant \((0, 10, 20, 30, ..., 180)\) or variable \((0, 5, 10, 15, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 80, 100, 120, 150, 180)\). Off-axis responses of different driver types can have different angle step - constant or variable.

Power response and directivity index are calculated within minimum coverage angle of drivers’ frequency responses i.e. 0-180 deg must be measured for all drivers in order to calculate Power & DI to full space.

Frequency responses can be scaled (dB), smoothed (none, 1/24, 1/12, 1/6, 1/3, 1/2 oct.), delayed (± \( \mu \text{s} \)) and polarity inverted with controls below frequency response list. Hor and Ver angle can be modified by entering new value to the field if program fails to parse angle value from the filename or measurements are swapped intentionally.

*Reference angle* is direction in horizontal plane which is shown as axial response in SPL, Power & DI and Phase response graphs. Also directivity index calculation is using Reference angle as main axis. Optimizing to single off-axis direction is useful if axial response is bad or not representative or measurement data is poor and accurate power response approximation is not available. Default value is 0 deg hor.

**Impedance response**

Select impedance response file for a driver(s) by clicking folder button or dropping file into text box.

Impedance response can be scaled as well with a multiplier. If multiple drivers are entered to crossover as a single driver (not recommended), scaled impedance response should represent total impedance of driver group. If
impedance response was measured from group of drivers in common volume and drivers are entered to crossover as a single drivers (as recommended), scaled impedance response should represent single driver.

**Supported frequency and impedance response file types**

VituixCAD supports tab, space or semicolon delimited .txt or .frd or .zma (for impedance). Following software exports are supported:

- AudioTools
- ARTA, LIMP
- Clio
- Edge
- FRD tools
- HOLM Impulse
- justMLS
- Klippel
- LMS short ascii
- LspLAB
- REW
- SoundEasy
- XSim

**Microphone offset**

Simulated horizontal and vertical planes can be rotated -45...+45 deg around speaker’s origin (XY=0,0) with \textit{Planes [deg]} parameter. Both simulation orbits of virtual microphone are rotated around Z-axis by given angle phi. Positive value to counterclockwise.

Virtual microphone at listening distance is possible to move with \textit{X,Y [mm]} parameters. This enables for example simulation of different listening elevations and very small off-axis angles (within measured angles) without relocation of all driver instances in crossover. Positive X to right and positive Y to up.
Crossover tab

Filter schematic

Unlimited amount of components can be added via Crossover component menu. Menu includes generic active blocks (9), active transfer function file, operational amplifier, passive components L C R T, library block (LIB), comment text (T), wire, ground and driver.

Filter block types

- Active Low pass and High pass filters (f). Shape and Order are selected from list boxes:
  - 1st order
  - 2nd order (Q)
  - Linkwitz-Riley 12...48 dB/oct.
  - Bessel 12...48 dB/oct.
  - Butterworth 12...48 dB/oct.
  - Chebyshev 0.5dB 12...48 dB/oct.
  - 1st order linear-phase
  - 2nd order linear-phase (Q)
  - Linkwitz-Riley linear-phase 12...48 dB/oct.
  - Bessel linear-phase 12...48 dB/oct.
  - Butterworth linear-phase 12...48 dB/oct.
  - Horbach-Keele linear-phase (R)
  - Horbach-Keele “MTM” linear-phase (R)
  - Brickwall linear-phase

- Active Shelving Low pass and High pass filters (f, gain). Shape is selected from list box:
  - 1st order
  - 2nd order (Q)
  - 1st order linear-phase
  - 2nd order linear-phase (Q)

- Active Linkwitz Transform (fo, Qo, fp, Qp)
- Active All-pass filters (f). Shape and Order are selected from list boxes:
• 1st order
• 2nd order (Q)
• 1st order phase linearization
• 2nd order phase linearization (Q)
• Linkwitz-Riley phase linearization 12...48 dB/oct.
• Bessel HP phase linearization 12...48 dB/oct.
• Butterworth HP phase linearization 12...48 dB/oct.

• Active Peak/Notch filters. Shape is selected from list box:
  - Parametric EQ (f, Q, gain)
  - Gain EQ (f, Q, gain)
  - Phase EQ (f, Q, phase)
• Digital Biquad (b0, b1, b2, a0=1, a1, a2)
• Active Buffer / Power amplifier of active multi-way (gain dB, delay us, polarity inversion)
• Operational Amplifier (\(A_{OL}\), GBP)
• Transfer function file, any supported frequency response file type
• Passive R (Pow W)
• Passive C (ESR Ohm)
• Passive L (DCR Ohm, Wire diameter mm)
• Passive ideal Transformer (N=Vs/Vp).

**Important!** Active filters in blue are NOT minimum-phase. Blocks in the schematic have ‘FIR’ text for information. Convolver plugin or DSP device with FIR features is needed for real life application. Transfer function of active filters per driver can be exported as impulse response in wav or txt file format. See section **Impulse response**.

Components are added by clicking menu button, moving to correct location and clicking left button. Esc key, right click or clicking menu button X cancels adding.

Selected component can be replaced by pressing Ctrl key while clicking menu button. Active block can be replaced with another active, and passive component (LCR) with another passive. Values of parameters with the same name and unit are copied to replacement component. Driver, ground, library block and wire cannot be replaced directly without delete->add.

**Library block menu**

Library block menu can be filtered shorter with checkboxes in *Filter* group. See searched keywords from tooltip of each checkbox. Block is inserted to crossover by double-clicking or with Open button. Blocks (vxl files) are also possible to drag & drop with file system from *VituixCAD/Library* folder to crossover.

![Block Library](image)
Library block could have attributes for calculating component values by user parameters and mathematical expressions. *Tune block window* opens when block is inserted, or *Tune block...* is selected from context menu. Values are updated to crossover while parameters are adjusted.

Purge command disconnects links between block and components, and clears expressions from component parameters which enables modification of previously calculated parameters. Purged block disappears when project file is saved.

Wires are added by point & left click, point & left click etc. Space or Enter key or right click accepts/terminates wiring. Esc key rewinds wire node by node until all nodes are removed. Wire is highlighted with lime color when cursor is at valid termination point i.e. terminal of a component, or existing node or endpoint of another wire. New node is created if wire is started or ended to intermediate point of existing wire, or terminal of component is dropped into intermediate point of existing wire in the end of dragging (adding or moving).

Wire can be started from existing wire node or component terminal without clicking wire button in component menu or W shortcut key. Creating new node to intermediate point of existing wire requires wiring command.

Red terminal dot of component indicates missing connection. Program can handle unconnected terminals but calculation speed is reduced.

Shortcut letter keys are available for adding the most common passive components: C for capacitor, L for inductor, R for resistor, M for transformer, W for wire, G for ground, T for comment text and D for driver.

Passive components and texts are added as rotated (=vertical) if Shift key is pressed while clicking component menu or shortcut letter key.

**Selection**

Components can be selected for modification by clicking or window selection. Multi-selection with Ctrl or Shift key pressed is available for both clicking and window selection. Selection set is reset by clicking empty area. So called ‘Top component’ is one of the selected components which parameters are show in Parameters grid below the schematic. *Top component* is emphasized with bold highlight color, typically blue. Other selected components (except Top component) are emphasized with semi-transparent highlight color, typically light blue. All selected components are targets for moving or modification with context menu or shortcut keys.

**Moving**

Selected components can be moved by dragging with mouse or arrow keys. Wires connected to terminals of moving component are stretching along if component is moved by dragging. Wire stretching is eliminated by moving with arrow keys or pressing (and holding) Alt key before dragging is started.
**Modifying**

Context menu shows possible (and few impossible) actions for the selected components. See also shortcut keys.

- **Tune block...** Opens window for adjusting user parameters of selected block.
- **Pan to center** Point of mouse cursor scrolls to the center point of picture area (as center as possible).
- **Undo** Up to twenty most recent changes and situations before parameter adjustment can be restored.
- **Redo** Reverse Undo commands.
- **Select all** Selects all components in the crossover.
- **Cut** Cuts selected components to the clipboard.
- **Copy** Copies selected components to the clipboard.
- **Copy Biquad coeffs** Copies Biquad coefficients of selected active IIR blocks to the clipboard. See Biquad coefficients below.
- **Paste** Pastes from the clipboard to cursor position.
- **Paste Biquad coeffs** Pastes first coefficients from clipboard text to selected Biquad blocks.
- **Delete** Deletes selected components. Deletion of the last generator is verified because network should contain one generator. No more – no less.
- **Part numbers** Renumbers components with empty Part # starting from the next free number. Part # text box is green while numbering mode is on. Numbering is done by clicking components in desired order. Numbering mode ends by clicking empty area or right click or Esc.
- **Number blanks** Renumbers all components starting from 1. Numbering is done by clicking components in desired order.
- **Clear selected** Clears Part # of selected components. Helpful before **Number blanks** command.
- **Clear all** Clears Part # of all components. Helps detection of unnumbered while **Renumber all**.
- **Driver layout...** Opens table view for modifying driver locations or creating line array.
- **Open** Disconnects component from the network. Active blocks are disconnected by setting gain to 1E-10. Opened components are visualized with transparent color.
- **Short** Selected components are shorted (bypassed with wire). Active blocks are shorted by setting gain to 1. Shorted components are visualized with thick black line over the component’s body.
- **Invert** Polarity of selected components is inverted. Applies to Active Buffer and Driver. Visualized with +/- signs in schematic.
- **Mute** Selected drivers are muted. Driver is electrically in the network but acoustical output is muted.
Rotate
Selected (passive) components are turned vertical.

Optimize On
Main parameters* of selected components are selected for optimizing. Optimized parameters are visualized with semi-transparent pale green background in the schematic.
*Main parameters of passive components are L, C, R. All parameters of active blocks are main parameters except $A_{OL}$ and GBP of OP amplifier.
Main parameters of Drivers are X, Y, Z (location in mm). Other parameters should be selected for optimizing via Opt column of Parameters grid.

Optimize Toggle
Optimize status of selected components is inverted. This enables swapping of two component groups without changing selection set.

Optimize Off
Optimize status of selected components is reset.

Copy image
Copy crossover schematic image to clipboard

Export image
Export crossover schematic image to file.

Visualization of component status:

**Biquad coefficients**

Selected IIR blocks can be copied to clipboard as digital biquad filter coefficients $b_0$, $b_1$, $b_2$, $a_1$, $a_2$:

$$H(z) = \frac{b_0 + b_1 z^{-1} + b_2 z^{-2}}{1 + a_1 z^{-1} + a_2 z^{-2}}$$

Format is compatible with miniDSP Xover/PEQ Advanced view. For example 3rd order Butterworth LP 1000 Hz:

biquad1,
$b_0=0.004015505022858$,
$b_1=0.008031010045716$,
$b_2=0.004015505022858$,
$a_1=1.86140844453211$,
$a_2=-0.877470464623539$,

biquad2,
$b_0=0.061511768503622$,
$b_1=0.061511768503622$,
$b_2=0$,
$a_1=0.876976462992757$,
$a_2=0$,

Minimum eight (8) biquad blocks are created if Shift key is pressed while Copy Biquad coeffs command.

**Note!** Select correct DSP system from Options window before copying biquads. FIR, transfer function file, passive and open/shorted blocks are ignored. Stability of biquad filters is not checked.

**Zooming**

Click 1:1 button to zoom schematic picture to nominal 10 pixels/snap unit.
Click Fit button to fit components into picture area (within limits of zooming range).
Picture can be zoomed in/out with Ctrl + mouse wheel. Zooming range is 70%...300% of nominal 10 px/snap unit.
Parameters

Selecting of component opens corresponding parameters to the list and shows additional list boxes. Component values can be entered directly to the Value field. Value field accepts metric prefix: p,n,u,m,k,M,G,T. Additionally, component value can be increased/decreased by Alt+Up/Down key or arrow buttons on the right or mouse wheel. First parameter can be adjusted with mouse wheel over the selected component. Increment is defined by component Snap value. Available values are 5 %, E12, E24 or E48.

Parameter will be included in frequency response optimizing if Opt field is checked. Otherwise parameter is excluded and existing value locked. See Optimize.

Min and Max fields limit parameter value while manual adjustment and optimizing.

Expression field could contain variable name or full expression for calculating parameter value. Calculated values are readonly with gray background. See Library blocks.

Variants

Variants are different development stages of the crossover. New variant is created or existing overwritten with S1...S8 button, and recalled with R1...R8 button. Variant can be deleted by pressing Ctrl key while clicking recall button. Crossover variants are saved to project file (.vxp) for the next session. #1 is compatible with older project file versions of VituixCAD 2.0.

Warning! Undo buffer is cleared when variant is changed with S/R button.

Driver layout

Driver layout window allows changing of part #, location (XYZ), rotation (R) and tilt (T) of drivers with table control, or adding new drivers as linear or curved array.

Drivers table contains existing driver instances in the crossover. List can be filtered with Filter combo box. Rows can be sorted by Part # or Y mm by clicking column header. XO cell is checked if driver exists in the crossover.
Green dots in graphs show existing locations in Drivers table (initially existing locations in the crossover). Magenta dotted line/curve shows locations calculated with line array parameters (in the middle) but not yet accepted to Drivers table.

Parameters of line array calculator:

- **X mid**: Horizontal location of array’s middle point, relative to listening axis.
- **Y mid**: Vertical location of array’s middle point, relative to listening axis.
- **Z mid**: Distance offset for array’s middle point, relative to origin i.e. endpoint of design/listening axis on baffle surface.
- **C-C dist**: Distance between drivers from center to center. Along circumference with curved arrays.
- **Count**: Numbers of drivers in array. Enabled while adding new drivers.

Array types

- **Linear**: Straight vertical line.
- **Curved o**
  - Curved array where focal point is in front of speaker.
- **Curved o (**
  - Curved array where focal point is on the back side of speaker. For example CBT.

Parameters for curved arrays

- **Radius**: Radius of curved array.
- **Y cent**: Vertical location of curve’s center point, relative to listening axis.
- **Cover**: Calculated coverage angle of ‘slice’.

Parameters Part #, X, Y, Z, R and T can be modified manually to the grid. Accept changes to crossover and close window with **OK** button. **Cancel** button closes the window without saving changes to the crossover.

Drivers can be renumbered by entering first Part # to the top cell, selecting cells to be renumbered (including the first cell) and clicking **D#** button.

Select full rows with top left corner or row headers in order to calculate new locations and tilts with line array parameters. Select array type, adjust parameters until magenta dotted curve is okay and apply changes to Drivers table with **Locate** button.

Select driver with **Filter** combo box in order to add new drivers to the table. Full rows should not be selected. Select array type, adjust parameters until magenta dotted curve is okay and add drivers to the table with **Add** button.

Locations can be modified with calculator by selecting new drivers as full rows. Accept changes and new drivers to the crossover with **OK** button. New drivers will be added as max. 8x8 matrix beginning at constant location 43,9.

Creating library blocks

New library block is created by selecting components from crossover and then File->Create library block. Block attribute editor opens. Program lists all parameters of selected components into Component parameters grid. User has few choices:

a) If components could have different values depending on filter variation e.g. Bessel or Butterworth, enter variable name into Expression field of component, and add variable with mathematical expression to Block attributes list.

b) If the block does not have variations and component values can be calculated directly from user parameters, formulas can be located in Expression field of component parameters.

c) Mix of previous. Intermediate results could be worth to calculate with expressions in block attributes to make component expressions shorter (less repeating). Calculation order of block attributes is from top to bottom.

Examples: formulas in block attributes (left), formulas in component parameters (right).
Check Ask field for user questions. Rows can be added manually or initiated with shortcut buttons: f? (frequency), Q? (Q factor), Z? (impedance), A? (gain), t? (time). Option field is left empty (or *) if the row applies to all variations, or block doesn’t have variations. Value field holds initial/default value. Calculated values are also limited within Min...Max. Unit and Expression fields are visible for information in Tune block window.

Variable name should begin with letter, lower or upper case. If the name contains numbers, they must be in the end.

Supported mathematical and logical operators: ^, +, -, *, %, >, <, ==, &&, !, | |, |, >=, <=

Functions: cos, sin, tan, acos, asin, atan, cosh, sinh, tanh, cotan, acotan, exp, ln, log, sqrt, round, ceil, floor, abs

Constants: euler, pi, infinity, true, false

Parentheses: (, )

**Note!** Decimal separator in Expression must be period (.)

Row order can be changed with Up/Down arrow buttons. Initial/default option is selected with Option combo box. Expressions are evaluated to Value cells with Test button, or by changing Option.

Context menu contains: Cut, Copy, Paste, Delete (rows), Duplicate (rows), Append (rows) and Replace. Press F2 to modify cell value.

Continue with OK button when block attributes and component parameters are okay. Filename is selected in the following Save as dialog. Image visible in library block menu is png-file created automatically when block is saved.

Attributes of existing library blocks can be modified with File->Edit library block parameters command. Open block with small open button in tool strip on the left. Save button overrides existing block without verification.

**Room tab**

Response with room reflections visible in Power & DI graph can include left side wall, front wall, floor and ceiling, selected with checkboxes in Room tab. Distance from speaker’s origin (0,0,0 mm) to reflecting surface and rotation away from left side wall (toe-in) are adjusted with text boxes. Adjustable absorption is common for all surfaces. Locations and reflection ‘rays’ are visualized in Room tab from top and left views.
By default, SPL graph shows total SPL, listening window average, total SPL target, SPL per way, SPL per individual driver and total phase. All lines are responses to Reference angle, see Frequency responses. Color coding for traces:

- Total SPL: black
- Listening window average: yellowgreen
- Total phase: gray. Optional, disabled by unchecking Show Normal phase in context menu.
- Excess phase: steel blue. Optional, enabled by checking Show Excess phase in context menu.
- SPL of individual drivers to Reference angle. See tooltips to identify drivers.
- Adjustable SPL target: magenta. Optional, disabled by unchecking Show Target line in context menu.

SPL Target can be adjusted by dragging the line ends with mouse while Shift or Control key is pressed. This is target line for axial response optimizing. See Optimize.

Chart can include reference angle overlay (gold) and listening window overlay (greenyellow). Snapshot/overlay menu opens with right click. Take snapshot command saves SPL of driver selected from the crossover. Total SPL is captured if
driver is not selected or selected driver is open, shorted or muted. Overlay responses can also be loaded from frequency response file. Visibility of overlay is selected with Show overlay command. Visible overlays can be scaled with mouse wheel or Shift + mouse wheel.

Span (dB range) of SPL, Power & DI and Directivity charts can be adjusted with Expand SPL scale and Compress SPL scale buttons on the left side of SPL chart. Available spans are: 20, 25, 30, 35, 40, 45, 50, 60, 70, 80 and 90 dB. Initial value is defined in Options window.

**Zooming**

Every graph can be zoomed to full size and back to dashboard by double clicking in middle of the chart area.

**Power & DI**

This graph shows power response approximation (blue), frequency response to Reference angle (black), listening window average or response with room reflections (yellowgreen) and directivity index (red) traces. There is also adjustable target trace (magenta), normally set for power response. Target can be adjusted by dragging the line ends with mouse while Shift or Control key is pressed. This is target line for power response optimizing. See Optimize. Check DI by listening window to use listening window average as DI reference instead of selected Reference angle. See Options: Power response & DI calculation for more information what is included in the calculation and how it is calculated.

Chart can include four overlays, typically one for each curve. Snapshot/overlay menu opens with right click. Take snapshot command saves current situation. Overlay responses can also be loaded from frequency response files. Power response, Room response and Reference angle overlays are scaled to left Y-scale, and Directivity Index overlay to right Y-scale. Visibility of overlays is selected individually with Show overlay commands. Visible overlays can be scaled with mouse wheel or Shift + mouse wheel.
Directivity

Directivity chart options context menu (right click on the graph):

This graph shows directivity simulation as line chart, area chart, surface chart, polar map (aka heat map) or polar chart. Density of simulated off-axis directions is selected with Angle step list box in Options window. Response to Reference angle is emphasized with thick line.

Rotation, inclination, zooming and panning are available for surface chart with dragging and wheeling with a mouse. Pan graph by pressing Ctrl-key while dragging. Limits for rotation and inclination are 10...170 deg.

Checking Polar chart will show polar plot at frequency selected with horizontal scrollbar.

Checking Half space will show -90...+90 degrees in Line and Area charts.

Checking Negative angles in front will invert angle-axis of the plot.

Checking Normalized will show flat response to Reference angle.

Checking Contour lines will show edges of level ranges with Polar map. Level steps are initially 3 dB.

Chart title shows visualized plane. ‘hor’ and ‘ver’ texts indicate nonrotated planes. If simulated planes are rotated around Z-axis with Microphone offset Planes [deg] parameter in Drivers tab, chart title shows azimuth angle phi of visualized plane. Phi range is -45...hor...+45 deg when Horizontal plane is selected from context menu of Directivity chart. Phi range is +45...ver...+135 deg when Vertical plane is selected from context menu.
Group delay & Phase

This graph shows total group delay (black) and phase response of individual drivers to Reference angle. See tooltips to identify drivers. Optional Excess group delay (steel blue) is enabled by checking Show Excess group delay in context menu. Group delay can be hidden by unchecking Show Normal group delay.

Filter

This graph shows filter gain of individual drivers. See tooltips to identify drivers. Overlay can be scaled with mouse wheel or Shift + mouse wheel.

Impedance

This graph shows generator’s load impedance magnitude (black) and phase (gray). In addition, graph shows total and individual load impedance of buffers in active multi-way system. Active buffers can also be used in passive system for measuring impedance of separate ways without opening components.

Phase, Filter and Impedance charts can show one overlay curve. Snapshot/overlay menu opens with right click. Take snapshot command saves current situation. Overlay can also be loaded from frequency/impedance response file.
Optimizer

SPL Target curve of Driver

Each driver can be assigned with an individual target curve. Optimizer window can be activated with context menu of SPL or Power & DI chart. Select driver from list box on the right side and then Axial response of Driver to show and specify the target curve. High pass, low pass and band pass textbook curves are available. VituixCAD supports the following target slopes: 1st...8th order Butterworth, Bessel, Chebychev 0.5 dB and Linkwitz-Riley, and 2nd order with variable Q factor.

Target SPL can be adjusted manually using the text field or read automatically from total SPL target by clicking binocular button 👀. Value in drivers text box scales target SPL by number of drivers with the same polarity and crossover. Enter number to text box or search from crossover with drivers button.

Filter design can be selected from the first dropdown menu (High pass or Low pass). Second dropdown menu (N) controls order of the slope. Corner frequency of the slope is adjusted in the last text field (f).

Axial response target of driver can also be loaded from response file with Open button or drag&drop. Magnitude of target file is scaled with Scaling text box.

Optimizing

Axial response of selected driver can be adjusted automatically to the target by checking Axial response of Driver. Driver is selected from the list box. Create target curve in this window and specify frequency range with two text boxes where optimizer is allowed to calculate squared error to target. Select parameters to be optimized from Parameters grid in Crossover tab. Start solver with Optimize button.

Filter response (magnitude only) of selected driver can be adjusted automatically to the target by checking Filter gain of Driver. Open target response to overlay of Filter chart and specify optimized frequency range with text boxes. Select parameters to be optimized from Parameters grid in Crossover tab. Start solver with Optimize button.
Total axial and power responses can be adjusted automatically to the target lines by checking **Axial response and Power response**. Check **Listening window average as axial response** if you like to optimize average of multiple responses instead of single response to reference angle. Weighting between responses is controlled with percent values. Higher value produces smaller difference between target and response. For example Axial=60%, Power=40% allows more error in power response than axial response which could be better if speaker is very directive or intended listening distance is very short.

Response is optimized to both slope and level of target line by checking **Seek level**. If unchecked, optimizer does not care about level - just slope within range of target line.

Target lines are set in SPL and Power & DI charts. Optimizer calculates squared error within frequency range of each target line. Select parameters to be optimized from Parameters grid in Crossover tab. Include components with Optimize On/Toggle/Off commands in context menu of schematic. Start solver with **Optimize** button.

Check **Minimum impedance** and enter preferred minimum value to text box if you like to control impedance response. Squared error increases if minimum impedance drops below the setting. Minimum is detected from total impedance while optimizing axial and power responses.

Check **Maximum gain** and enter preferred maximum value to text box if you like to limit filter gain. Squared error increases if maximum gain exceeds the setting. Maximum is detected from filter of all drivers.

Passive crossover components can be rounded to the closest value in standard E-series by selecting E12, E24 or E48. Note! Values are rounded after optimization which will increase squared error in the end.

Optimization could end up to bad result if initial parameter values are too far from good solution and method finds wrong local minimum. Adjust parameters manually closer to acceptable solution and restart solver with **Optimize** button. Result can be rejected with **Undo** button. Undo is able to restore up to twenty most recent changes.

Optimizer stops when error is zero (rarely) or **Stop** button is pressed or maximum evaluations is reached. Initial maximum is 300 evaluations. Simple problems with only few parameters to optimize could be solved with less than 100 evaluations.

**Parts list**

![Image of Parts list table]
Parts list shows passive components, drivers and parameter values in a grid. List can be copied to Your favorite spreadsheet or text editor with Copy command or Ctrl+A, Ctrl+C. Refresh updates the list in case components or values have changed after window was opened.

**Impulse response**

Axial response or input transfer function of driver or output of buffer or total axial SPL or listening window average SPL can be exported to impulse response in time domain. Typical application is to produce impulse response as wav-file for speaker controller with DSP FIR support or convolver plugin.

Frequency response is extrapolated to cover band from 0 Hz to Sample rate / 2 (Nyquist frequency) before inverse Fast Fourier Transform. After inverse FFT, impulse response is multiplied by window function to reduce artifact errors due to spectral leakage.

**Sample rate:** 44100, 48000, 88200, 96000, 176400, 192000 Hz.

**FFT length:** 8192, 16384, 32768, 65536, 131072, 262144 bins.

Frequency resolution of FFT is Sample rate / FFT length. For example 48000 Hz / 65536 = 0.732 Hz.

**Taps:** 256...131072 samples.

Maximum taps is limited up to FFT length / 2.

**IR window** function: Rectangular, Bartlett, Hanning, Hamming, Blackman, Blackman-Harris, Nuttall, Blackman-Nuttall, Cosine or Tukey 0.25/0.50/0.75.

Check shape and centering via graph with adequate time span.

See wikipedia: [Window function](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Window_function). Note: Advanced window functions are designed for spectrum analyzing with high S/N where silent side lobes are required. IR export works fine with Tukey 0.25/0.50.

**Center IR** shifts timing of source frequency response before inverse FFT by increasing phase angle (by delay * frequency * 2pi rad). Added delay is half of the impulse response length. Impulse peak is not necessarily located exactly at the middle point. Added delay is shown in Pre-delay text box. That value can be entered or copied to analyzing application to restore timing/phase of original frequency response.

**Center IR** can be unchecked if centering is not needed, typically with IIR filters. Adjustable delay in milliseconds is added to allow minor pre-ringing and timing tolerance without trimming first samples of the impulse peak.

Visible signal is selected with **Signal to show** combo box.
Up to six (6) signals can be exported at once. Signals can be selected manually with *Signals to export* combo boxes. Driver inputs (max 6) can be selected with D button, and buffer outputs (max 6) with B button. Click *Export* button to continue. *Save as...* dialog box proposes project filename + “ IR” as a ‘root filename’. Select output directory and modify *root filename* if necessary. Final filename for individual IR-files will be *root filename* + “ Buffer out A1”, *root filename* + “ Driver in D1” + extension, etc.

File format is selected in *Save as...* dialog. File formats: 16-bit PCM mono (.wav), 16-bit PCM stereo (.wav), 24-bit PCM mono (.wav), 24-bit PCM stereo (.wav), 32-bit IEEE mono (.wav), 32-bit IEEE stereo (.wav), 64-bit IEEE mono (.wav), 64-bit IEEE stereo (.wav), 32/64-bit text (.txt), 32/64-bit MLSSA (.txt), miniDSP binary file (.bin), miniDSP manual mode (.txt, copied also to clipboard).

Signal in 16-bit PCM wav is scaled to ±32760, and IEEE wav to ±0.999 to avoid notification of possibly clipped values. Stereo wav has the same signal in both channels.

Value scaling in text file is equal to source frequency response. Text file has single column from 0.0 s with step of 1/Sample rate [s]:

\[
\begin{align*}
8.49378929663085E-25 \\
1.64194430575251E-15 \\
-3.17746589425256E-15 
\end{align*}
\]

Scaling factor is common for all electrical signals; Buffer outputs and Driver inputs, to maintain gain differences. Scaling factor is common for all acoustical signals; Driver SPL and Total SPL, to maintain sensitivity differences. Select 32-bit file format or export IR-files one by one and scale with convolver if resolution with 16-bit PCM causes problems.

Impulse and step curves are updated automatically with selected IFFT parameters when crossover is changed. Time scale can be expanded and compressed with arrow buttons. Graph can be zoomed to full window for design-time preview.

**Power dissipation**

Graph shows electrical output power spectrum of generator and buffers/power amplifiers in active multi-way, and power dissipation of drivers and resistances in passive crossover network. Cursor label shows driver ID and name or part number and resistance value. Visible curves can be selected with checkboxes. Adjustable parameters for output signal from power amplifier:

- **Maximum voltage or power to constant 8 or 4 ohms load relative to gain of way.**
- **Crest factor.** Ratio of maximum output to the effective RMS value in dB, representing compression/loudness of music signal. Value should be short-term minimum to ensure that resistors are able store and dissipate energy. Typical crest factor for whole music track or album could be too high.
- **Spectrum:** Flat or Pink noise above specified frequency. Pink noise represent effective RMS spectrum of music signal. Typical corner frequency of pink spectrum is about 2 kHz, but significant variation exists within music genres and recordings. Initial value is 3 kHz.
Options

**Angle parsing from filename**

To allow VituixCAD to parse measurement angles and axis from frequency response files, you have to define file naming format/syntax. **Keywords** define how to distinguish between horizontal and vertical axis. Horizontal axis is selected if keyword of vertical is not found in the filename. **Search direction** defines whether VituixCAD should start parsing angle value from the beginning of the filename (hor_+150_myproject_mydriver.txt) or the end (myproject_mydriver_hor_+150.txt). **Number format** defines how angle value is formatted in the filename. For example if you use 1500 to present 15 degrees, use *Integer multiplied by* 100. Test tool is provided for testing your syntax.

**Frequency responses**

**Mirror missing** defines if VituixCAD should mirror missing measurement data:
• Measurement to equal positive angle selected if negative angle is not available (or vice versa)
• Measurement to equal horizontal angle selected if vertical angle is not available (or vice versa)
• Measurement to equal absolute horizontal angle selected if vertical angle is not available (or vice versa).

If crossover of project is active dsp, select exact or compatible device or application from DSP system combo box. Available options are:

• Analog i.e. passive crossover with RLC or active with linear circuits such as operational amplifiers
• Behringer DCX 96k
• FourAudio PPA 48k
• Generic:
  Adjustable sample rate with combo box.
  BW of peak/notch filter is between midpoint gain (dB/2) frequencies.
  Bessel LP/HP is phase-normalized, -3 dB frequency depends on order.
  Frequency parameter of shelving LP/HP filter is corner, not midpoint gain (dB/2).
• Hypex FA 192k. Note! Result is not accurate due to undocumented proprietary biquad calculation of Hypex.
• Hypex PSC 48k. Note! Result is not accurate due to undocumented proprietary biquad calculation of Hypex.
• miniDSP 48k
• miniDSP 96k
• Nova 96k
• Xilica XA/XP 96k

Selection has significant effect to frequency response of Active Peak/Notch, Bessel LP/HP and Shelving LP/HP filters, and to highest frequencies due to possible limit in sample rate. Setting is saved in project file (vxp).

Listening distance is virtual distance from loudspeaker to listener or microphone, needed to calculate phase differences and amplitude relations between drivers in different locations. Enter typical listening distance in mm. Default value is 2500 mm.

Values in Listening window text boxes specify angle range in horizontal and vertical planes included in calculation of ‘Listening window average’. See SPL chart and Optimizer.

Display
Font for crossover schematic and visibility of tooltips are selectable.

Power response & DI calculation

Intensity on spherical surface is normally selected for common sized single or multiway speakers. Intensity on spherical surface around speaker is calculated from radial measurements in horizontal and vertical planes.

\[
Q(f) = \frac{2N}{\pi \sum_{n=1}^{N} \left| \frac{P(\theta_n)}{P(0)} \right|^2 \sin \theta_n}
\]

\[
DI(f) = 10 \log_{10} Q(f)
\]

Intensity on cylinder surface is practical selection for long line sources, or if either horizontal or vertical directivity is temporarily interesting - not accurate power response & DI result. Intensity on cylinder surface around speaker is calculated as average pressure from radial measurements, typically in a single (horizontal) plane.

Checkboxes control which planes are included in power response and directivity index calculations; horizontal, vertical or both.

If Half space is checked, angles >90 deg are excluded from power response and DI calculation. Directivity chart shows angles -90...+90 deg only. This setting is meant for flush mounted or other clearly uni-directional speakers. Common box speakers and dipoles with DI <10 dB should be measured and simulated to full space.

Angle density of simulated and visualized off-axis directions is selected with Angle step list box. Available options are 5, 10, 15, 20 and 30 deg. Initial value is 10 deg.
**Image export**

*Single W x H* is size of exported chart image. Default size is 480x270 px.

*Six-pack W x H* is size of one exported chart in group of all six charts in main program or Enclosure tool. Default size is 400x225 px.

Default size can be set by double-clicking the label.

**Graph scales**

**Frequency axis**

Internal frequency range is fixed 5...39794 Hz with density of 48 points/octave, but you can limit visible scale. Options are fixed 20...20000 Hz or custom range with minimum 5...1000 Hz and maximum 200...40000 Hz.

**SPL, Directivity**

*Span* controls vertical scale of SPL graphs. SPL, Power & DI and Directivity waterfall span: 20, 30, 40, 60 or 80 dB.

**Group delay**

*Span* controls vertical scale of GD & Phase graph. GD span: 2, 4, 8, 16, 24 or 40 ms.

**Filter gain**

*Max* defines upper limit and *Span* controls vertical scale of filter gain graph. Filter gain span: 30, 35, 40, 45, 50 or 60 dB.

**Impedance**

*Max* defines upper limit of impedance graph. Impedance maximum: 12, 20, 30, 40, 60, 80 or 120 Ohm.

**Excursion**

*Max* defines upper limit of cone excursion graph in Enclosure tool: 2, 4, 8, 20, 40 or 80 mm.

**Velocity**

*Max* defines upper limit of air velocity graph in Enclosure tool: 2, 4, 8, 20, 40 or 80 m/s.

**External tools**

Paths in the text fields define applications VituixCAD should open when pressing corresponding buttons/menu items. Select application by clicking folder button or dropping file into text box.

- **Spice**  
  Executable of LTspice IV or compatible circuit simulator

- **Web search**  
  Search command for drivers in Enclosure tool
Tools

Enclosure tool

Driver database

VituixCAD reads online database from https://kimmosaunisto.net/ when Online database is checked. Adding, modifying and removing drivers are possible only with local database.

Filtering is enabled by checking Enable filtering. Filtering window opens with Filter button. You can filter driver list by user selection (checkbox in Sel column), or by any text or numeric field. Filter is updated by pressing Enter or by moving cursor to another field. Numeric fields are filtered within range specified with Min and Max text boxes or vertical sliders. Values in gray are at the limit so they don’t affect to filtering. Criteria in multiple fields is logical AND. Single field can contain several criterion separated with space or semicolon (;). Criteria in a single field is logical OR. For example:

- Seas and BMS drivers are visible when Manufacturer=Seas;BMS
- 8" Scan-Speak and Seas drivers are visible when Manufacturer=Scan;Seas and Size Min=8, Max=8

All passive radiators are shown by checking PR. Filtering is not available.

Driver database includes the following fields:

- Manufacturer
- Model
- Type: S, W, M, F, C or PR (passive radiator)
- Size: Nominal diameter [inches]
- Status: Active, Discontinued, Preliminary or Vintage
- Re: DC resistance [Ohm]
- Z1k: Impedance at 1 kHz [Ohm]
- Z10k: Impedance at 10 kHz [Ohm]
- Le: Voice coil inductance [mH] or Bound inductance [mH], see Impedance models
- Leb: Free inductance [mH], see Impedance models
- Ke: Semi-inductance [sH], see Impedance models
- Rs: Shunt resistance [Ohm], see Impedance models
- fs: Free air resonance [Hz]
- Qms: Mechanical Q factor
- Qes: Electrical Q factor
- Qts: Total Q factor
Rms  Mechanical resistance [Ns/m, kg/s]
Mms  Moving mass with air load [g]
Cms  Suspension compliance [mm/N]
Vas  Equivalent volume [liters]
Sd   Effective cone area [cm²]
Bl   Force factor [N/A, Tm]
Pmax  Maximum long term input power [W]
Xmax  Maximum linear excursion, one way peak [mm]
Revision  Datasheet revision or date by manufacturer
Updated  Date/Name in format yyyy-mm-dd/First name Last name

Driver list can be sorted by clicking column header. Columns (except frozen columns) can be reordered temporarily by dragging column header. Right click in driver row opens context menu with more options to search and modify driver list. Context menu options:

- Undo (all changes)
- Copy
- Delete rows
- Duplicate rows
- Update database
- Hide columns. Column width of selected cells is set to minimum (5px).
- Show columns. Column width of selected cells is set to normal.
- Find

button searches for selected driver from web (Google search with Your default browser).

Parameters of selected driver are modified with button. New driver is added with button. Parameters are accepted and window closed with OK button.

Check Crosscalc to update other parameters while one parameter is adjusted.

n0, SPL, USPL, EBP and Vd are calculated for information only.

Parameters measured and calculated with CLIO, LIMP, REW or compatible are possible to paste with Paste button. Thiele/Small parameters can be calculated with added mass or sealed box method by two impedance measurements and few known parameters. Calculation window opens with Calculate T/S... button.
Driver database is simple tab-delimited text file: ```\{Users\Public\Documents\VituixCAD\Enclosure\VituixCAD_Drivers.txt``. Database can be maintained with external tool like Microsoft Excel, provided that original file format including column headers, measurement units and decimal symbol are not modified.

**Calculation of Thiele/Small parameters**

Required parameters for calculation are driver’s Re [Ohm], Dd [mm] or Sd [cm$^2$] and free air impedance response. In addition, secondary impedance response measured with known added mass or driver installed in undamped sealed enclosure with known volume or known Mms [g] or Bl [Tm] is needed.

Measure and load impedance response(s). Measure Re and Dd/Sd if not known. Enter parameters and added mass [g] or sealed box volume [liters] to text boxes. Check **Mms or Bl** if value is trusted and secondary impedance response is not available. Press **Calculate**. Results are visible in **Calculated parameters** and **Basic Z model** groups. Z1k and Z10k are detected from free air impedance response. Impedance graph shows measured and simulated impedance responses. See tooltip of curves for more information.

Results can be accepted to previous **Edit parameters/Add new driver window** with **Apply** button.

**Impedance models**

Enclosure tool can use two different impedance models:

1. **Basic impedance model.** Exponential curve fitted with two impedance points: Z1k and Z10k.
   
   \[ Z_L = K f^n \]
   
   \[ n = \log\left(\frac{Z_{10k}}{Z_{1k}}\right) \]

   This is primary model used for impedance response calculation if both Z1k and Z10k are greater than zero. Values should be greater or equal to Re.


   Loudspeaker equivalent circuit (seen from electrical side):
Calculation rules if all parameters of extended impedance model are not applied:
* Semi-inductance Ke is used if bound inductance Le is blank or zero
* Bound inductance Le is used if semi-inductance Ke is blank or zero
* Shunt resistance Rss is ignored (=infinite) if blank or zero.

This is secondary model used for impedance response calculation if Z1k or Z10k or both are blank or zero. Extracting of Le, Leb, Ke and Rss from impedance curve on manufacturer’s data sheet or impedance measurement is possible with **Extended Z model solver** located in **Calculate T/S parameters** window.

**Note!** Re, fs, Rms, Mms, Cms or Vas, Sd and Bl should be entered or calculated and >0 before extraction of extended Z model parameters.

Load free air impedance response file (txt,zma). Press **Solve** button to start. Optimizer searches Le, Leb, Ke and Rss giving close to free air target. Parameters can be accepted for the driver with **Apply** button if sum of squared error is less than 0.4. Error field is red if result is not acceptable and cannot be applied for the driver.

Voice coil inductance (with losses) is included in frequency response calculation by checking Show effect of inductance in context menu of SPL chart.

**Database update**

Local driver database can be updated with data on the clipboard or local text file or online database @kimmosauunisto.net.

Order and amount of columns in the source data and destination (local) database must match if the source data does
not have header line with parameter names in the first row. Column match should be verified especially with data on the clipboard. Local text files and online database usually have the header row i.e. the values are copied to the correct fields regardless of the column order.

Update database window opens via context menu of driver grid.

Select data source: clipboard, text file or online database.

Drivers whose Manufacturer and Model are not found in the local database are added by checking Add new drivers.

Drivers whose Manufacturer and Model are found in the local database are updated by checking Update existing drivers. Select parameters to update from the list. Selections are inverted with [ ] button.

Allow override with blank enables replacing of existing value with blank. Otherwise blank value in the source data won’t override existing non-blank value.

Text to Updated field overrides existing text. Text in the source data is copied if text box is left empty.

**Driver configuration**

Drop down menu provides selection for amount of drivers. If more than one driver is selected, radio buttons on the right control how drivers are connected.

Number of drivers; 1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 9 or 12 pcs, or pairs in isobaric configuration

Electrical connection; series, parallel, 2 || 2 ..., 3 || 3 ...

If **Isobaric** is checked, each driver in simulation is combination of two drivers mechanically in isobaric configuration. Isobaric pairs are connected electrically in series if **series** is checked. Otherwise pairs are corrected in parallel.

Extra mass per driver [g] can be used to simulate increase of Mms, which reduces fs and sensitivity of the driver. Mass is reset to zero grams by double-clicking ‘Extra mass’ label.

Amplifier’s output voltage [V] and output resistance [Ohm] are common for all drivers. Voltage can be changed from default 2.83 V to simulate cone excursion and vent air velocity with higher electrical power. Default voltage is restored by double-clicking ‘Source’ label. Output resistance emulates output impedance of power amplifier or cable resistance. Actual series resistance is quick and dirty way to increase electrical Q factor and decrease sensitivity.

Manufacturer and Model of previously selected driver is visible in text box. Volume excursion capacity Sd*Xmax*N is shown in Vd [cm³] field.

**Radiator type**

Radiator types supported by Enclosure tool:

```
Infinite baffle       Closed        Bass reflex       Double tuned reflex
```
Tabs

**Align - Closed and Bass reflex radiator alignment**

Closed box is aligned by selecting or entering Qtc. Optional high alarm limit for non-linearity [% on Xmax] due to air compression is available. Box volume is limited and requested Qtc is not produced if alarm limit is exceeded (red text). Increase % value until red color disappears to get requested Qtc if you don’t care about compression distortion. Box Q entered on Enclosure tab and series resistance are included in alignment by checking Include Qb+Rs. Otherwise alignment is done by basic formula: \( V_b = \frac{V_{as}}{((Q_{tc}/Q_{ts})^2 - 1)} \). Both options are approximations, but normally including Qb+Rs is giving results closer to effective Qtc around system resonance.

Bass reflex is aligned by Thiele/Hoge/Bullock -tables: SBB4/BB4, QB3/SQB3 and SC4/C4 with QI 3, 7 or 15.

Auto align executes alignment with entered parameters when driver or driver configuration or radiator type is changed.
Filter transfer function of selected driver in the main program can be applied for driver in Enclosure tool. Linking is done with Crossover of driver checkbox in Align tab. Responses in Enclosure tool are refreshed on the fly while adjusting the filter. Response is shown in Group delay chart with dB scale (right).

Single cabinet impact response is possible to include in full space simulation shown in SPL graph (brown). Load simulated baffle response by clicking Open button, and enable it by checking Diffraction response. Diffraction simulator is executed by clicking Baffle step button.

**Enclosure – Parameters for different radiator types**

Adjustable box and vent parameters vary depending on chosen radiator type.

Adjustable box parameters: Volume [l], Qa, Ql, Fb [Hz]. Box resonance frequency Fb [Hz] is calculated read-only if box is not vented.

Adjustable vent parameters: Length [cm], Diameter [cm], Qp, Number, Total end correction; 0.614, 0.732, 0.80, 0.850, 0.90, 0.95 or 1.00.

Fb [Hz] can be locked for vented box with checkbox: Vent Diam/Area is calculated if Length is modified. Vent Length is calculated if Volume, Fb, Diam/Area, Number of vents or End corr is modified. Table alignment unchecks 'Lock Fb' of Box Rear 1.

Get from table button reads passive radiator parameters from current row of driver database. Regular driver with motor is also possible passive radiator.

Manufacturer and Model of previously selected passive radiator is visible in text box. Volume excursion capacity Sd*Xmax*N is shown in Vd [cm³] field.
Info – Acoustical and electrical equivalent parameters

Info tab shows enclosure image, calculated acoustical parameters of driver, boxes and ports. Optional display of electrical equivalent values is available. Info tab also lists statistics: \( f_{-3\,\text{dB}} \), \( f_{-6\,\text{dB}} \), \( f_{-10\,\text{dB}} \), min. impedance, max. impedance, max. group delay, max. excursion of cone and passive radiator and max. air velocity of vents.

Optional execution of external LTspice IV circuit simulator is available. Acoustical parameters of driver and enclosure are passed into LTspice. Path for LTspice executable needs to be defined in Options window.

Note! Effect of voice coil inductance is not shown in SPL curve.

Export functions

Total SPL and impedance response can be exported if You choose to use them in simulating loudspeaker driver instead of acoustic and electrical measurements. Impedance response is routed to driver selected in Drivers tab in the main program by checking Feed speaker before exporting.

Data in charts can be exported to multi-column tab delimited text file and clipboard with Export six-pack data command in context menu of charts. Decimal separator is period (.) regardless of localization settings in Control panel.

Graphs

Every graph can be zoomed to full size and back to dashboard by double clicking in middle area of particular graph. Color coding of traces is defined below dashboard. Dashboard of enclosure tool includes following graphs:

- Total SPL [dB] and phase, SPL of cones and ports, maximum SPL and Total SPL overlay. Snapshot, frequency response file and visibility of overlay are controlled with context menu (right click). Overlay can be scaled with mouse wheel or Shift + mouse wheel.
- Total impedance [Ohm] and phase, and Impedance overlay. Snapshot, impedance response file and visibility of overlay are controlled with context menu (right click).
- Input Power: volt-ampere [VA], real power [W] and Pmax [W].
- Group delay [ms]. Optional frequency response [dB] of crossover.
- Peak excursion and Xmax [mm] of cone and passive radiator. Peak force [N] of cones and passive radiators due to acceleration of moving mass 
  \[ F_{\text{peak}} = X_{\text{peak}} (M_{\text{ms}}+M_{\text{me}}) n \omega^2. \]
- Air velocity [m/s] of vents. Turbulence warning 17.2 m/s (5% mach) and alarm 34.4 m/s (10% mach) for vents. Velocity [m/s] of cones and passive radiators.
Merger tool merges frequency responses using two separate sections: Low frequency part and High frequency part. Low frequency responses can be either far field measurements or near field measurements with baffle simulation. Graph shows preview of low frequency part (red), high frequency part (blue), merged response (black) and optionally phase. Graph cursor (magenta) controls transition frequency and shows also blending range.

**Low frequency part with Near field measurements**

Merger tool merges near field measurements + diffraction simulation or $2\pi +$ diffraction simulation or $4\pi$ simulation to time-windowed far field measurements. Merged off-axis responses contain directivity information below transition frequency based on time-windowed axial response divided by time-windowed off-axis response. Reliable directivity information at low frequencies requires long time window.

Uncheck Far field measurements. Near field frequency responses are added by clicking folder button on the right or dropping files into list. You can have multiple responses, usually near field for cone(s) and near field for port(s). Enter diameter [mm] or area [cm$^2$] of particular radiator and Merger tool will calculate scaling to far field automatically. Scaling can be adjusted via Diam [mm], Area [cm$^2$] or Scale [dB] in response rows and by total low frequency part via Scale or Distance text box by entering a value or by Up/Down keys.

For baffle diffraction there are three options available. No baffle loss, Sphere baffle step (adjustable nominal frequency) or Diffraction response simulated with internal simulator. Diffraction response can be selected by clicking folder button or dropping file into text box. Diffraction simulator is executed by clicking Baffle step button.

**Low frequency part with Far field measurements**

Low frequency response list must have equal off-axis angles (with same angle coding in file names) to high frequency response list. Otherwise LF and HF responses cannot be paired.

Check Far field measurements. Far field frequency responses are added by clicking folder button on the right or dropping files into list. Enter Distance of low frequency and high frequency measurements and Merger tool will calculate scaling of LF responses automatically. Scaling can be adjusted via Scale text box by entering a value or by Up/Down keys.
**High frequency part**

Far field measurements can be added by clicking folder button or dropping files into list. Scaling can be adjusted manually via Scale text box on the right. Axial response is selected by checking Axial column in response file list. Default axial response is 0 degrees in horizontal plane. Merged responses (graph below High frequency part) for particular angle can be previewed by clicking corresponding response from file list.

**Transition**

Transition from low frequency to high frequency part can be set manually via Frequency text box, graph cursor or Up/Down keys or automatically by clicking binocular button 🕵️‍♂️. Automatic option searches for lowest magnitude crossing point of low and high frequency curves.

Warning is given with red background color if transition frequency exceeds maximum near field frequency of the largest low frequency radiator. \( f_{\text{NFmax}} = \frac{c}{\pi D_d} \) (c = 344.0 m/s).

Magnitude and phase blending range between low and high frequency parts can be selected from drop down list: none, 1, 2, 3 or 4 octaves.

Delay of low frequency part is calculated automatically on transition frequency change but can be adjusted manually.

**Output**

Choose which items You want to output. Create merged responses will combine low frequency and high frequency responses into individual response files. Extended data will combine LF and HF responses into a single file, having LspCAD 6 extended data format. Merged responses are routed to main program for currently selected driver in Drivers tab by checking Feed speaker before saving.

Merged responses are exported as minimum-phase by checking Minimum phase. Measured and entered delays are lost and all responses at all frequencies are normalized to the same acoustic center = 0 mm. Color of merged phase response is lime in the chart.

Excess group delay of HF response at transition frequency \( x \times 1.4 \) is added to merged minimum phase response by checking with GD of HF. This option saves measured delay (at transition frequency \( x \times 1.4 \)) and delay adjusted by user. Minimum phase options may be needed if measured far field HF responses are not minimum-phase at transition frequency, though radiator is actually minimum-phase. Significant error is possible with some measurement programs if IR time window is short. Forcing to calculated minimum phase is not recommended if responses are measured with dual channel gear and phase error at transition frequency is only few degrees.

Output file format is selected with TXT, FRD and LMS ascii radio buttons.

**Destination Directory**

Choose work directory where You want to save output files.

**Save and Open**

Merger project can be saved with Save button in the bottom left corner. File extension is vxm, internally XML.

Saved merger project can be opened with Open button or dropping vxm-file into Merger tool window.
Calculator tool

Calculator tool is a generic math tool for response file processing. Most of the math skills required for speaker simulation are included in Enclosure tool, Merger tool and speaker simulator. Calculator tool provides some additional functions and flexibility to process calibration files, preprocess measurements before simulation or analyze complete speaker or a single driver.

Responses

Primary response list is ‘A responses’. It accepts multiple responses. ‘B response’ is single response.

Add response files by clicking folder button or dropping files into list. Multiple file selection with Open dialog is enabled. Delete button clears whole response list. Uncheck Linear input mag if magnitude is in dB value in the response files. Check Linear input mag for impedance, pressure or voltage responses where magnitude is not in dB value. Phase angle unit should be degrees. Calculator wraps phase automatically within -180...+180 deg. All loaded files are processed.

Manual scaling, timing and polarity inversion is available for each response. Simultaneous scaling/timing/inversion of all responses is available above response list. Phase angle in the filename is detected and visible after filename. It is needed for directivity and power response calculation. See Options for more information.

Multiple output

Functions for each input response A, producing multiple result responses:

Add $A + B$

Responses $A$ added by response $B$.
Default result filename extension is add.txt.
- Add subwoofer response ($B$) to responses of main speaker ($A$).

Subtract $A – B$

Responses $A$ subtracted by response $B$.
Default result filename extension is sub.txt.
Multiply A * B
Responses A are multiplied by response B.
Default result filename extension is mul.txt.
- Create far field response by multiplying near field measurements (A) with cabinet diffraction simulation (B).
- Test equalizer, high pass or low pass filter by multiplying raw responses (A) with filter transfer function (B).

Divide A / B
Responses A are divided by response B.
Default result filename extension is divAB.txt.
- Normalize polar measurements by dividing off-axis responses (A) with axial response (B).
- Correct punch of uncalibrated measurements (A) by multiplying with calibration file, representing total frequency response of your measurement system (B).

Divide B / A
Response B is divided by responses A.
Default result filename extension is divBA.txt.

Divide A / frequency
Responses A magnitude is divided by frequency.
Default result filename extension is divAF.txt.
- Calculate cone excursion response from near field measurement (A) by dividing each magnitude value with associate frequency.

Mirror A
Responses A mirroring aka vertical flipping over entered dB value.
Default result filename extension is mir.txt.
- Create equalizer target response by mirroring raw response over entered level.
- Create correction response by mirroring total frequency response of your measurement system.

Normalize A
Responses A normalizing to magnitude of the first response A at entered frequency.
Default result filename extension is nor.txt.
- Reduce excess directivity of time-windowed off-axis responses by normalizing responses at 40 Hz of axial response in case you are sure that radiator is perfect omni until 40 Hz.

Scale, Delay, Invert A
No calculation - just responses A magnitude scaling, time shifting and polarity inversion.
Default result filename extension is sca.txt.
- Scale measurements (A) to estimated or known SPL [dB/2.83V/1m].
- Smooth measurements (A) without any other manipulation.
- Resample measurements (A) from linear to logarithmic frequency increment; from response export of REW to 24...48 points/octave. This may require appropriate time shifting to maintain correct phase information.
- Time shifting of measurements (A) if time reference (0 s) point is at the mic capsule or starting point of IR time window was too much before impulse peak.
- Invert measurements (A) if mic polarity was inverted while measurement or your mic & preamp combination is constantly inverting.
**Minimum phase A**

Responses A converted to minimum-phase. Response tails below 5 Hz and above 40 kHz are estimated by the first and last 1/2 octaves. Response tails can also be specified manually by checking Lower tail and Higher tail and entering cropping frequency and slope in dB/oct in Response tails group. Default result filename extension is MP.txt.

**Group delay A**

Responses A group delay in milliseconds. Default result filename extension is GD.txt.

**Real A**

Responses A converted to real: phase angle is set to 0 deg or -180 deg if Invert is checked. Default result filename extension is re.txt.

- Create correction file for magnitude only. Normally this corrupts minimum phase features, but may be useful if phase information is irrelevant or harmful.
- Create full impedance response for ideal resistive component from plain magnitude response.

**Multiply B * A / A(0)**

Creates off-axis responses for measured or captured axial response B with directivity information in responses A. Directivity data can be simulated with Diffraction tool or compatible set of far field measurements. Response A to 0 degrees is reference in directivity calculation. Default result filename extension is mulBdirA.txt.

**Mic in Box A**

Responses A are multiplied by 2nd order high-pass and polarity inverted. Corner frequency and Q-factor are specified with following f0 and Q text boxes. Default result filename extension is mib.txt.

Function calculates correction to response measured with Microphone-in-Box technique, or any other response including effect of close to ideal room gain at low frequencies. For more information: [Measuring Loudspeaker Low-Frequency Response](#).

**Multiply A * piston directivity**

Responses A multiplied by piston directivity. Calculation parameters are piston diameter for circular or width for rectangular radiator, and off-axis angle in degrees. Off-axis angle coded in filename in response list A is applied if 0 degrees is entered. Directivity function for circular radiator is \(2*J_1(k*a*sin(angle))/(k*a*sin(angle))\), where \(J_1(x)\) is 1st order Bessel function of first kind, \(k=\text{wave number and } a=\text{radius}\). Directivity function for rectangular radiator is \(\text{Sinc}(k*x*sin(angle))\), where \(x\) is width. Phase shift is approximated with \(-k*x*sin(angle)\). Default result filename extension is pis.txt.

- Create off-axis response including piston directivity from single axial or near field response.

**Single output**

Functions for multiple input responses, producing single result response:

**Sum of A responses**

\[= A_0 + A_1 + A_2 + ...\]

Default result filename is VituixCAD sum.txt.

- Create total response of multiple radiators
• Sum near field measurements of all cones and ports. Each response A can be scaled for different radiating area.
• Create total response of multiple ways/bands.
• Simulate comb-filtering effects by summing non-delayed and delayed responses. See Complex calculation.

**Product of A responses**

\[ = A_0 \ast A_1 \ast A_2 \ast \ldots \]

Product calculation produces overflow error quite soon if several files is loaded. Typically product is needed for maximum two...three responses. Default result filename is VituixCAD prod.txt.

**Average of A responses**

\[ = (A_0 + A_1 + A_2 + \ldots) / N \]

Default result filename is VituixCAD avg.txt.

• Create listening window response by averaging ±30 deg hor and ±5 deg ver responses. See Complex calculation.

**RMS of A responses**

\[ = \sqrt{\left( A_0^2 + A_1^2 + A_2^2 + \ldots \right) / N} \]

RMS is alternative for simple average (arithmetic mean). Square scales single magnitude value for area or power, for example from sound pressure to intensity. See Complex calculation. Default result filename is VituixCAD RMS.txt.

**Maximum of A responses**

Searches maximum magnitude from responses (A) for each frequency point. Phase angle of result response is taken from selected row. Default result filename is VituixCAD max.txt.

• Create reference response for manual Directivity Index calculation if preferred reference response is maximum pressure within listening window instead of single axial response (which could contain diffraction dips).

**Directivity of A responses**

• Calculates Directivity Factor Q(f) from radial measurements (A) if Linear result mag is checked and DI=Axial/average is not checked.
• Calculates Directivity Index DI(f) from radial measurements (A) if Linear result mag and DI=Axial/average are not checked. Unit of result is dB.

Phase angle should be included in response filenames in order to calculate intensity on spherical surface from radial measurements. Angle step must be constant. ‘Horizontal 0 deg’ response is automatically selected as directivity reference. Content of that file should be modified in order to use some other measurement or calculated result as a reference. Default result filename is VituixCAD DI.txt.

Directivity can be calculated as axial to average pressure ratio by checking DI=Axial/average. This option is valid if polar response set is real 3D containing equally spaced measurements on full spherical surface around the radiator. Another application is to calculate either horizontal or vertical directivity, without requirement of correct result for full space.

**Power of A responses**

Power response approximation is calculated as Reference response magnitude + Directivity Index + 10*log_{10}(4\pi). This method requires valid responses for Directivity Index calculation, specified in the previous section. Default result filename is VituixCAD pow.txt.
**Additional options**

Complex Sum/Avg/RMS should be checked in order to calculate complex vector sum, average or RMS with phase angle information. Complex calculation is sensitive to phase angle; sum of two equal magnitudes with opposite polarity = 0. This is default option giving correct results with frequency responses.

Absolute magnitudes are summed if Complex calculation is not checked. This option is useful if phase information is too random or nonsymmetrical (like with multiple room responses) causing steep magnitude dips in result response. Phase angle of result response is calculated with complex numbers anyway, but minimum phase features are not completely maintained.

Smoothing options are 1/1, 1/2, 1/3, 1/6, 1/12 octaves or none. Smoothing function is 6th order Butterworth band-pass, slopes truncated at -20 dB.

Result files can be recycled to input responses by checking Result -> input. Multiple result files are recycled to responses A, and single result file to response B. This enables calculation sequences without manual loading of result files to input. Result files are saved in Destination directory, which can be changed via folder button.

Result files are created by clicking Calculate & Save button. Calculation to graph without result file creation is executed when response files are loaded or calculation formula is selected or smoothing or any other additional option is changed.

**Graph**

Enter title directly into graph for publishing of captured image.

Maximum and span of magnitude axis are adjusted by arrow buttons or entering value or Up/Down keys in the text boxes. Visible frequency range is also adjustable. Magnitude can be auto scaled by clicking A button. Scale of phase axis is constant -180…+180 deg.

Max. 10 overlays can be added into graph with Add overlay button. Clear overlay deletes the latest visible overlay.

**Diffraction tool**

Diffraction simulator calculates cabinet impact or full space frequency response of driver(s) in a baffle. Simulation is based on simple ray theory: each driver is a point source sending 72 rays towards baffle edges with fixed 5 deg steps. Path lengths of shortest 1st order diffractions are calculated and summed with delay i.e. phase information in a
listening point. Magnitude of diffracted rays is frequency dependent. Weighting factors are calculated from radiator dimensions and edge radius. Maximum amount of corners is 36, and minimum is 3. Baffle can contain up to 50 drivers with equal dimensions. Simplified room response with floor and side wall reflections is available.

**Initializing**

Start baffle designing by entering main dimensions; width, height and number of corners. Select driver shape; circular or rectangular. Enter effective diameter Dd or area Sd for circular or width and height for rectangular, number of drivers and Step which is vertical distance between drivers (if more than one). Press New button to create initial shape with drivers and mic in the drawing area.

Adding and deleting of corners and drivers is available via pop-up menu. Corner is added in the cursor position, but you may need to rotate two corners to get new one to correct position. Driver is added in the cursor position.

Zooming Out, 1, In and Fit are available via zoom buttons ⌚️, ⬠, ⬡. You can pan baffle image by dragging when nothing is selected (blank area clicked). Unit of location coordinates is millimeter. Zoom 1 equals 1px=1mm. Origin (0, 0) is initially in the bottom left corner. Origin can be moved to cursor position by clicking left button when Ctrl key is pressed. If corner, driver or microphone is selected, origin moves to the center point of selection.

Half space frequency response of driver can be loaded for full space response simulation. Enable full space view and export by checking Full space. Y-scale is adjusted automatically.

Check Open baffle for dipole speaker with thin l-baffle.

**Adjusting**

Individual objects; corners, drivers and microphone are selected by clicking left button above the image. Selected object is highlighted and location (X, Y) is visible in View group. Location can be adjusted by dragging or entering coordinates or pressing arrow keys in the text boxes. Snap setting restricts object movement to intervals specified with the text box. Snap mode is activated by a checkbox. Object is moving orthogonally if Shift key is pressed while dragging. Crosshair cursor helps object aligning. Cabinet impact response graph is updated while adjusting.

Remove selection (deselect) by clicking blank area. Coordinates of mouse cursor are shown as long as nothing is selected.

Edge radius and Driver Dd or Sd, Width and Height can be adjusted after project initialization by entering value or pressing up/down keys in the text boxes. Drawing and cabinet impact response graph are updated while adjusting.

**Mic/listening point**

Microphone symbol represents listening point at Axis Distance. Baffle can be rotated horizontally and vertically by entering Angle Hor or Angle Ver, or pressing up/down keys in the text boxes. Rotation origin is perpendicular point of microphone on (unrotated) baffle surface. Horizontal rotation of baffle is positive to counter-clockwise from top view. Vertical rotation of baffle is positive to face up. Sign of rotation angles are changed while directivity export for compatibility with measurement data.

**Reflections**

Check Floor and enter floor elevation in mm to include floor bounce in frequency response. Side wall reflection is included by checking Wall. Negative X coordinate locates wall on the left side. Enter absorption within 0...20 dB to reduce amplitude of boundary reflections.

**File functions**

Save baffle project by pressing Save button. File extension is .vxb, but it's human-readable xml file containing main dimensions and location of corners and drivers. You can print the file for helping final enclosure design.

Open existing baffle project by pressing Open button.
Export simulated Cabinet impact response or full space frequency response shown in the graph by pressing Export button. You can also export off-axis responses with 10 deg steps by checking Directivity. Responses in vertical plane 10...170 deg are exported by checking Vertical plane. Responses to negative angles -10...-170 deg are exported by checking Negative angles. Responses are routed for currently selected driver in the main program by checking Feed speaker before exporting. Enter root file name for responses. Program extends file name with horizontal/vertical keyword and angle, using coding defined in Options window.

**Graph**

Max. 10 overlays can be added into response graph with Add overlay button. Clear overlay deletes the latest visible overlay.

**Note!**
1) Bevel can be entered as radius.
2) Long planar radiator should be constructed by stacking multiple small rectangular drivers with Step = Height.

**SPL Trace**

SPL Trace tool can capture frequency and impedance responses from bitmap loaded from file or pasted from the clipboard. Several image file types are supported such as png, jpg, bmp and gif. Some external tool or print screen is needed for copying bitmap to clipboard from datasheet (pdf) or web page. Snipping Tool installed in Windows 10 works fine.

Recommended size of bitmap is 800x400px or more to enable adequate resolution and accuracy. Bitmap is shown in SPL Trace window with original size or fitted smaller if needed.

**Note!** Dark background color of bitmap should be replaced with light with Edit -> Invert colors command.

Extracting of responses:
1. Open image file (File->Open image or Ctrl+O) or paste from the clipboard (Edit -> Paste image or Ctrl+V).
2. Set frequency boundaries: Point and drag the lowest labeled frequency in the graph with magenta cursor. Enter frequency to the text box, or adjust value with up/down arrow keys or mouse wheel. Point and drag the highest labeled frequency with orange cursor. Enter or adjust frequency value in the text box.
3. Set SPL boundaries: Point and drag the lowest labeled SPL with blue cursor. Enter or adjust SPL value in the text box. Point and drag the highest labeled SPL with green cursor. Enter or adjust SPL value in the text box.
4. Set impedance boundaries: Point and drag the lowest labeled impedance with red cursor. Enter or adjust impedance value in the text box. Point and drag the highest labeled impedance with cyan cursor. Enter or adjust impedance value in the text box.

5. Select impedance axis type: Linear or Logarithm. Linear scale has absolute increments and typically starts from zero Ohms. For example from 0 to 60 Ohms with steps of 10 Ohms. Intervals of logarithmic scale are ratios, and scale starts above zero Ohms. For example 2, 4, 8, 16, 32, 64 Ohms.

6. Move mouse cursor inside the graph area and check that Hz, dB and Ohm values in the status line are calculated correctly.

   **Warning:** Paste and File open commands reset previous settings if image size changes.

7. Erase gridlines within chart area if luminance of line color is <90 % and color difference to response traces is small.
   No need to erase if gridlines are very light gray (or dotted line) and response traces are thick with saturated color (red, green, blue, magenta, cyan).
   Click **X Grids** button to start erasing. Point with crosshair cursor the lines where all horizontal and vertical gridlines are found, but the cursor lines crosses response traces as little as possible. Accept with left click. Gridlines (with luminance <90 %) should be gone.


   **Warning!** Do not cut axial or impedance responses too much because Undo is not available.

9. Trace amplitude response. Click **Trace SPL** button and then starting point of frequency response at the lowest visible frequency. Click again few pixels further if tracing was not started. Traced path is marked with thick red overlay line. If the tracing is interrupted or distracted in an intersection, you can correct the path by clicking a point few pixels after the problem. You can also restart from earlier position or beginning as many times you like.

10. You can use Trace rubber for cleaning bad points of traced curve. For example short jumps above or below correct path. Erased parts will be interpolated when the response is exported to a file.

    Check Options -> Smooth 1/12 oct. to remove small peaks and tiny steps due to pixels of original bitmap.
    Smoothing of 1/12 oct. is applied to exported responses.
    Default density of export is 48 points/octave. Lower densities are available in Options menu, but not recommended if responses are created for VituixCAD.

11. Export amplitude response with **Export** button after tracing is completed and red overlay line looks fine. Enter filename and select extension (txt or frd). Phase response is calculated automatically as minimum phase. Program estimates slopes of frequency response extensions below and above visible range.

12. Trace impedance response. Click **Trace Z** button and then starting point of impedance response at the lowest visible frequency.

13. Enter voice coil resistance of driver to Re text box. Initial value is 95% of minimum traced Z.

14. Export impedance response with **Export** button...

   Traced sound pressure points can be copied to clipboard with Edit -> Copy raw SPL. Traced impedance points can be copied to clipboard with Edit -> Copy raw Z. Phase angle is zero and decimal symbol defined in Control panel.

   Press Shift key while moving mouse above the image to open circular **Magnifier** of 400 %.
**Auxiliary calculator**

**Time window**

Calculates maximum length of time window (ms) without reflections. Enter shortest distance from driver to mic, from driver to floor and from mic to floor (mm). Calculates also path length of reflection (mm) and minimum frequency (Hz) with 1/1, 1/2 and 1/3 octs. resolution.

**Wave length**

Calculates full or 1/2 or 1/4 wave length (mm) and sound travel time (ms) in air by frequency (Hz). Enter full or 1/2 or 1/4 wave length to calculate frequency and travel time.

Enter travel time of full wave or fraction to calculate frequency and wave length.

**Near field**

Calculates maximum near field frequency (Hz) and maximum distance (mm) to microphone by effective piston diameter (Dd mm) or area (Sd cm²). This gives approximately -0.5 dB error at \( f_{N_F_{max}} \) in theory if mic is in the center point of ideal piston. In practice maximum applicable frequency is usually lower due to non-centered mic location and mechanical properties of the cone.

\[
f_{N_F_{max}} = \frac{c}{\pi Dd} \quad (c = 344.0 \text{ m/s})
\]

Max. distance to mic is 5.5% of Dd.
Sample time

Calculates time (µs) and distance in air (mm) for 1 and 2 and any number of samples by sample rate (Hz). You can also calculate number of samples and distance by time, or number of samples and time by distance.

Box volume

Calculates outer dimensions (mm) by net volume target (liters), wall thicknesses (mm) and internal volume losses due to vents, drivers, braces and amplifier box. You can lock one or two outer dimensions. Cube button resets shape to cubical. Graph shows frequencies of internal axial modes by width (red), height (green) and depth (blue) as well as open pipe resonances of vents (magenta).

Time align

Time align function can be used to specify delay/distance difference between acoustic centers of two drivers. Delay can be iterated manually with delay [us] or distance [mm] text boxes, or with a solver. Three response measurements are needed. They should be measured at the same spot in the middle elevation of the drivers or at fixed “design axis”.
Two measurements from individual drivers and one measurement when both drivers are connected to power amplifier, maintaining supply voltage for individual drivers.

Load first driver response (usually mid-woofer) to LF measurement text box with Open button or Drag&Drop. Red curve is shown in graph. Check MP on the right if response is not minimum-phase i.e. excess delay is not yet removed with measurement program or Calculator tool.

Load second driver response (usually tweeter) to HF measurement text box with Open button or Drag&Drop. Blue curve is shown in graph. Check MP if response is not minimum-phase.

Load sum response of drivers to Sum measurement text box with Open button or Drag&Drop. Magenta curve is shown in graph. Sum measurement does not need minimum phase extraction, because it’s phase response is irrelevant for this operation.

Adjust Frequency range limits which are also constraints for the solver. Exclude frequencies which are not valid for solving.

Adjust delay in microseconds [us] or distance in millimeters [mm] until Calculated Sum (green curve) is close or equal to Sum measurement. Solver can be started with Solve LF delay button to search minimum squared error between Sum measurement and Calculated Sum. Solver needs decent initial delay to find correct local minimum. Error value is high with red background if solver did not find response match.

Difference of acoustic centers should be entered as a delay to Delay us parameter in Drivers tab with unidirectional drivers such as closed or vented enclosures and horns. Not to Z mm coordinate of driver instance in crossover to avoid probable response summing error to off-axis >60 deg.

Difference of acoustic centers should be entered as a distance to Z mm coordinate of driver instance in crossover with dipole drivers to enable more accurate geometry simulation to off-axis >60 deg.

Note! This method is not recommended for off-axis, power response and directivity index simulation because delay/distance difference between acoustic centers is not constant value to all directions 0...±180 deg with different radiator types such as domes, cones, horns etc. and enclosure types such as boxes and dipoles. Time align feature has been added to support at least simulation of axial and listening window responses. Simulation options are limited for users who don’t have adequate measurement gear for accurate and stable timing measurements with dual or semi-dual channel connection and measurement mode.
Conversion tool imports multiple impulse response (IR) files and converts to frequency response (FR) files. It is recommended that all files in the list are measured with common parameters and settings: rotation center, distance, level, signal type, sampling rate, MLS sequence length etc.

**Impulse response files**

Load impulse responses to file list with Open button or Drag&Drop. Supported IR file formats are CLIO .mls/mlsi, ARTA .pir, WAV mono/stereo (16-bit PCM, 24-bit PCM, 32-bit PCM, 32-bit IEEE, 64-bit PCM, 64-bit IEEE, Apple wav with FLLR chunk) and MLSSA ASCII .txt. Combo boxes on the right show sample rate in Hz and scale type: Pascal, Ohm, Volt of currently selected IR file.

Selected file is visualized in the graphs.

Click **Far 1** button to set default values for the 1st far field export (tweeter’s) while response to reference angle (axial 0 deg) is selected. Following far field exports (mids and woofers) of the same speaker should use the same settings except length of right window which is adjusted for each driver by the first boundary reflection.

Click **Near** button to set default values for near field export while response of mid or woofer cone is selected. All near field responses can be exported at once.

Impulse responses are possible to save as space delimited text, csv or MLSSA text files to selected Directory by pressing small export button on the left size of Far 1 button.

**FFT analysis**

Impulse response is multiplied by window function (sample by sample) before conversion to frequency domain with Fast Fourier Transform (FFT). Typical purpose of window function is to crop room reflections from measurement data. Window function could have one or two sides. Left side is activated with **Left window** checkbox. Maximum point of window function and phase response of exported frequency responses are set with **Reference time**. Reference time is typically set to the first sharp and high (positive) peak of impulse response to produce close to minimum phase response at high frequencies. **Get** button locates reference time to the highest absolute peak of impulse response. Manual fine tuning may be needed. Name of Reference time will change to **Start time** if Left window is disabled. **Right window** is ‘main gate’ for measurement data after Reference/Start time. Endpoint of right window is typically set in the beginning of the first strong boundary reflection (not diffraction).
Available **Window functions** are Rectangular, Tukey 0.25, Tukey 0.50, Tukey 0.75 and Hanning. Flat top functions Rectangular and Tukey allow some movement or location differences or timing differences of measured objects so that impulse does not attenuate too much or flow totally out of time window. Recommended functions for driver measurements with rotation table are Tukey 0.25 or Rectangular for Left window, and Tukey 0.50 or Tukey 0.25 for Right window.

Side effect of rectangular right window could be HF artefacts/errors in frequency response. Hanning function is not recommended either, but could be usable if timing and location of measured objects are constant and response does not have much resonances i.e. possible variations in IR are small or very close to first peak.

Reference time and length of time windows are adjusted by mouse via impulse response graph, or in milliseconds (ms) or samples (smp) or millimeters (mm) with text boxes in FFT analysis group. **FFT length** could change automatically while adjusting length of time windows to ensure that whole time window fits into FFT buffer. FFT length is possible to change after window length adjustments. Extending may be needed to increase accuracy/resolution at low frequencies.

Effect of possible DC voltage in the input or output of sound card can be reduced by checking **DC offset**. Average IR level before time window (max. 270 samples) is calculated and subtracted from all IR samples.

**Output**

Boundaries of displayed and exported frequency responses are adjusted with **Frequency range** text boxes. Widest possible range is from 5 Hz to 40 kHz or sample rate / 2 (Nyquist frequency) which one is lower. Low frequencies may need cropping due to noise or other inaccuracies if measured object does not pass low frequencies. Highest frequencies may need cropping due to limits of measurement system. For example if sweep stops shortly before sample rate / 2.

Frequency response **Smoothing** of 1/24, 1/12, 1/6 or 1/3 octs. is available. Smoothing function is 6th order Butterworth band-pass, slopes truncated at -20 dB.

**Calibration** of sound pressure (in Pa) measurement is enabled with Calibration checkbox. Calibration file is selected into text box with Open button or Drag&Drop. Minimum phase extraction should be applied with **Minimum phase** checkbox if calibration file does not include phase information. Calibration does not apply if unit of IR measurement is Ohm.

Target folder for frequency response files is selected into **Directory** text box.

**Warning!** Existing output files will be overwritten without warning. Select different output directory if both impulse and frequency response files are .txt, or export frequency responses as .frd files.

Magnitude can be scaled with **Scale** text box: in dB for dBSPL and dBV, and multiplier for Ohm. Metadata can be added to output file by checking **Info header**.

File format and extension is selected with **File format** radio buttons. Second option is ZMA if unit of impulse response is Ohm. Magnitude unit is dBV if unit of impulse response is Volt. TXT produces 3-column space delimited text file with header line. FRD/ZMA produces 3-column tab delimited text file without header line.

**Full resolution** checkbox exports unsmoothed high resolution frequency responses. Frequency step is constant sample rate / FFT length allowing long excess delay without wrapping errors in phase response.

**Warning!** Use short FFT to avoid huge file size and slow processing.

Output files are created with **Export** button. Only the selected response is exported when Ctrl key is pressed while clicking Export button. Responses are loaded for currently selected driver in the main program if **Feed speaker** is checked.
Impulse response graph (upper)

Impulse graph contains impulse response (blue), window function (gray), optional impulse overlay (goldenrod) and three cursors: Left window start (orange), Reference/Start time (green) and Right window stop (red). Cursor legend shows time (ms), impulse magnitude (Pa/Ohm/Volt) and window magnitude (%) at cross cursor position if cursor dragging is not on. While dragging with left button down, cursor legend shows magnitude of impulse (Pa/Ohm/Volt) at cursor time (ms).

Magnitude and time scales are adjusted manually with Expand and Compress buttons. Time scale is panned manually with Left and Right buttons. Auto buttons scale magnitude and time axes automatically. Magnitude axis is scaled to absolute maximum and time axis to show whole time window - not impulse peak if it’s not inside time window. Magnitude scale can be compressed to show values in details with Vmag button.

Overlay is captured with Camera button. Visibility of the overlay is controller with checkbox.

Frequency response graph (lower)

Frequency reponse graph shows magnitude (blue), phase in degrees (gray), optional magnitude and phase overlays (thick and thin goldenrod), optional minimum phase response (lime, shown with MP checkbox), optional excess phase response (steel blue, shown with XP checkbox) and ‘gating frequency’ with vertical line at 1.0/time_window (green).

Result below gating frequency could be unreliable and too smoothed, but it depends on shape of impulse response. For example perfectly flat system produces correct result also with very short time window.