

# Simcenter 3D Acoustics Loudspeaker and Car Audio Design

# Car Audio Design– Why Acoustic Simulation?



**Trends in the market**

## Abundant audio and multi-media



Dolby Surround Systems  
Bluetooth Phone Communication  
Audio-assisted navigation system  
Voice-operated control system

## Sound Quality



Part of the branding  
Important for overall customer satisfaction



# Addressing Specific Market Requirements

## Audio Equipment

**SIEMENS**  
*Ingenuity for Life*

### Loudspeakers

Directivity and frequency characteristics of loudspeakers.

Design of horns and loudspeaker arrays.



### Headphones

Objective: to have good frequency characteristics even with very thin (flex) membranes.

Distortion should be kept to a minimum.



### Microphones

Need to have good frequency curves and directivity.

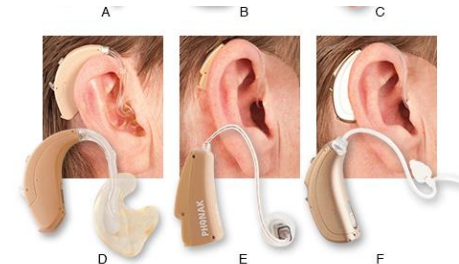
Wind noise could be a problem when used outside (professional walky-talkies).  
Very thin membrane.



### Hearing Aids

Ensure good directivity of (external shielded) microphone picking up the sound

Filter out unwanted noises from background/wind..



# Car Audio Design Challenges

Improve the overall audio experience in the vehicle

## Challenge

How to design Passive and Active Components to optimize In-Vehicle Acoustic Comfort?

- Loudspeaker positioning and orientation
- Strengths and delays per loudspeaker
- Door Structure and Cavity design
- Choice of Trim Fabrics

## Objective:

- Cost Effective Solution
- Design-Right-First-Time: Use simulation to reduce expensive prototyping



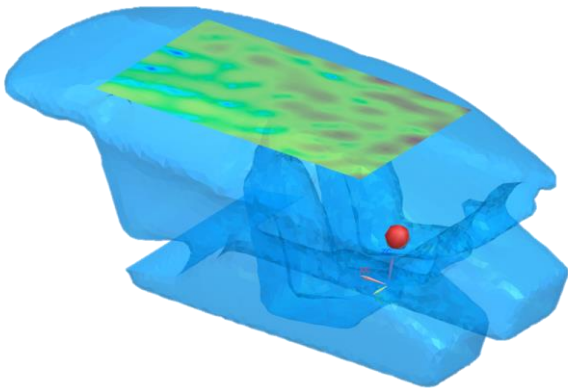
# Simcenter 3D Acoustics

*Best-in-Class Solution*



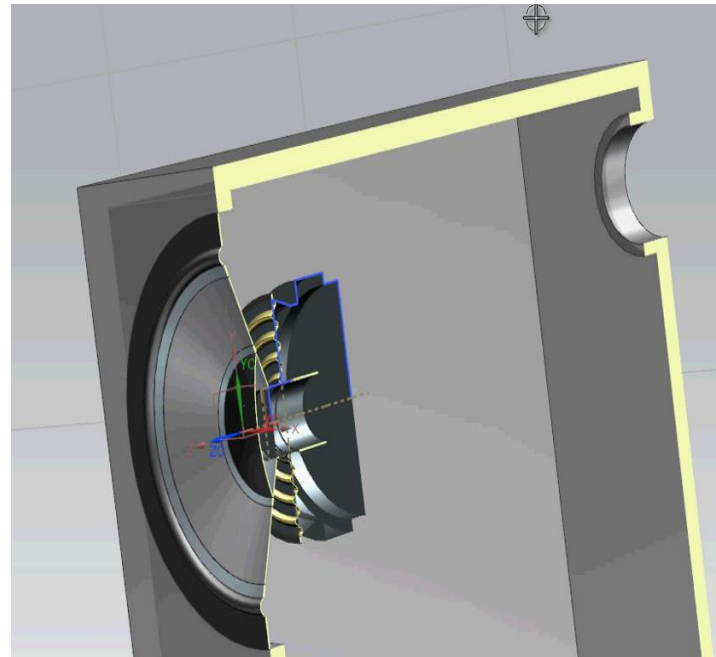
## Capabilities

Realistic simulations for a variety of different applications



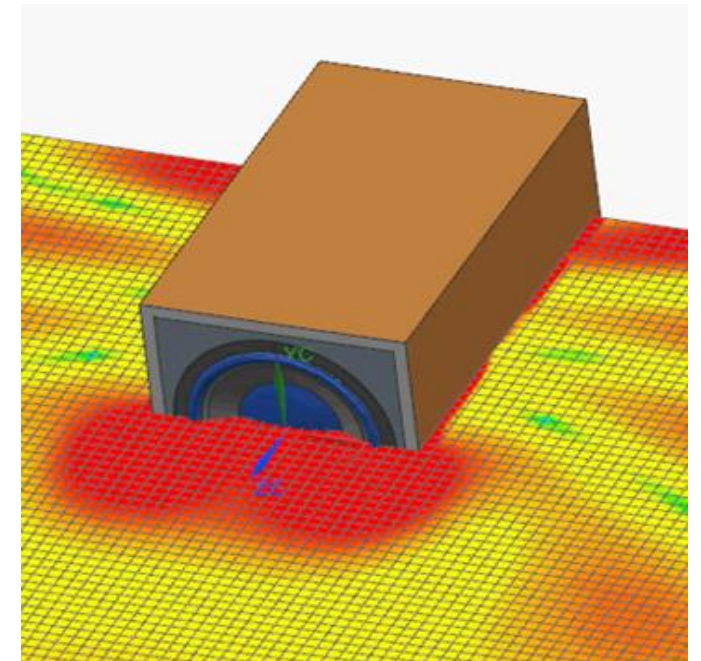
## Highly Efficient Process

Easy to operate: from CAD to Acoustics



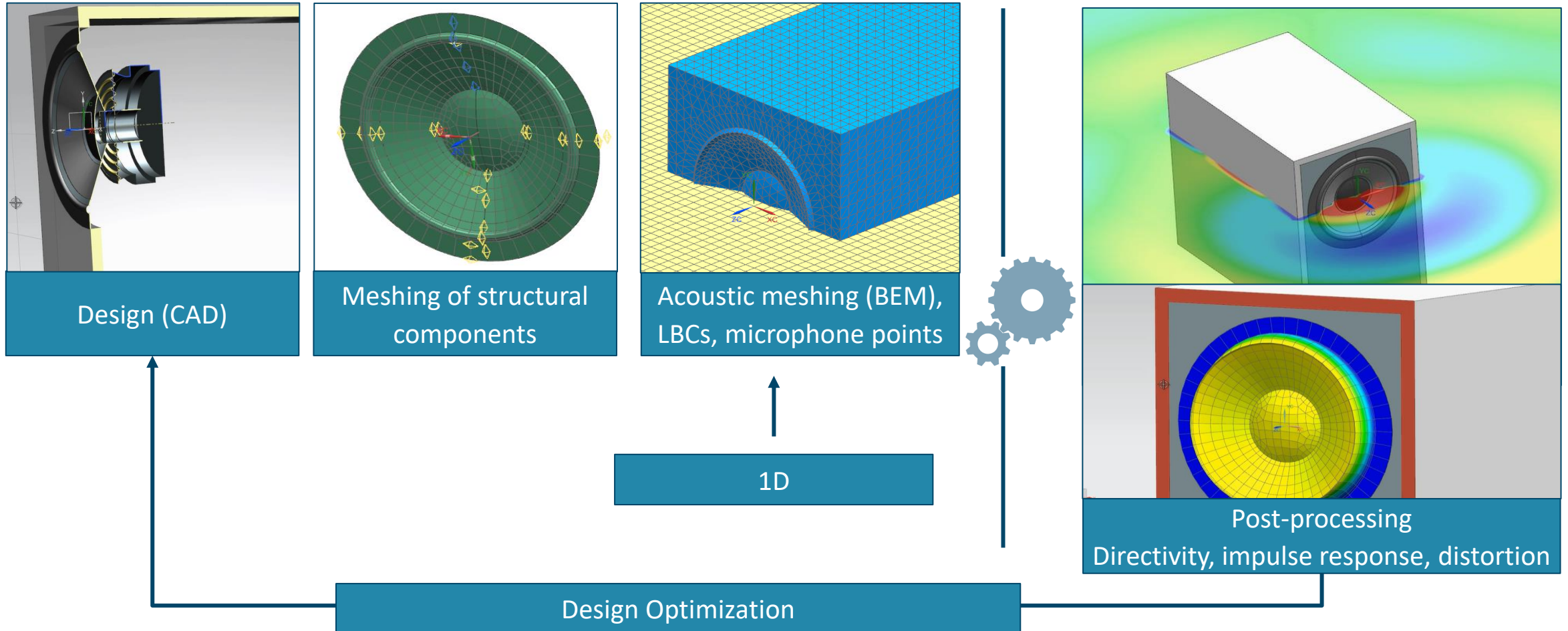
## Most Performant

Get results fast: superior and unique solving technologies



# An End-to-End Process

Example: Loudspeaker



# Loudspeaker design

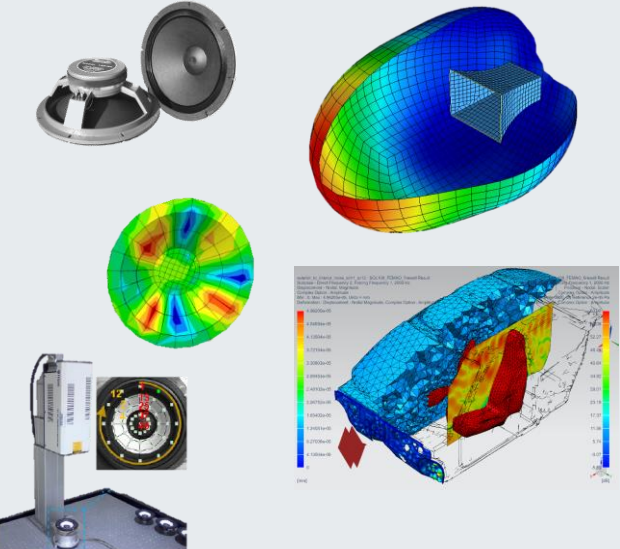
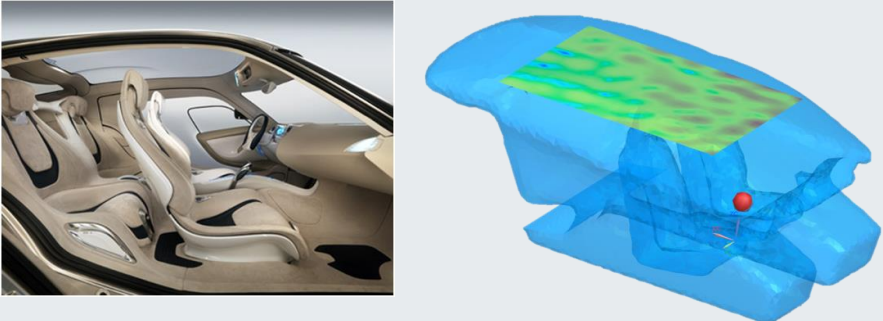
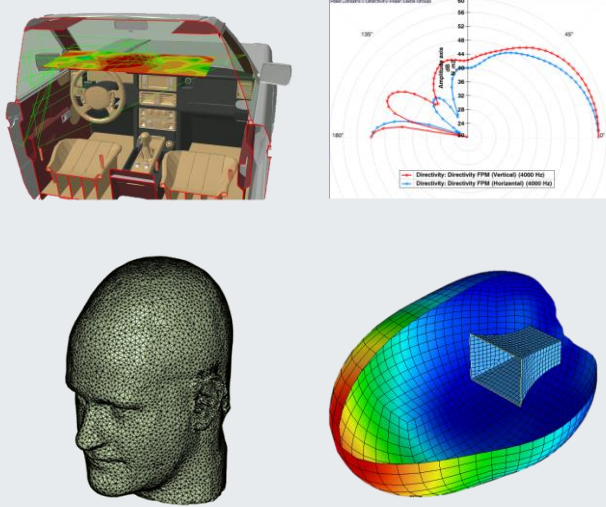
兆水科技應用案例



# Simcenter 3D 2020.1 Acoustics

## Vibro-acoustics aspects of car audio



| Source   | Transfer  | Receiver   |
|--|---|--|
| <p><b>Loudspeakers</b><br/>                     Time Delays<br/>                     Gains<br/>                     Directivity<br/>                     Door 'Cabinet' Design<br/>                     EM forces</p>  | <p><b>Car Cavity</b><br/>                     Air<br/>                     Panels' Absorptive Properties<br/>                     Reflections and Diffraction</p>  <p><b>High-end FEM solutions</b><br/>                     (FEM AML, FEM AO)<br/>                     Simcenter NASTRAN</p> <p><b>High-end BEM solutions</b><br/>                     (FMM, H-Matrix, Time Domain)<br/>                     Simcenter Acoustics BEM</p> | <p><b>Passenger's Ears</b><br/>                     Frequency Results<br/>                     Transient Results<br/>                     Sound Quality<br/>                     Binaural Response*</p>  |
|  | <p><b>High Frequency Acoustics</b><br/>                     Simcenter 3D Ray Acoustics</p> <p><b>High Frequency Vibro-Acoustics</b><br/>                     InterAC SEA+</p>   |  |



# Speaker Components

## Diaphragm :

Dome or cone shape  
Paper, plastic, metal, composite  
Ideally : stiff + light + damped

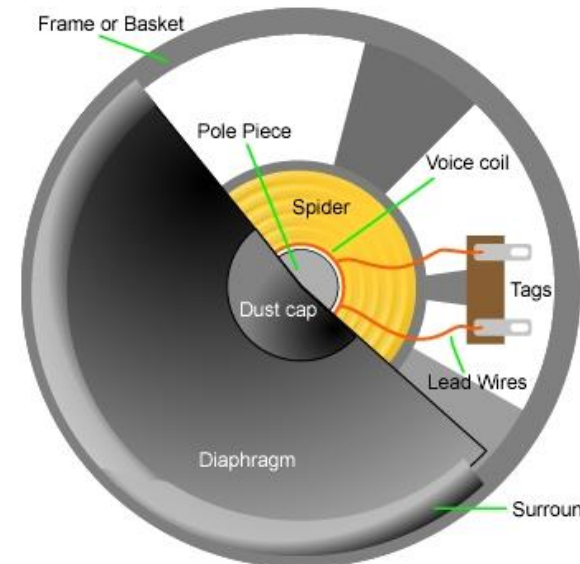
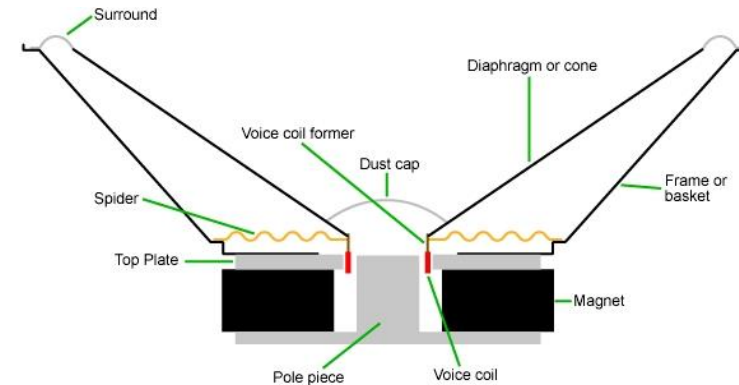
## Voice coil :

Copper + lacquer coating

## Magnet

## Enclosure / cabinet

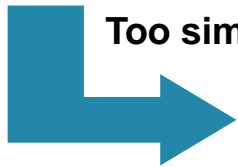
Prevent destructive interference of waves  
from the back



# Speaker Modeling

## Lumped parameter models :

- Thiele-Small parameters
- Characterize speaker performance (resonant frequency, damping, maximum excursion,...)

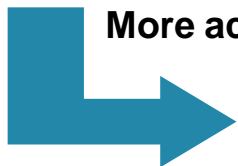


### Too simple model

- Not applicable for complex systems
- Vibration system modeled by single mass system
- Only piston mode
- Limited to low frequency

## FEM / BEM Models :

- Fine discretization of structural and acoustic domain
- Fluid loading on the diaphragm



### More accurate approach

- Applicable for complex systems
- Near-field and Far-field effects of 3D sound radiation
- High frequency analysis
- Design Optimization possible

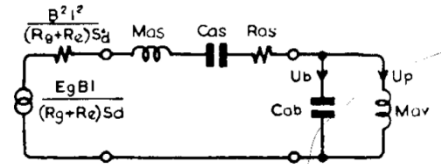
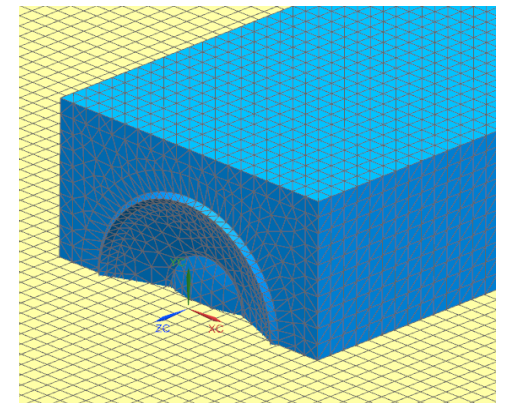
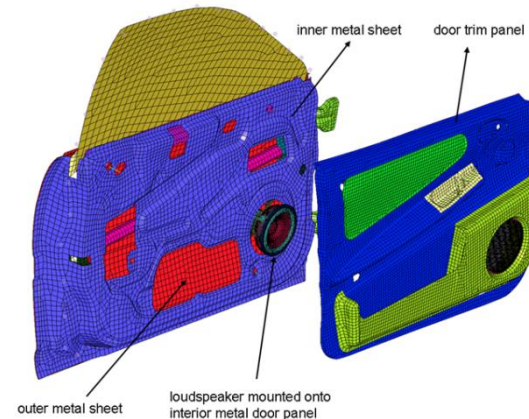


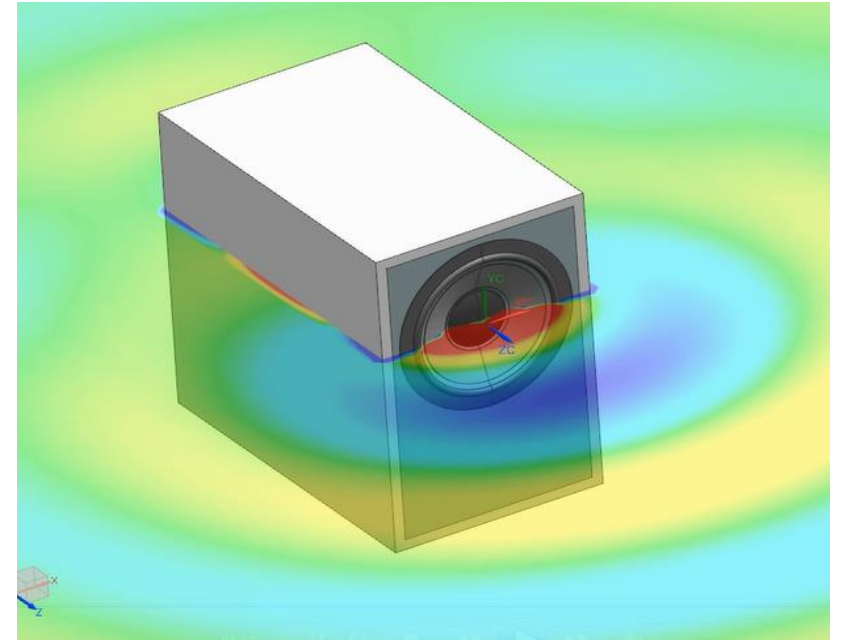
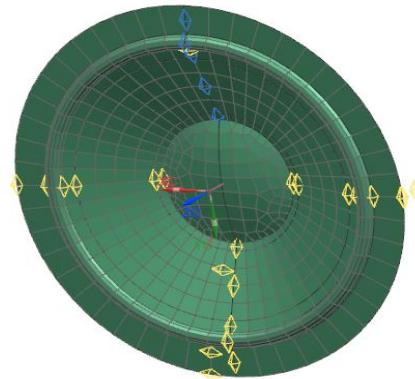
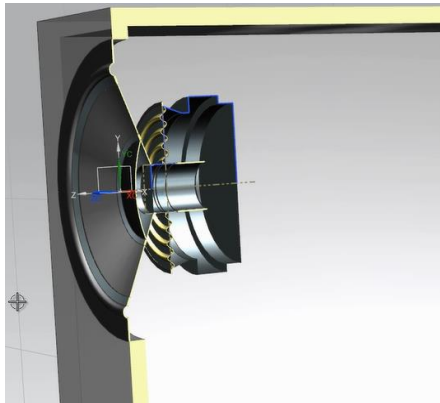
Fig. 2. Simplified acoustical circuit of loudspeaker in vented box.



# Speaker Modeling

## Strong coupling (2 way-coupling):

- Membrane vibration generates sound
- Acoustic waves influence vibrations of the membrane



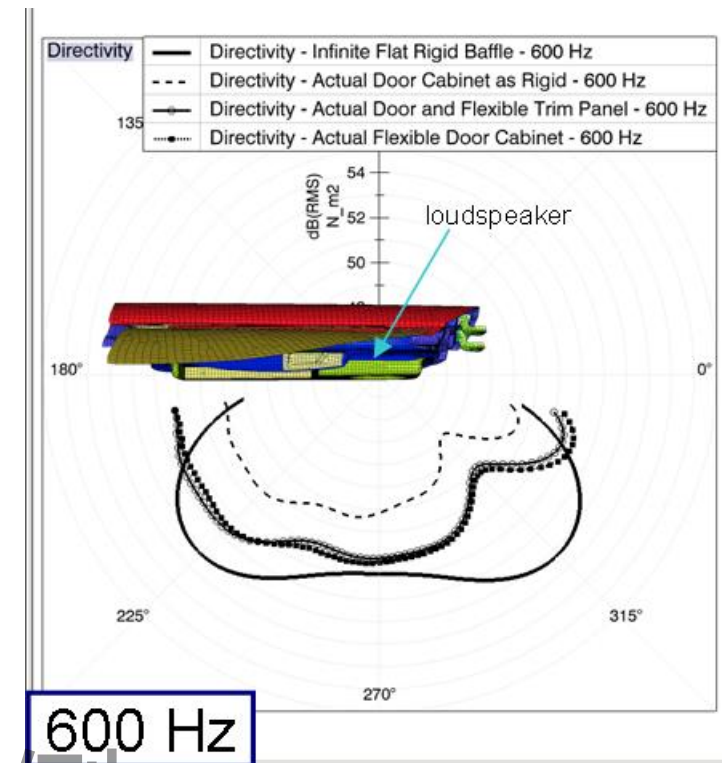
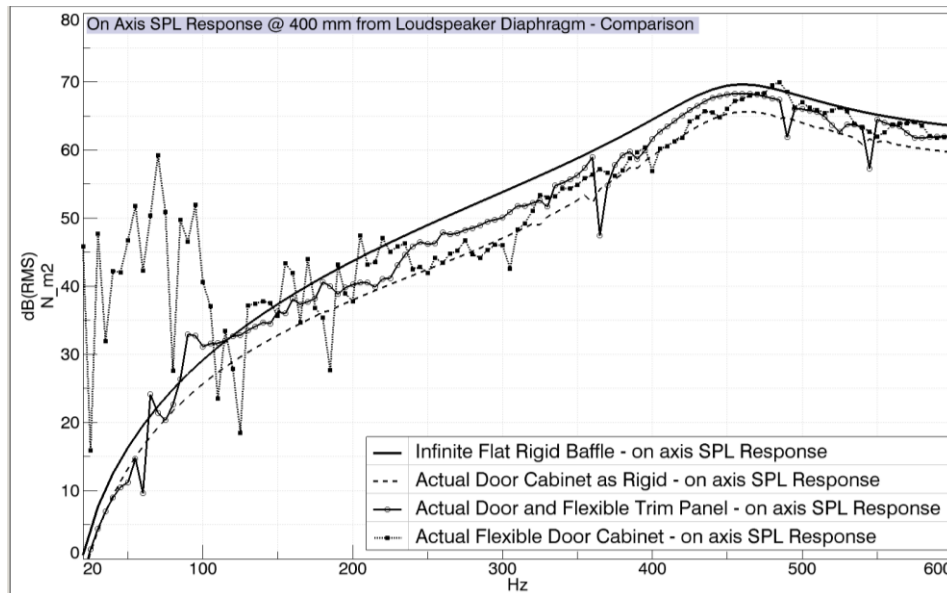
Membrane is very light → fully couples with air



# Response Objectives

## 2 Main Goals:

- Get **flat response** over frequency range → the loudspeaker doesn't 'color' too much the sound
- Get desired **directivity** pattern

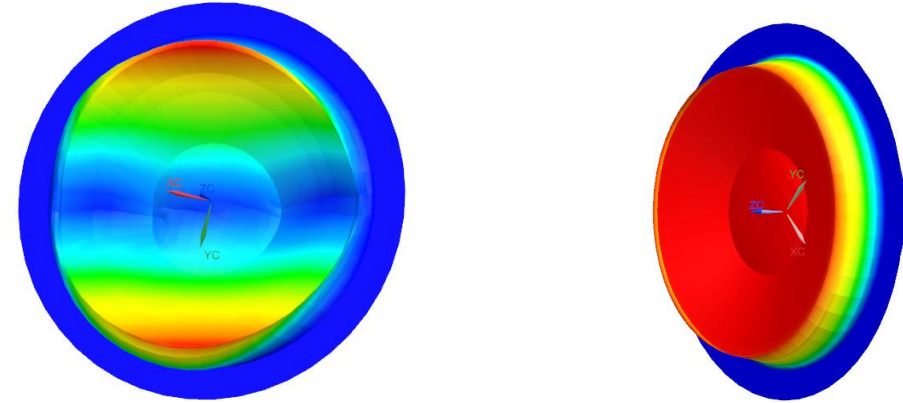


# Speaker Modeling – Structural model

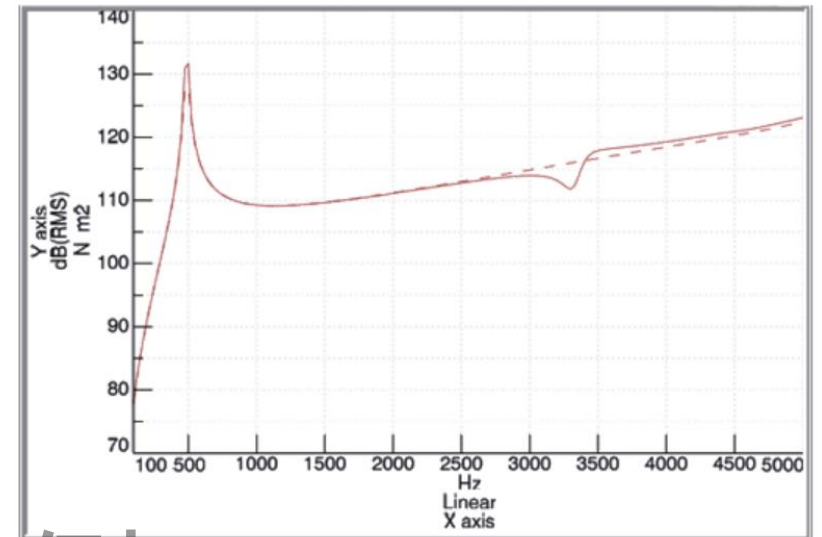
## Structural Model definition:

- Material properties and thicknesses
- Sometimes tricky to estimate
  - E.g. Voice coil made of copper wires and lacquer coating
- Handling of non-linearities is difficult

→ **Computation of structural modes**



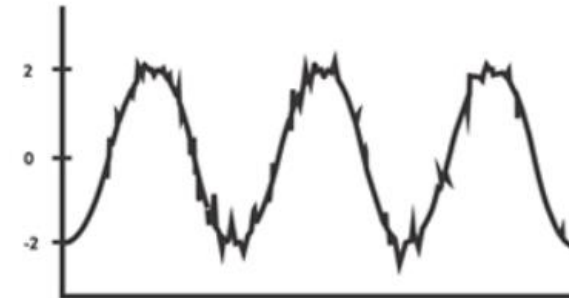
**Non-pistonic modes have an influence on the acoustic response, typically not predicted by lumped parameters**



High membrane excursion → Non linear behavior → Distortion of input signal

**Evaluation of Harmonic distortion :**

$$\begin{aligned} \text{THD} &= \text{Total harmonic distortion} \\ &= \frac{\text{Sum Harmonics Power}}{\text{Fundamental Frequency Power}} \end{aligned}$$



→ Acoustic coupling has an effect on distortion

→ **Difficult to model because Vibro-acoustic tools are based on linear theory**

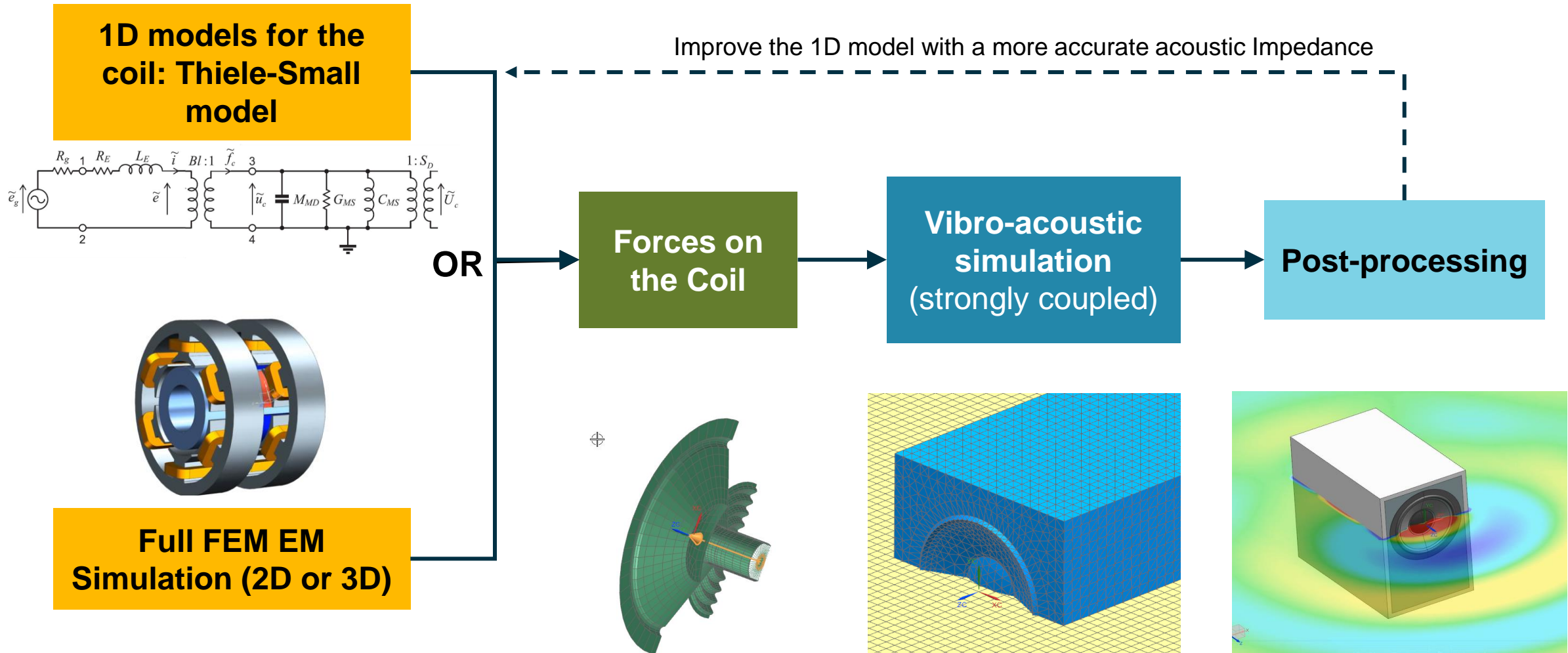


# Electromagnetic coupling

兆水科技應用案例

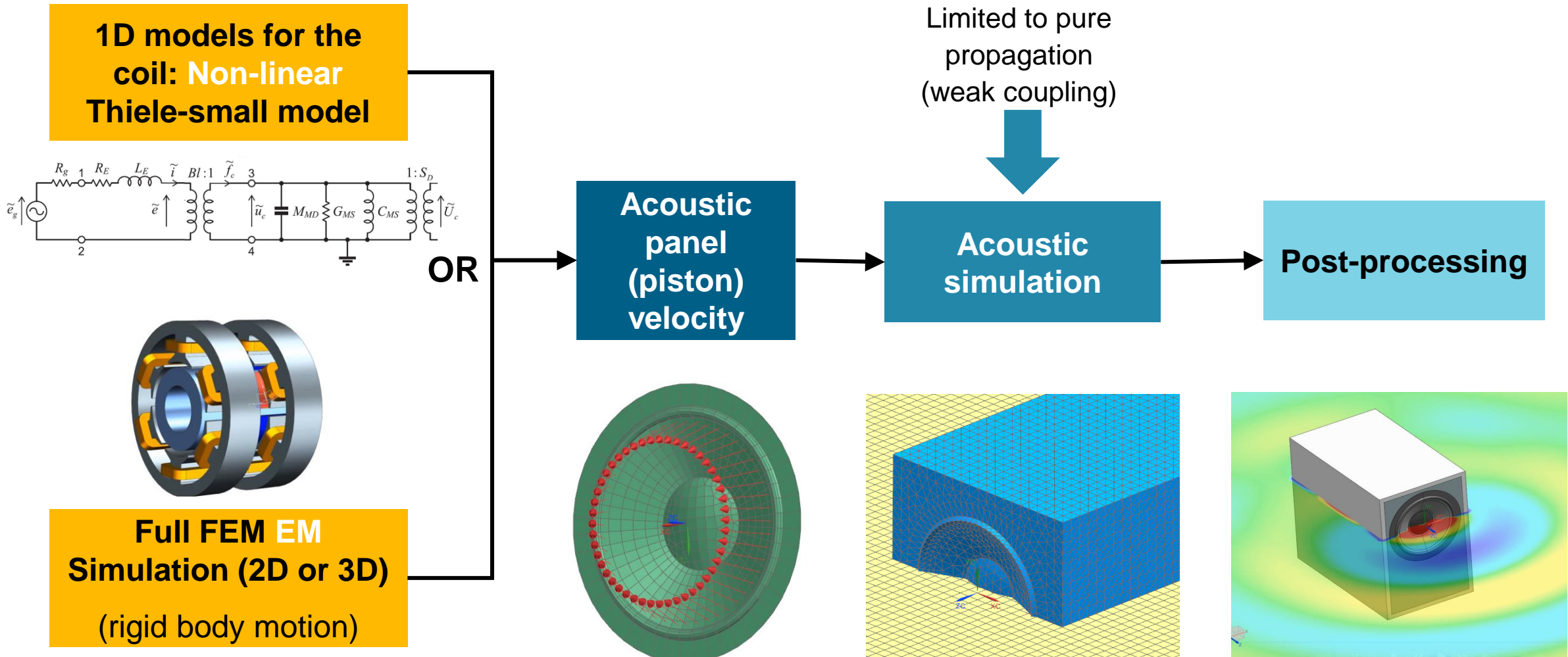
# Multiphysics simulation

Use of electromagnetic forces – linear domain



# Multiphysics simulation

Non-linear effects – difficult to capture in full 3D models





**Installation effects**

兆水科技應用案例

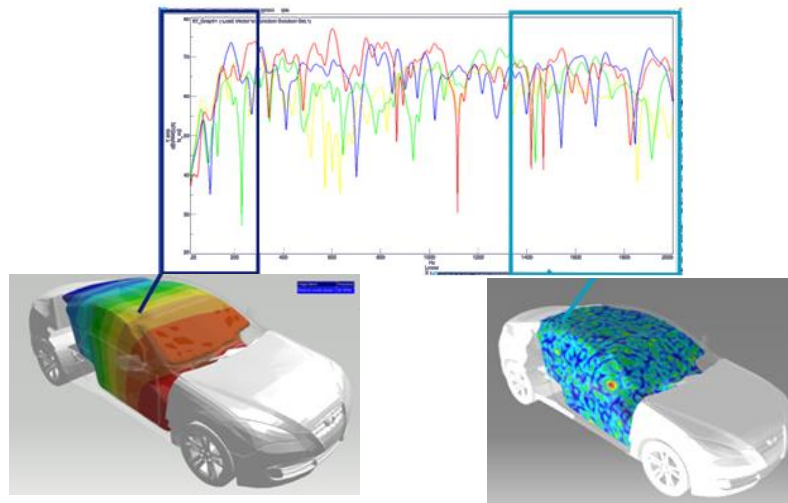
# Car Audio Design– Why Acoustic Simulation?

## Cabin Acoustics

**At low frequencies** (< 100 Hz) sound field is deterministically defined by few modes → typical positions for woofers in the corners

**At higher frequencies** the sound field is more diffuse + peaks and dips are result from many overlapping resonances

Frequency marking the transition = Schroeder Frequency ( ~ 200-300 Hz for a typical car compartment)

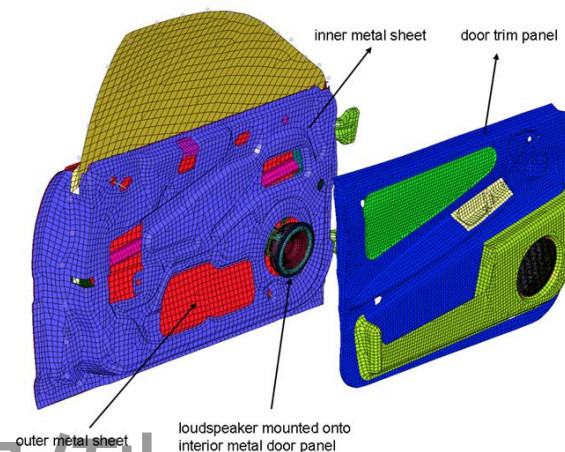


## Automotive Door Acoustics

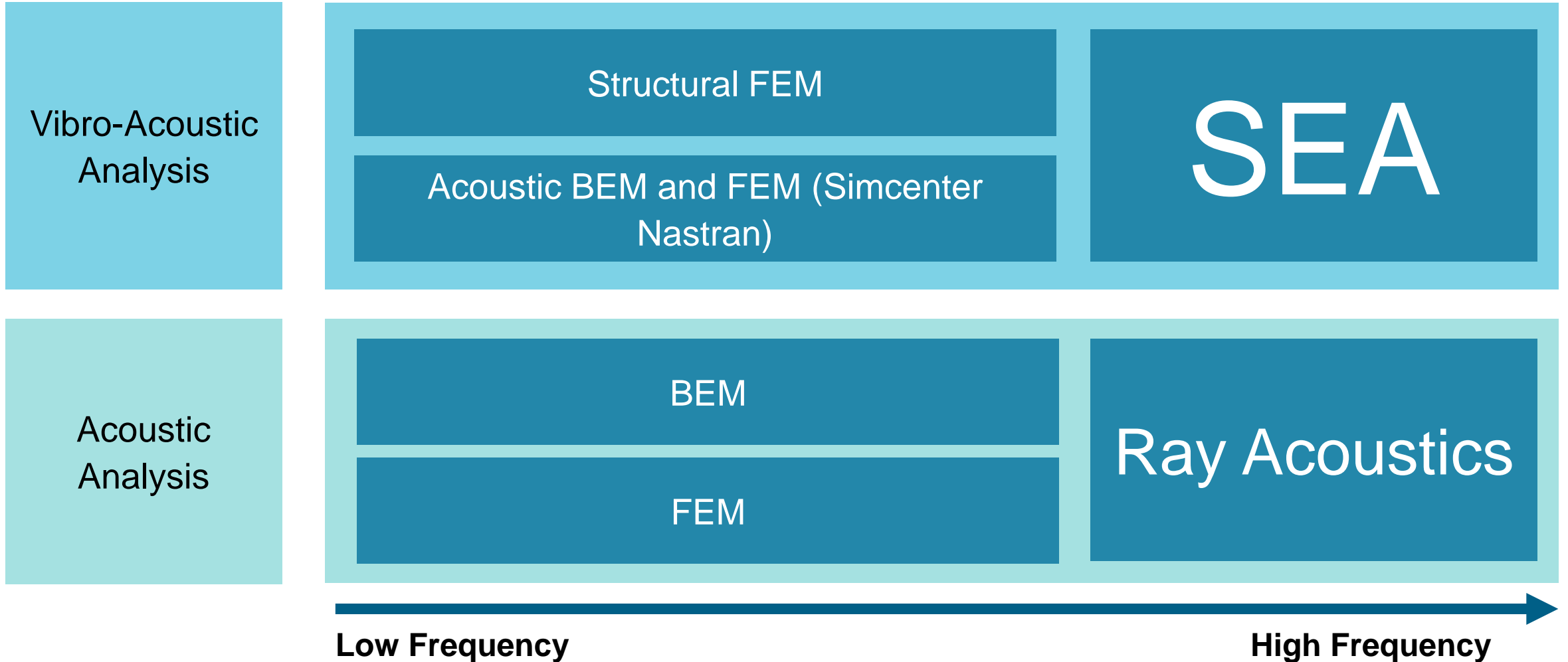
Also '**cavity**' acoustics: shape, size and flexibility of door 'cabinet' will influence loudspeaker performance

Trend towards **thinner inner metal panels** with smaller area → more flexible door structure

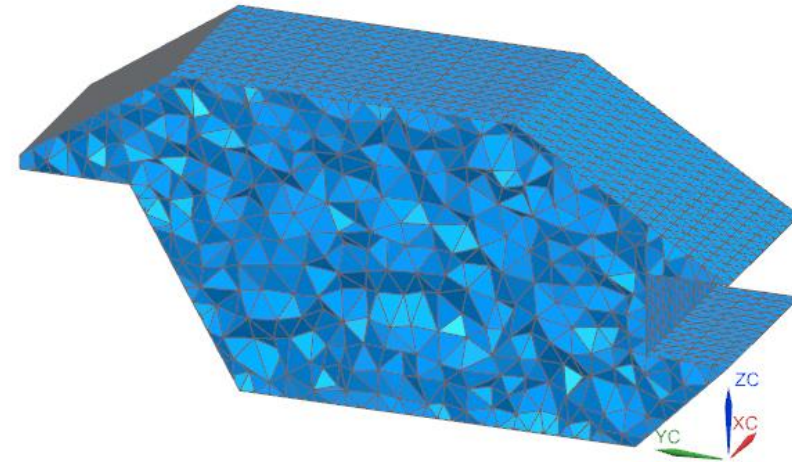
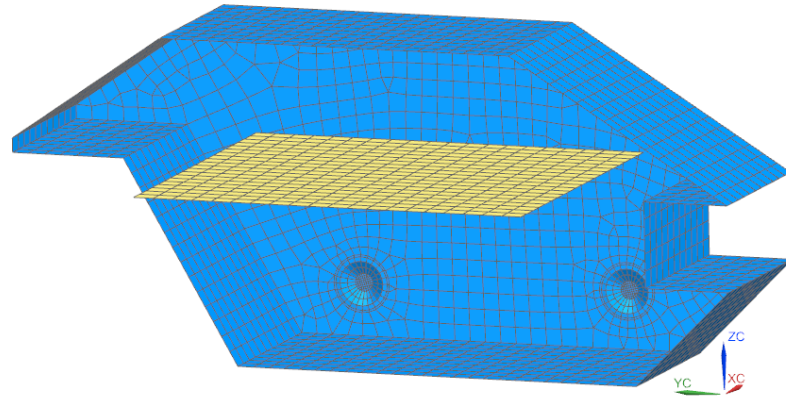
**Challenge** is to prevent unwanted vibrations on the trim panel as these will pollute targeted directivity and amplification spectrum of the loudspeaker



# Full Frequency Vibro-Acoustic Simulation



# Using Best-in-Class Acoustic Technology Simulation Techniques for In-Car Audio Design



## BEM

- Discretize the envelope of the domain → fewer nodes needed
- Fully populated matrices
- Conventional Direct or Indirect BEM → up to several 100's Hz
- Fast Multipole BEM → up to several 1000's Hz overnight with multi-core machine

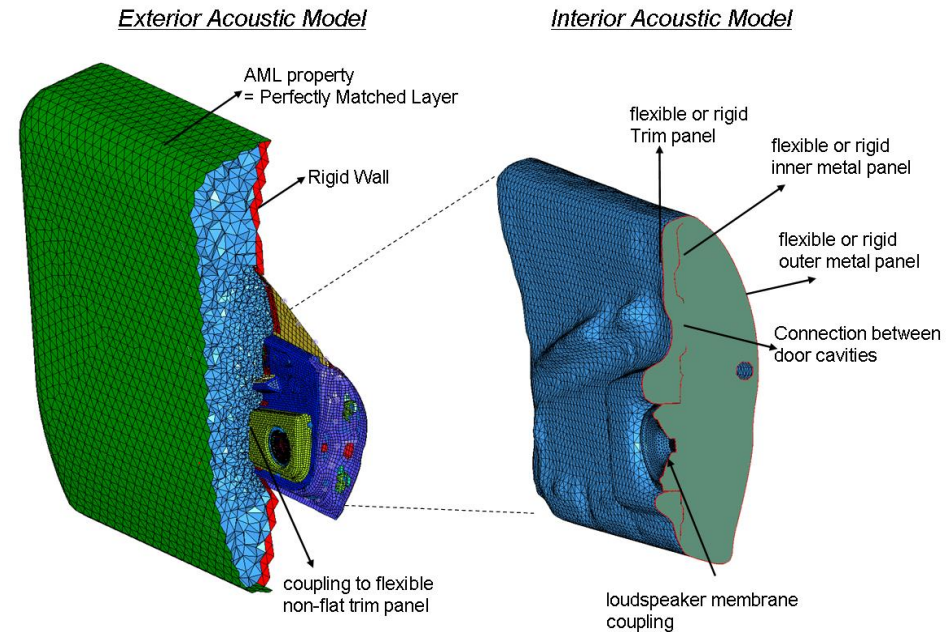
## FEM

- Discretize the volume of the domain → more nodes needed
- Sparse matrices and efficient algorithms for fast solving
- FEM Adaptive Order → high order functions automatically adapted on the solver = 2 to 10 times faster



# Simulation Techniques for In-Car Audio Design

## FEM Coupled Vibro-Acoustic Simulation for Loudspeakers in Doors



### Model Setup

- FEM inside door = cavity mesh
- FEM outside door = FEM elements + AML  
→ model size remains reasonable
- Take advantage of coarser meshes with **FEMAO**

### Several Models possible:

- Loudspeaker mounted in infinite and stiff baffle
- Actual door cavity and trim panel shapes but rigid door panels
- Actual door cavity + flexible trim panel
- Actual door cavity + fully flexible door

# Simcenter 3D Ray Acoustics



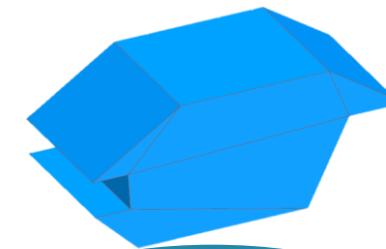
High frequency acoustics in minutes

## Challenge:

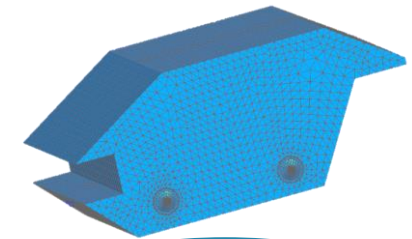
- Boundary Element Method and Finite Element Method compute time become tedious at high frequencies

## Solution:

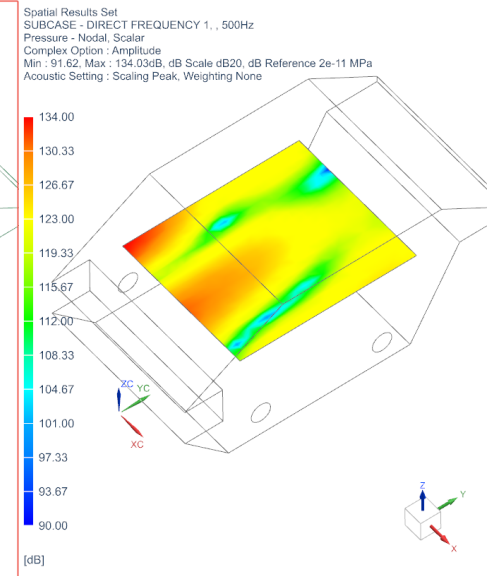
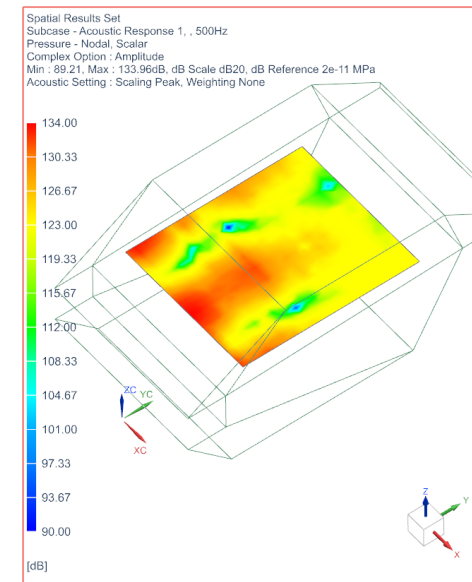
- Simcenter 3D Ray Acoustics:
  - Based on ray tracing → 10 to 100x faster than FEM/BEM
  - Good at high frequencies and/or large geometries
  - Pure acoustics (for now)
  - Output on both frequency and time domain
- Support of diffraction (planned for 2020.2)



20 kHz Ray Acoustics  
21 elements



5 kHz FEMAO  
45000 elements



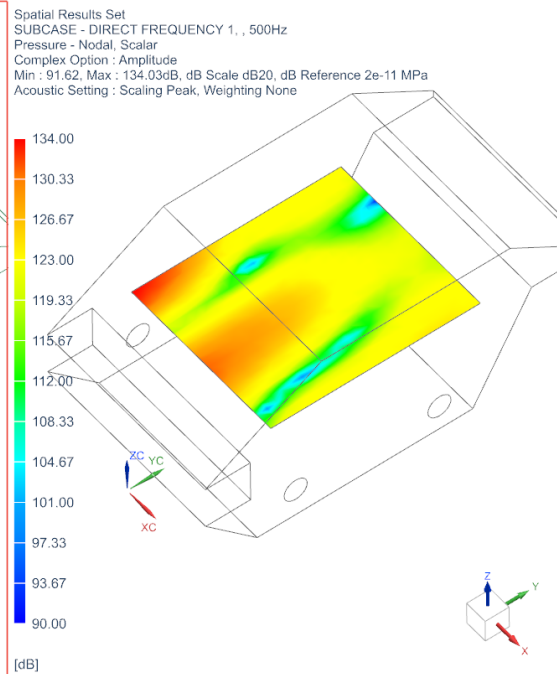
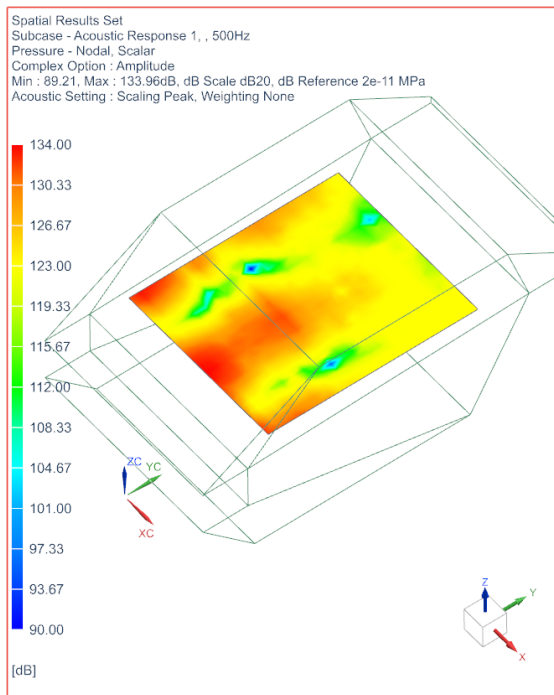
# Simcenter 3D Ray Acoustics



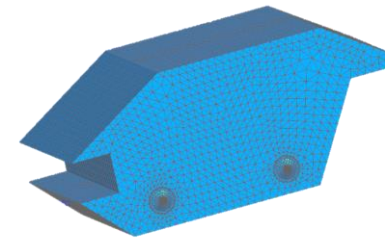
High frequencies 100 times faster!

Ray Acoustics

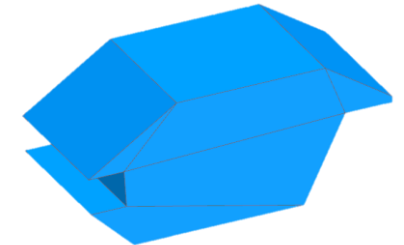
FEMAO



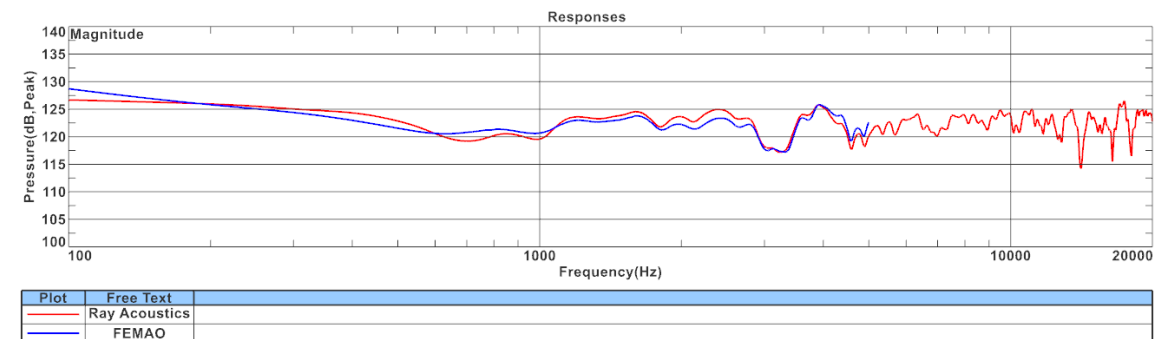
FEMAO



Ray Acoustics

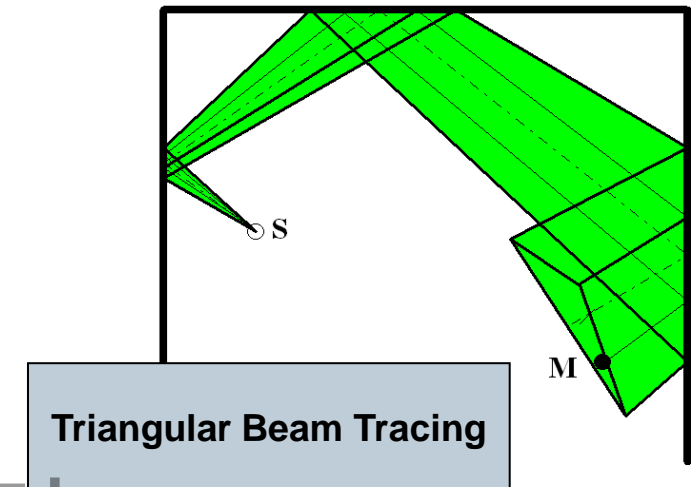
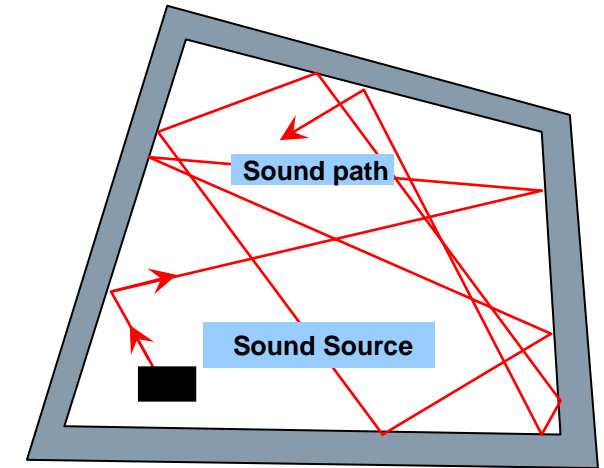


| Frequency     | 100-5000 Hz | 0-20000 Hz |
|---------------|-------------|------------|
| # Freqs       | 490         | 2000       |
| Elements      | 45k         | 21         |
| Solution time | X min       | X/150 mins |



# Ray Acoustics – supported technology

- At high Helmholtz number sound travels like rays.
- Surface modeling is sufficient, and discretization only needs to capture geometry detail, but is not depending on frequency!
- Absorption in air, and through reflections on surfaces, and diffractions on edges and surfaces are captured
- We can simulate sound by tracing rays shooting from a point source location: triangular beam tracing
- We keep track of which beams cross the receiver microphone and what their strength is when passing to get the overall response, per frequency line, including phase info





# Simcenter 3D Ray Acoustics

## Point Ray Source

### Flexible modeling of speakers as equivalent point sources

Complex amplitude (expressed pressure or power)

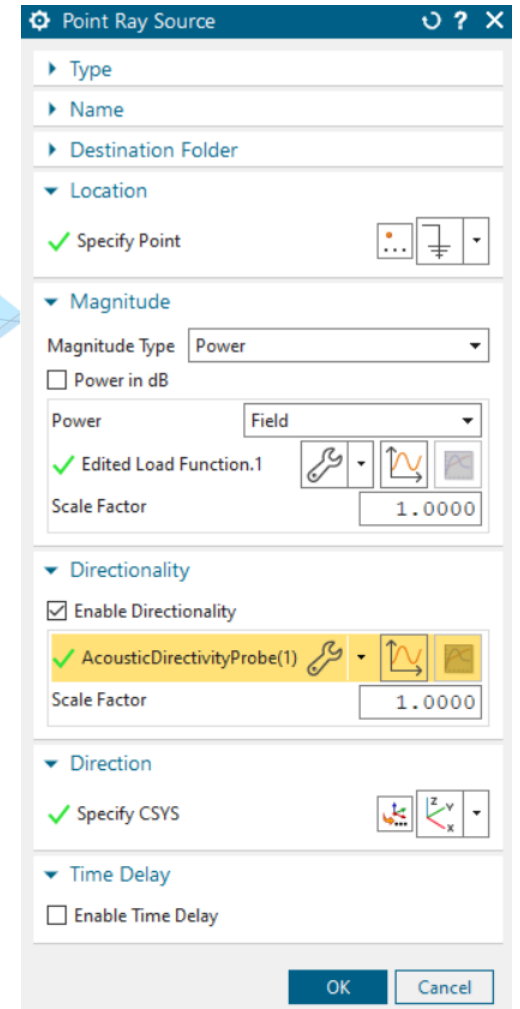
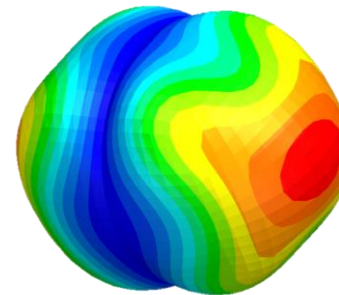
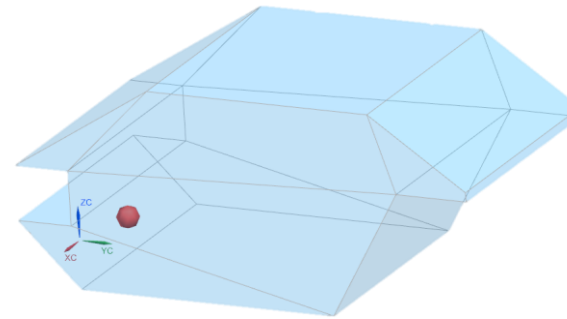
- Include delay as a phase shift
- Include a “real” signal and compute the output in time domain
- Attach a DSP filter to the source

Spherical or hemispherical sources

Full 3D directivity

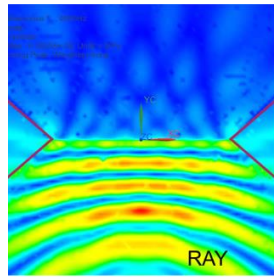
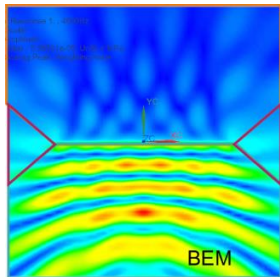
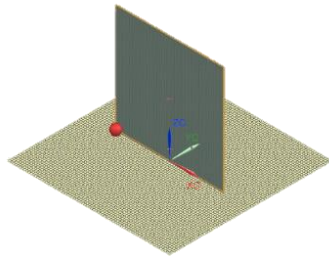
- Directivity can be expressed in a full sphere
- Can be imported from a **FEM/BEM solution**
- Easily **change the orientation** of the source with local CSYS

Time delay can be defined in the source



## Diffraction

Account for both **edge and surface diffraction** (creeping waves)

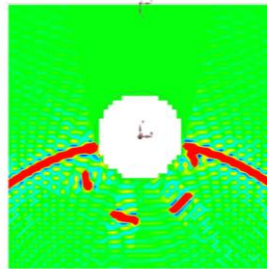


## Smooth surfaces

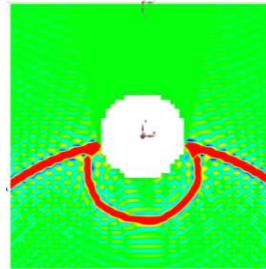
Accurately captures **curvature** of discretized surfaces



No smooth surface

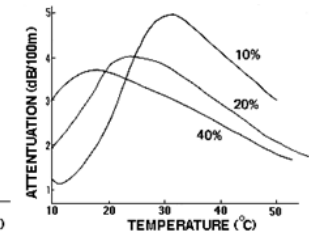
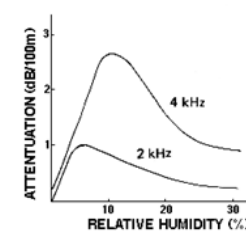


Smooth surface



## Absorption

Use frequency dependent **surface impedance** or **absorption coefficients**  
Account for **air absorption**



# Auralization and sound quality

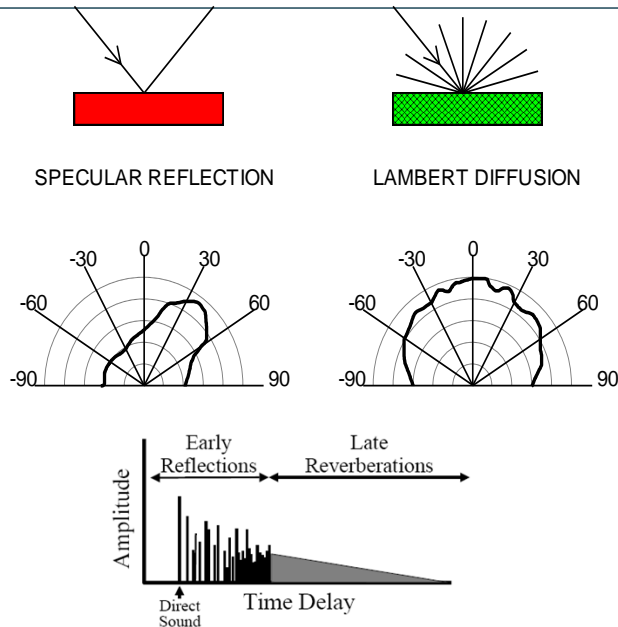
## 兆水科技應用案例

# Simcenter 3D Ray Acoustics

## Auralization and sound quality

### Wall diffusion and late reflections

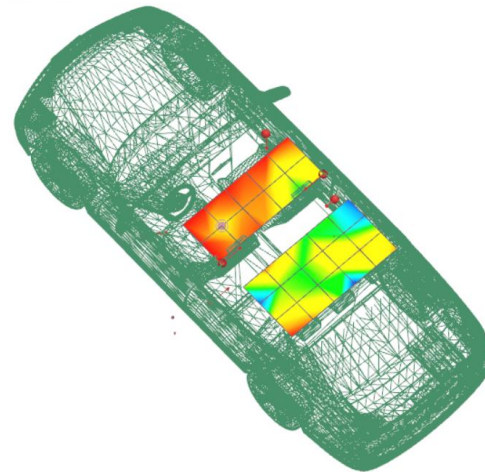
Using particle tracing computation



### Sound Quality Parameters

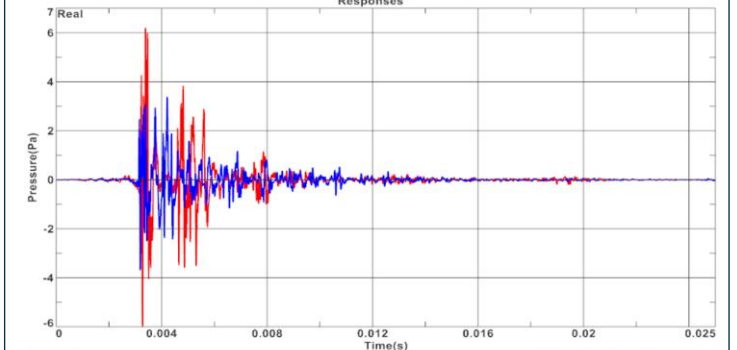
RT10, RT30, Clarity(C80)  
STI, RASTI, IAAC, ...

Spatial Results Set  
Default  
Speech Transmission Index - STI Female - Nodal, Scalar  
Min: 9.977E-01, Max: 1.000E+00, Units = Unitless



### Auralization

Export of time signals to wave file  
Binaural responses



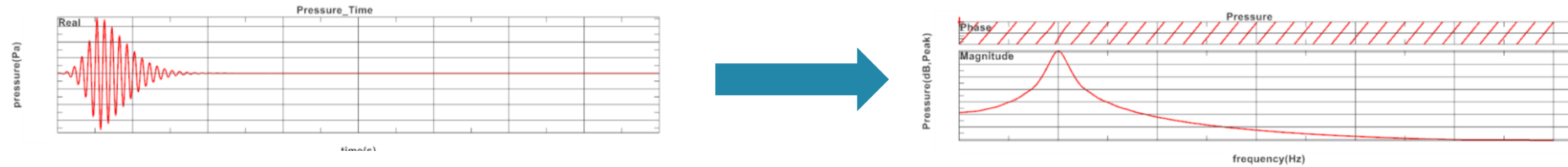
| Plot | Record Name   | Function Type      |
|------|---|--------------------|
| 1    | driver::Car_assembly [274952], Scalar, Subcase - Acoustic Response 1, Left  | Function Plots (1) |
| 2    | driver::Car_assembly [274952], Scalar, Subcase - Acoustic Response 1, Right | Function Plots (1) |



# Auralization

## Time-domain signal and export to audio file

1. FFT of Input signal can be used as modulation for your source



2. Ray Acoustics solution in narrow band for the full audio range
  - Take into account installation effects (car cabin geometry, trim package changes...)
3. Output **time domain response** (based on inverse FFT)
4. Play the sound in Simcenter 3D or export it into an **audio file**



# Binaural Response

## Head Related Transfer functions

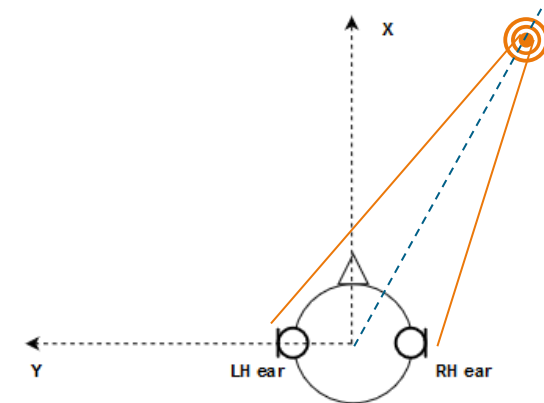
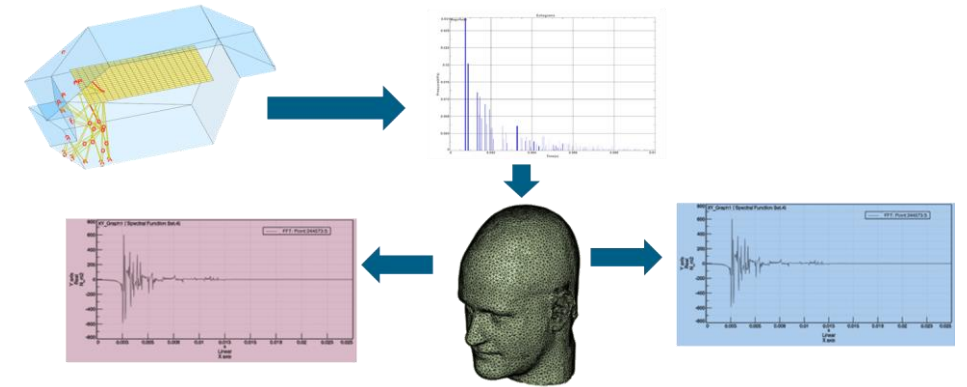
Transformation of ray acoustics results into Binaural Impulse Response (BIR)

Stored as a stereo audio file format

Performed for each field point selected during the analysis case definition

Depends on the view angle = viewing direction of the binaural head in each field point:

- To request BIRs we need to define the axis system of the head
- The arrival angle is computed for each ray



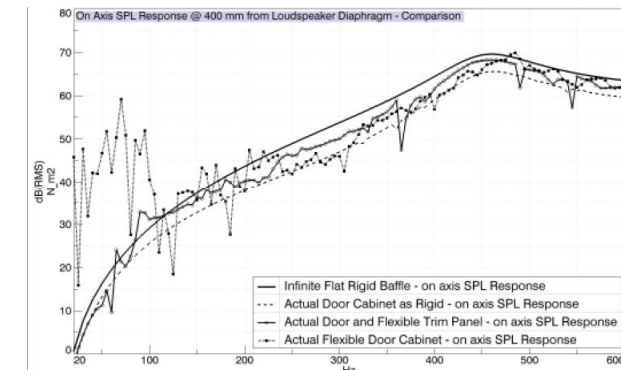
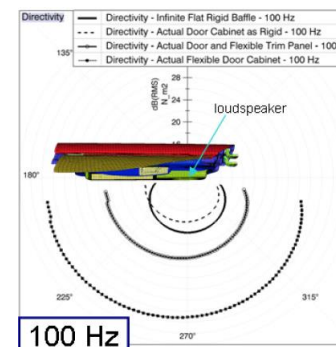
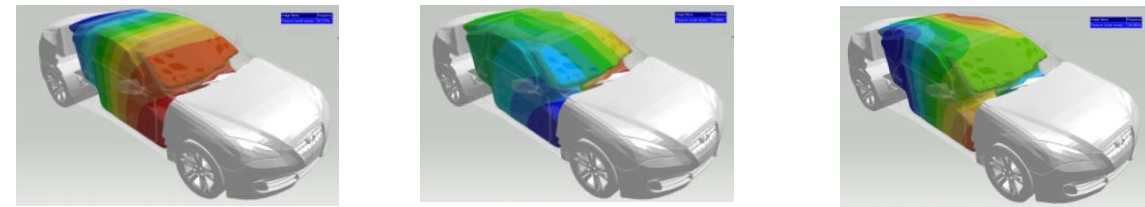
# Interior Acoustic Simulation for In-Car Audio Design

## Hyundai Motor Company



Investigate a set of vibro-acoustic simulation tools for full frequency In-car Audio Design

- FEM Acoustics: for **cavity modes** and **door acoustics**
- Fully coupled vibro-acoustics FEM/BEM: for **automotive door design**
- Ray Acoustics for response **above 5kHz**, **sound quality criteria** and **binaural response**



Validation of results with experimental data

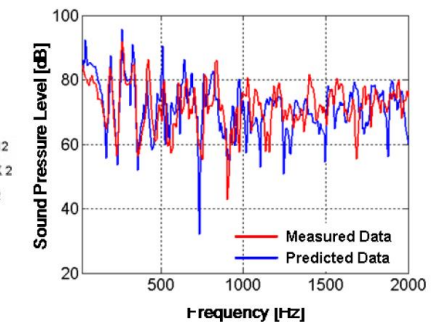
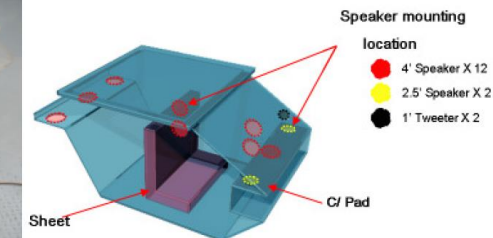
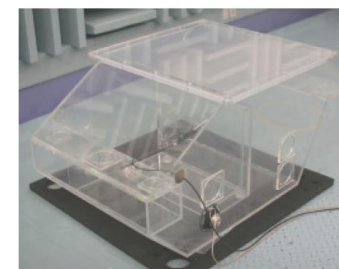


Figure 11 – Validation of BEM simulation in a 1/2-scale Acryl Car Interior

From Internoise 2011 (Osaka, Japan)

# Car Audio Design

## Denso-Ten / Fujitsu-Ten



From Fujitsu-Ten Technical Journal NO.38(2013).

Table 1 Acoustic analysis methods

|                                | FEM  | BEM  | Sound ray tracing method  |
|--------------------------------|--|--|---|
|                                |  |  |   |
| Characteristic                 | An object is divided into elements inside of it.<br><br>Method focusing on internal behavior   | Only the surface of an object is divided into elements.<br><br>Method focusing on surface behavior<br><br>Infinite radiation problem is figured out. | Method focusing on reflection and diffusion, treating sound as beam<br><br>Analysis precision is reduced in low band. |
| Analysis upper limit frequency | A side length of an element: 1/6 of the wavelength<br><br>e.g.) Analysis upper limit frequency: 20kHz<br>$A\ side = (340\ [m/s] / 20\ [kHz]) / 6 = 0.28\ [mm]$<br><br>An object is divided into elements whose side length is 0.28 mm. | No limit   | No limit  |
| Calculation time               | Proportional to the square of the number of elements   | Proportional to the frequency of reflection and the number of sound rays   |   |

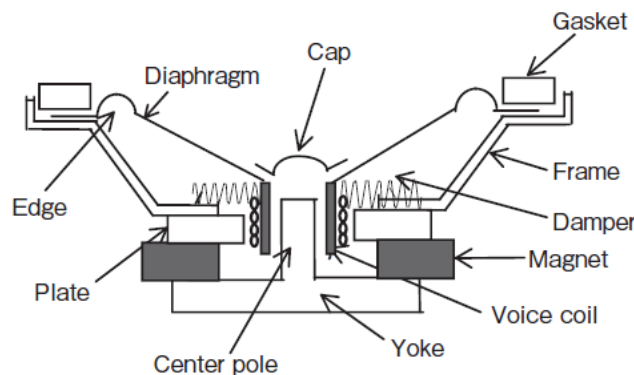


Fig.1 Cross-sectional view of loudspeaker

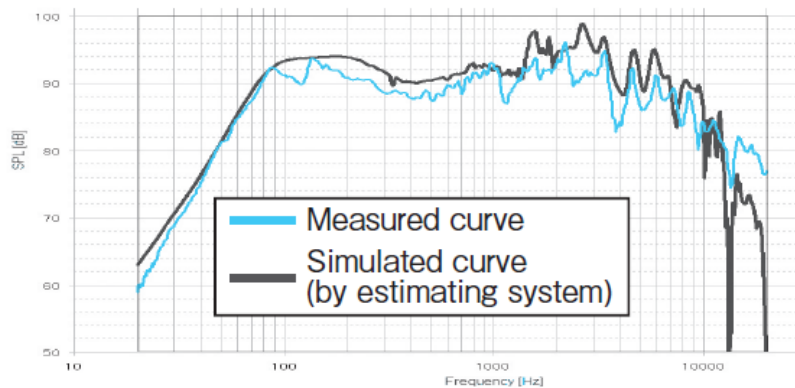


Fig.3 Comparison of frequency response between measured curve and simulated curve

Table 4 Analysis method suitable for the characteristics of each band

|                | Wave  | Beam  |
|----------------|---|---|
|                |   |   |
| Characteristic | Sound is steady. It is calculated by wave equation. | Linear sound beam. It is calculated by geometry and statistics. |
| Method         | BEM   | Sound ray tracing method  |

Fig. 4 (a) shows an example of distribution of sound pressure in the vicinity of the listening position by BEM, and (b) shows an example of the direction of arrival of sound by the sound ray tracing method.

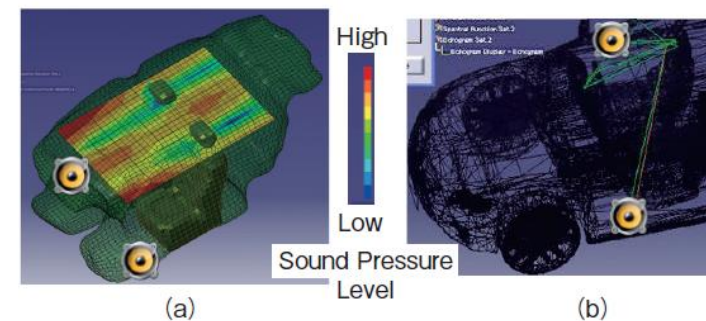


Fig.4 (a) Distribution of sound pressure in the vicinity of listening position by BEM  
(b) Direction of arrival of the sound by Sound ray tracing method

**Thank you.**

兆水科技應用案例