ASA/ANSI S12.55-2012 / ISO 3745:2012
(a revision of ANSI S12.55-2006 / ISO 3745:2003)

Reaffirmed by ANSI January 17, 2019

AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARD

Acoustics – Determination of sound power levels and sound energy levels of noise sources using sound pressure – Precision methods for anechoic rooms and hemi-anechoic rooms

(a nationally adopted international standard)

Secretariat:

Acoustical Society of America

Approved on August 23, 2012:

American National Standards Institute, Inc.

Abstract

This American National Standard specifies methods for measuring the sound pressure levels on a measurement surface enveloping a noise source (machinery or equipment) in an anechoic room or a hemi-anechoic room. The sound power level (or, in the case of impulsive or transient noise emission, the sound energy level) produced by the noise source, in frequency bands of width one-third octave or with frequency weighting A applied, is calculated using those measurements, including corrections to allow for any differences between the meteorological conditions at the time and place of the test and those corresponding to a reference characteristic acoustic impedance.

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(a Nationally Adopted International Standard)

ANSI/ASA S12.55-2012 / ISO 3745:2012

Accredited Standards Committee S12, Noise

Standards Secretariat
Acoustical Society of America
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The Acoustical Society of America (ASA) is an organization of scientists and engineers formed in 1929 to increase and diffuse the knowledge of acoustics and to promote its practical applications.

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AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARDS ON ACOUSTICS

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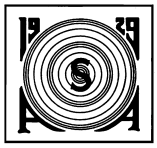

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Contents

1 Scope 1
1.1 General 1
1.2 Types of noise and noise sources 1
1.3 Test room 1
1.4 Measurement uncertainty 1

2 Normative references 1

3 Terms and definitions 2

4 Reference meteorological conditions 8

5 Test rooms 8
5.1 Acoustic criterion for adequacy of the test room 8
5.2 Criteria for background noise 9
5.3 Criterion for air temperature 10

6 Instrumentation 12
6.1 Instruments for acoustical measurements 12
6.2 Instruments for meteorological measurements 12

7 Definition, location, installation and operation of noise source under test 13
7.1 General 13
7.2 Auxiliary equipment 13
7.3 Noise source location 13
7.4 Mounting of the noise source 13
7.5 Operation of source during test 14

8 Measurement surface 15
8.1 Spherical measurement surface for use in an anechoic room 15
8.2 Hemispherical measurement surface for use in a hemi-anechoic room 15

9 Determination of sound power levels and sound energy levels 17
9.1 Measurements in the test room 17
9.2 Measurement of meteorological conditions 17
9.3 Microphone positions 17
9.4 Determination of sound power levels of a noise source which emits steady or non-steady noise 19
9.5 Determination of sound energy levels for a noise source which emits impulsive noise 23
9.6 Calculation of directivity indices 26
9.7 Calculation of surface sound pressure level non-uniformity index 26
9.8 Frequency-weighted sound power level and sound energy level 27

10 Measurement uncertainty 27
10.1 Methodology 27
10.2 Determination of σ_{omc} 28
10.3 Determination of σ_{R0} 28
10.4 Typical upper bound values of σ_{R0} 29
10.5 Total standard deviation, σ_{tot}, and expanded measurement uncertainty, U 30

11 Information to be recorded 31
11.1 General 31

11.2 Noise source under test 31
11.3 Test room 31
11.4 Instrumentation 31
11.5 Acoustical data 32

12 Test report 32

Annex A (normative) General procedures for qualification of anechoic and hemi-anechoic rooms 33
A.1 General 33
A.2 Instrumentation and measuring equipment 33
A.3 Installation of test sources and microphones 36
A.4 Test procedures 37
A.5 Qualification procedure 39

Annex B (normative) Qualification procedure for spaces within test rooms used in the determination of sound power levels and sound energy levels of specific noise sources 41
B.1 General 41
B.2 Properties of reflecting plane 41
B.3 Procedure using two measurement spheres or hemispheres with different radii (two-surface method) 42

Annex C (normative) Calculation of A-weighted sound power levels and A-weighted sound energy levels from one-third-octave band levels 43
C.1 A-weighted sound power levels 43
C.2 A-weighted sound energy levels 43
C.3 Values of j and C_j for use in calculations 43

Annex D (normative) Array of microphone positions on a spherical measurement surface in a free field 45

Annex E (normative) Arrays of microphone positions on a hemispherical measurement surface in a hemi-free field 48

Annex F (normative) Coaxial circular paths of microphones on a hemispherical measurement surface in a hemi-free field 53

Annex G (normative) Meridional paths of microphones on a hemispherical measurement surface in a hemi-free field 54

Annex H (normative) Spiral paths of microphones on a hemispherical measurement surface in a hemi-free field 56

Annex I (informative) Guidance on the development of information on measurement uncertainty 57
I.1 General 57
I.2 Considerations on the total standard deviation, σ_{tot} 57
I.3 Considerations on σ_{omc} 57
I.4 Considerations on σ_{R0} 59
I.5 Combined standard uncertainty 66
I.6 Measurement uncertainty based on reproducibility data 66
I.7 Example of an uncertainty budget for a reference sound source in a national laboratory 67

Figures

Figure 1 — Reference box, center for the measurement surface (when using the geometric center of the source) and characteristic source dimensions for application in an anechoic and a hemi-anechoic room 16

Figure A.1 — Microphone positions on the spherical surface for test sound source directivity measurements 35

Figure D.1 — Microphone positions on the spherical measurement surface 47

Figure E.1 — Microphone positions on the hemispherical measurement surface (general case) 51

Figure E.2 — Microphone positions on the hemispherical measurement surface for broadband omnidirectional sources 52

Figure F.1 — Coaxial circular paths for a moving microphone 53

Figure G.1 — Meridional paths for a moving microphone 54

Figure G.2 — Example of a mechanical system to realize a meridional path 55

Figure G.3 — Example of an electronic control circuit 55

Figure H.1 — Spiral path for a moving microphone 56

Tables

Table 1 — Maximum background noise levels in test room for absolute criteria 11

Table 2 — Typical upper bound values of the standard deviation of reproducibility of the method, σ_{R0}, for sound power levels and sound energy levels determined in a hemi-anechoic room in accordance with this American National Standard 30

Table 3 — Typical upper bound values of the standard deviation of reproducibility of the method, σ_{R0}, for the sound power levels and sound energy levels determined in an anechoic room, in accordance with this American National Standard 30

Table A.1 — Allowable deviation in directivity of the test source 34

Table A.2 — Maximum allowable deviation of measured sound pressure levels from theoretical levels using the inverse square law 40

Table C.1 — Values of j and C_j for mid-band frequencies of one-third-octave bands 44

Table D.1 — Microphone positions 46

Table E.1 — Microphone positions (general case) 49

Table E.2 — Microphone positions for a broadband omnidirectional source 50

Table I.1 — Examples of calculated total standard deviations, σ_{tot}, for three different cases 59

Table I.2 — Example of an uncertainty budget for determinations of σ_{R0} for sound power level and sound energy level, valid for frequencies from 500 Hz to 4 kHz, or for A-weighted measurements of a source with a relatively flat frequency spectrum 62

Foreword

[This Foreword is for information only, and is not a part of the American National Standard ANSI/ASA S12.55-2012 / ISO 3745:2012 American National Standard Acoustics — Determination of sound power levels and sound energy levels of noise sources using sound pressure — Precision methods for anechoic rooms and hemi-anechoic rooms.]

This standard comprises a part of a group of definitions, standards, and specifications for use in noise. It was developed and approved by Accredited Standards Committee S12, Noise, under its approved operating procedures. Those procedures have been accredited by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI). The Scope of Accredited Standards Committee S12 is as follows:

> *Standards, specifications, and terminology in the field of acoustical noise pertaining to methods of measurement, evaluation, and control, including biological safety, tolerance, and comfort, and physical acoustics as related to environmental and occupational noise.*

This standard is a revision of ANSI S12.55-2006 / ISO 3745:2003, which has been technically revised.

This Standard is identical to International Standard ISO 3745, Acoustics — Determination of sound power levels and sound energy levels of noise sources using sound pressure — Precision methods for anechoic rooms and hemi-anechoic rooms, which was prepared by Technical Committee ISO/TC 43 Subcommittee SC 1, Noise. However, in conformance with ANSI and ISO rules, the words "American National Standard" replace the words "International Standard" where they appear in the ISO document, decimal points were substituted in place of the decimal commas used in ISO documents, and American English spelling is used in place of British English spelling. In addition, editorial correction was made to the caption of Figure E.2. In ISO 3745:2012 this figure and the previous one were numbered E.1.

The ANSI or ANSI/ASA equivalents for the ISO standards in the ISO 3740 series and other referenced nationally adopted standards are given below:

- ANSI/ASA S12.5 / ISO 6926 is an identical national adoption of ISO 6926;
- ANSI/ASA S12.50/ISO 3740 is an identical national adoption of ISO 3740;
- ANSI/ASA S12.51/ISO 3741 is an identical national adoption of ISO 3741;
- ANSI/ASA S12.53/Part 1/ISO 3743-1 is an identical national adoption of ISO 3743-1;
- ANSI/ASA S12.53/Part 2/ISO 3743-2 is an identical national adoption of ISO 3743-2;
- ANSI/ASA S12.54/ISO 3744 is an identical national adoption of ISO 3744;
- ANSI/ASA S12.55/ISO 3745 is an identical national adoption of ISO 3745;
- ANSI/ASA S12.56/ISO 3746 is an identical national adoption of ISO 3746; and
- ANSI/ASA S12.57/ISO 3747 is an identical national adoption of ISO 3747.

At the time this Standard was submitted to Accredited Standards Committee S12, Noise for approval, the membership was as follows:

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S.J. Lind, *Vice-Chair*

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B.M. Brooks	D. Michaud	L.C. Sutherland
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Suggestions for improvements of this standard will be welcomed. They should be sent to Accredited Standards Committee S12, Noise, in care of the Standards Secretariat of the Acoustical Society of America, 35 Pinelawn Road, Suite 114E, Melville, New York 11747-3177. Telephone: 631-390-0215; FAX: 631-390-0217; E-mail: asastds@aip.org.

Introduction

This American National Standard is a national adoption of one of the series ISO 3741[3] to ISO 3747[8], which specify various methods for determining the sound power levels and sound energy levels of noise sources including machinery, equipment and their sub-assemblies. The selection of one of the methods from the series for use in a particular application depends on the purpose of the test to determine the sound power level or sound energy level and on the facilities available. General guidelines to assist in the selection are provided in ISO 3740[2]. ISO 3741[3] to ISO 3747[8] give only general principles regarding the operating and mounting conditions of the machinery or equipment for the purposes of the test. It is important that test codes be established for individual kinds of noise source, in order to give detailed requirements on mounting, loading and operating conditions under which the sound power levels or sound energy levels are to be obtained and to select the appropriate measurement surface and microphone array from among those specified in this American National Standard.

The methods given in this American National Standard require the source to be mounted in either an anechoic room or a hemi-anechoic room having specified acoustical characteristics. The methods are then based on the premise that the sound power or sound energy of the source is directly proportional to the mean-square sound pressure over a hypothetical measurement surface enclosing the source and otherwise depends on the physical constants of air.

The methods specified in this American National Standard permit the determination of the sound power level and the sound energy level in frequency bands and/or with frequency A-weighting applied.

The methods give a precision grade of accuracy (grade 1) as defined in ISO 12001. The resulting sound power levels and sound energy levels include corrections to allow for any differences that might exist between the meteorological conditions under which the tests are conducted and reference meteorological conditions. For applications where there are large uncertainties due to operating conditions or where reduced accuracy is acceptable, reference can be made to the more practical methods of ISO 3744[6] or ISO 3746[7]. Guidance on evaluation of measurement uncertainty is given in Annex I.

AMERICAN NATIONAL STANDARD

Acoustics – Determination of sound power levels and sound energy levels of noise sources using sound pressure – Precision methods for anechoic rooms and hemi-anechoic rooms (a nationally adopted international standard)

1 Scope

1.1 General

This American National Standard specifies methods for measuring the sound pressure levels on a measurement surface enveloping a noise source (machinery or equipment) in an anechoic room or a hemi-anechoic room. The sound power level (or, in the case of impulsive or transient noise emission, the sound energy level) produced by the noise source, in frequency bands of width one-third octave or with frequency weighting A applied, is calculated using those measurements, including corrections to allow for any differences between the meteorological conditions at the time and place of the test and those corresponding to a reference characteristic acoustic impedance.

In general, the frequency range of interest includes the one-third-octave bands with mid-band frequencies from 100 Hz to 10,000 Hz. In practice, the range is extended or restricted to frequencies beyond or within these limits, to those between which the test room is qualified for the purposes of the measurements.

1.2 Types of noise and noise sources

The methods specified in this American National Standard are suitable for all types of noise (steady, non-steady, fluctuating, isolated bursts of sound energy, etc.) defined in ISO 12001.

The noise source under test can be a device, machine, component or sub-assembly. The maximum size of the noise source depends on specified requirements regarding the radius of the hypothetical sphere or hemisphere used as the enveloping measurement surface.

1.3 Test room

The test rooms that are applicable for measurements made in accordance with this American National Standard are an anechoic room or hemi-anechoic room, also called, respectively, a free-field test room or hemi-free-field test room.

1.4 Measurement uncertainty

Information is given on the uncertainty of the sound power levels and sound energy levels determined in accordance with this American National Standard, for measurements made in limited bands of frequency and with frequency weighting A applied. The uncertainty conforms to ISO 12001:1996, accuracy grade 1 (precision grade).

2 Normative references

The following referenced documents are indispensable for the application of this document. For dated references, only the edition cited applies. For undated references, the latest edition of the referenced document (including any amendments) applies.