
Microperforated absorber to reduce the tire cavity mode

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Motivation and Contents

Starting point

Annoyingly perceived noise in the car cabin, caused by the sound field in the enclosed cavity formed by the functional community of tire and rim.

▶ *tire cavity mode*

Aim is to identify the tire cavity mode in the lab and to damp it with the help of a microperforated absorber.

- Theoretical basics
- Integration feasibility
- Identification of the tire cavity mode
- Dimensioning of the absorber
- Production of the tire-absorber
- Measurements with the tire-absorber at the vehicle

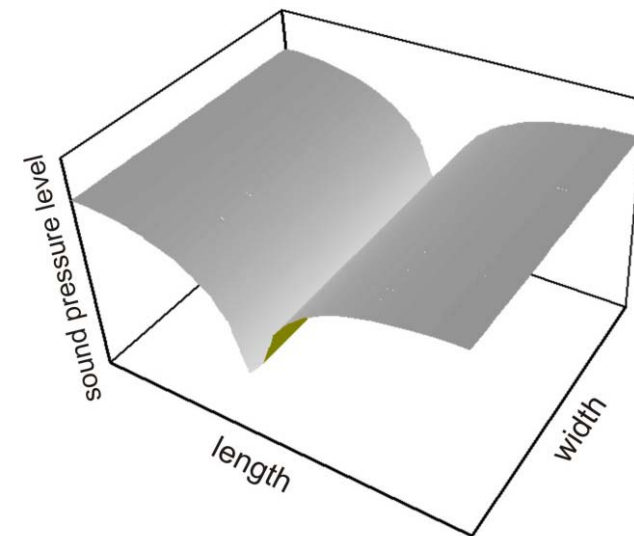
Theoretical basics/Sound field rectangular room

- characterizes the physical sound propagation in rooms
- wavelength corresponds to the room size
 - ▷ development of standing waves
- sound particle velocity at rigid walls has to be zero
 - ▷ sound pressure is maximum at the wall surface
- periodicity: $\lambda/2$

- calculation of the eigenfrequencies in a room:

$$f_{(n_x, n_y, n_z)} = \frac{c}{2} \cdot \sqrt{\left(\frac{n_x}{L_x}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{n_y}{L_y}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{n_z}{L_z}\right)^2} \quad [Hz]$$

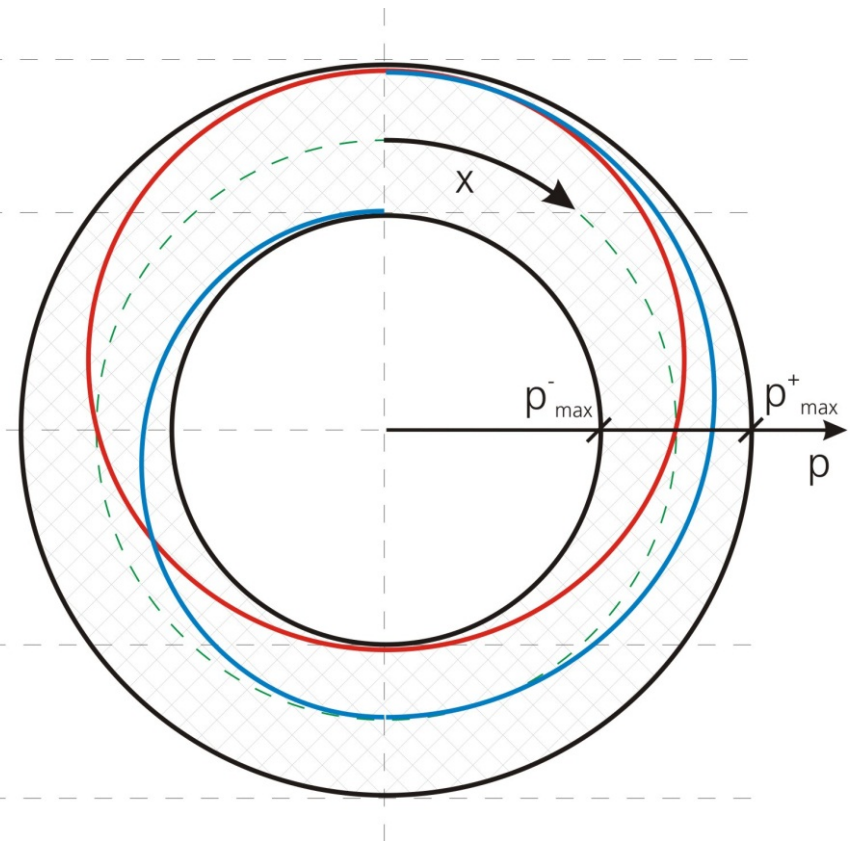
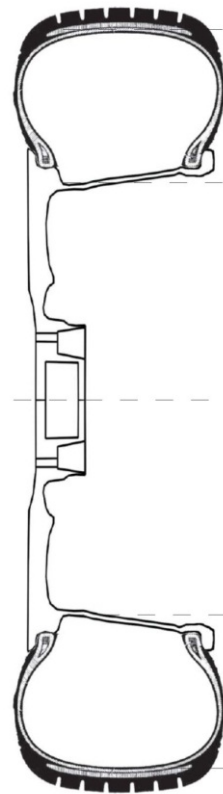
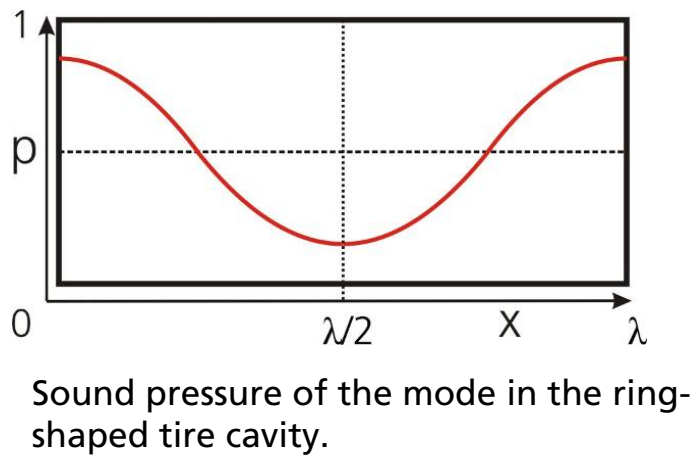
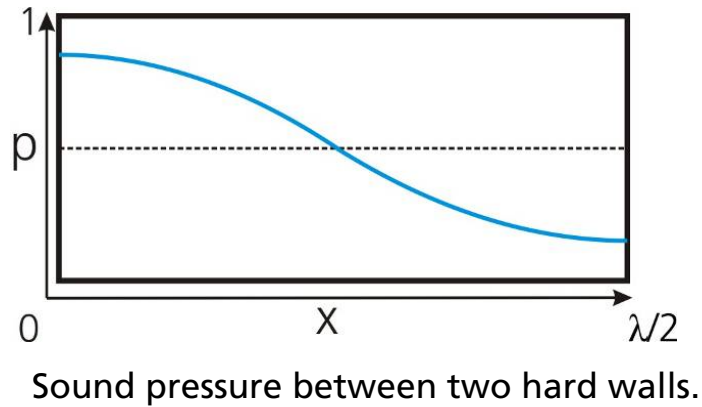
- lowest room mode: $f_{(n_x)} = \frac{c}{2} \cdot \frac{n_x}{L_x} \quad [Hz]$



Schematic plot of the sound pressure level distribution in a room, for the room mode 1,0,0.

Theoretical basics/Sound field tire cavity

Adaptation of rectangular room sound field to the tire cavity:

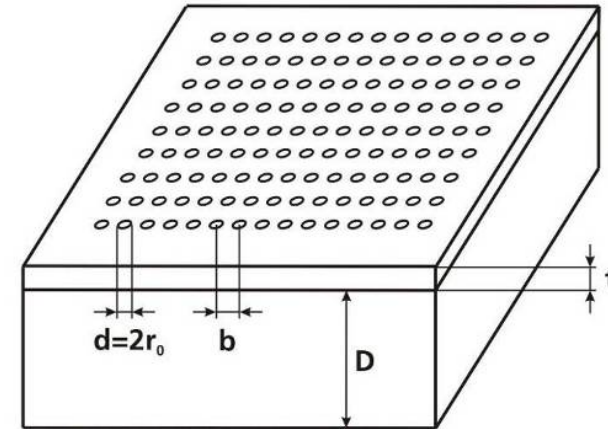


■ lowest tire cavity mode: $f_{(n_x)} = c \cdot \frac{n_x}{L_x} \quad [Hz]$

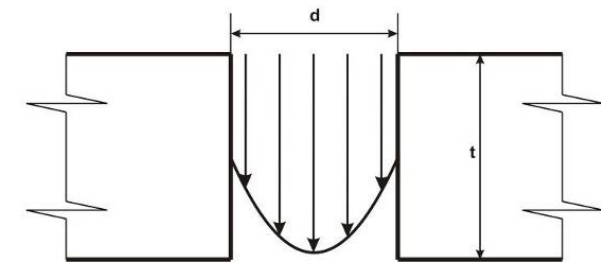
The longitudinal section (on the right) with schematic profile of the sound pressure.

Theoretical basics/Microperforated absorber

- reactive absorber (Helmholtz-Resonator) with inherent damping
- surface with many small holes
 - ▶ hole diameter less than 1 mm
 - ▶ perforation ratio less than 1%
- mass-spring-system
 - ▶ mass: air in the holes
 - ▶ spring: air volume between plate and wall
- laminar air flow profile in a hole
 - ▶ velocity is not constant over the cross-section
 - ▶ higher friction due the viscosity of the air
 - ▶ dissipation of sound to thermal energy



Parameters of the microperforated absorber.



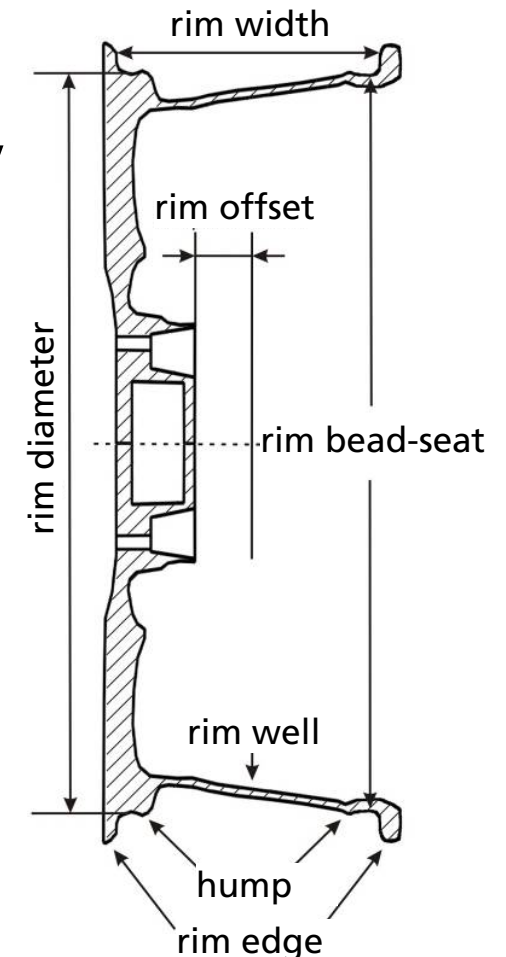
Flow profile in a hole.

Integration feasibility/**P**ossibilities

- 1st approach (not realized):
 - deepening in the rim well offers place for the absorber
 - Problem: rim well-base is required for the tire assembly

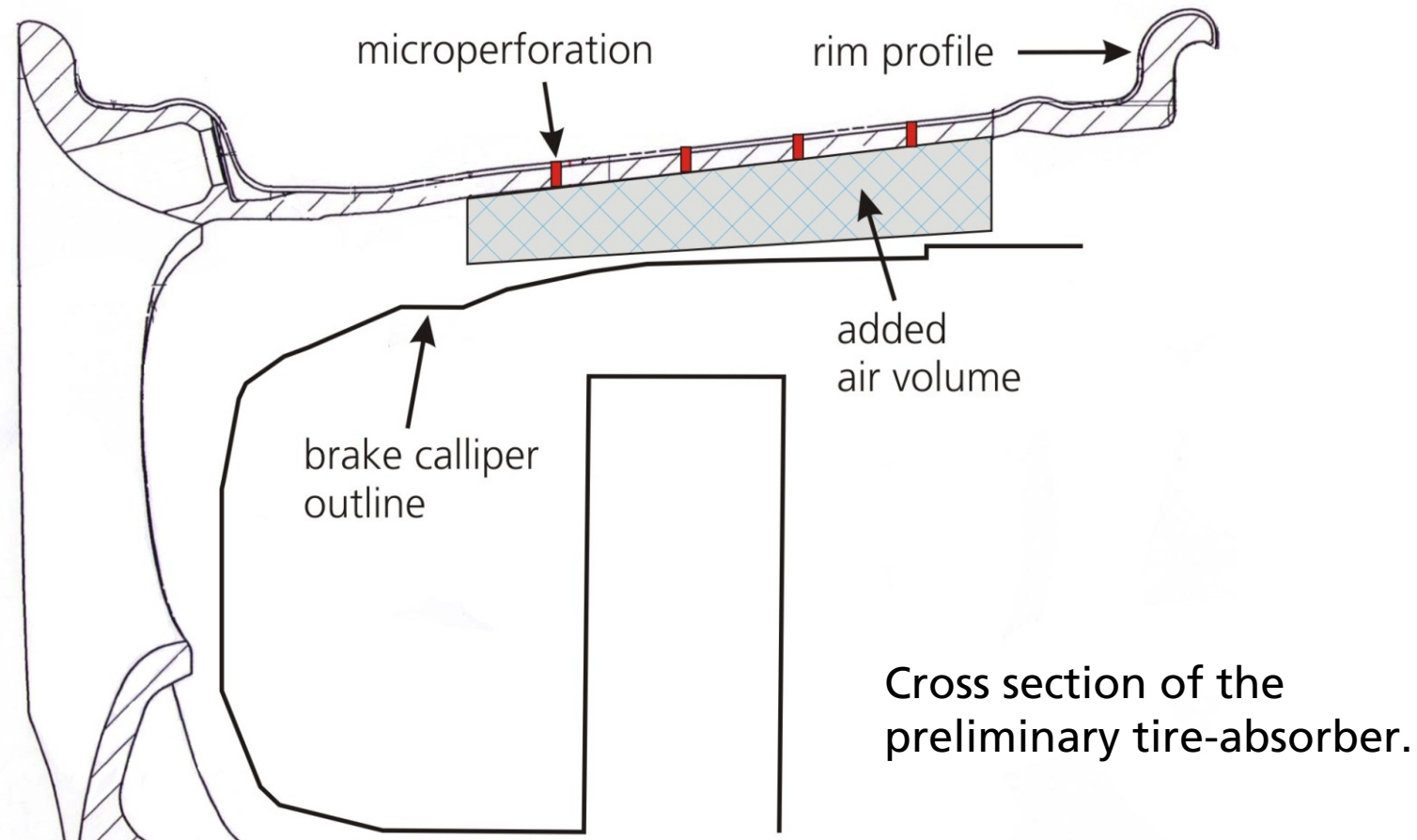
- 2nd approach (prototype 1, 2 versions produced):
 - integration of microperforated absorber directly into the structure of the rim
 - installation of a chamber on the inside of the rim
 - Problem: brake calliper limits the construction space
 - Solution: using available space optimally

- 3rd approach (actual prototype 2)
 - a new design of the rim profile includes the chamber
 - separate metal strip with microperforation



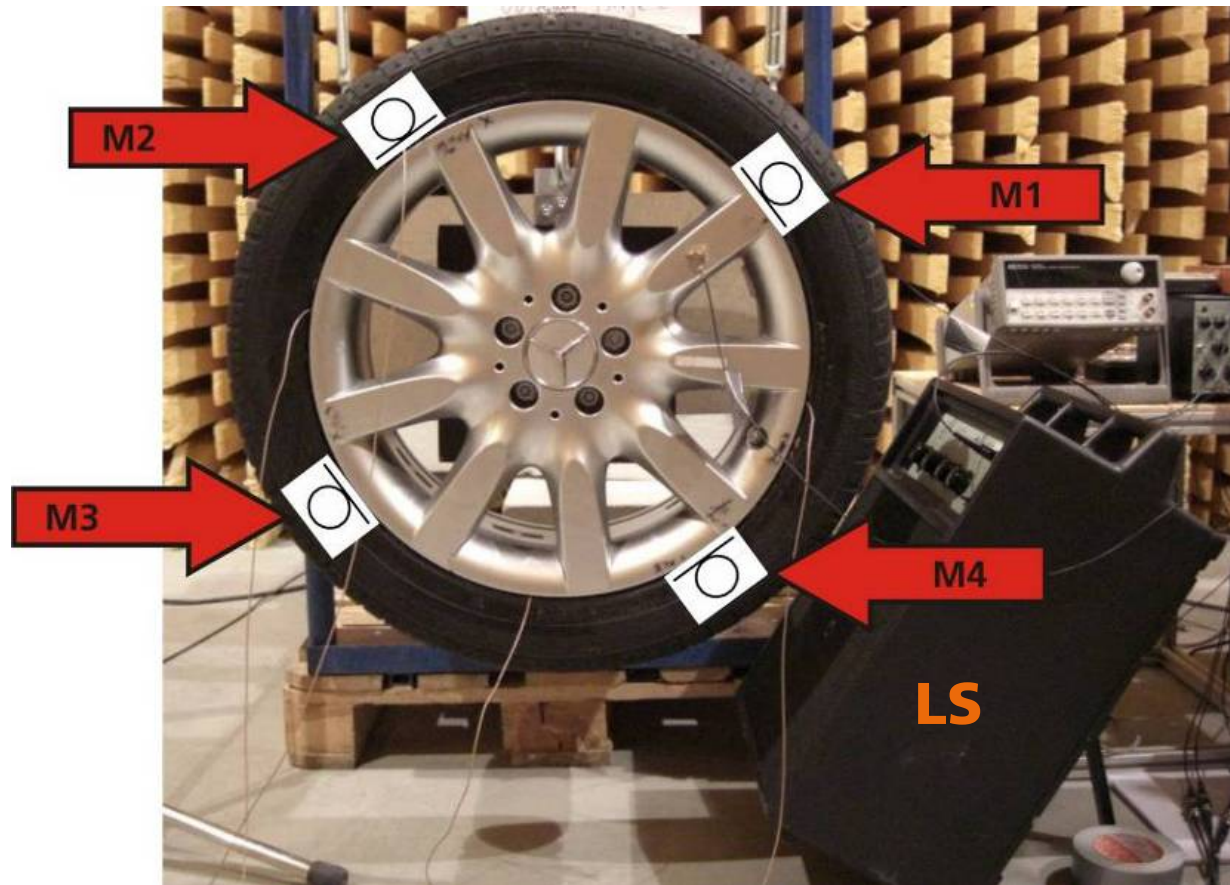
Integration feasibility/Implementation

- prototype 1, microperforation in the rim structure
 - the chamber (needed as air volume for the absorber and to seal the tire air cavity) is placed on the inner side of the rim.



Identification tire cavity mode/Laboratory test setup

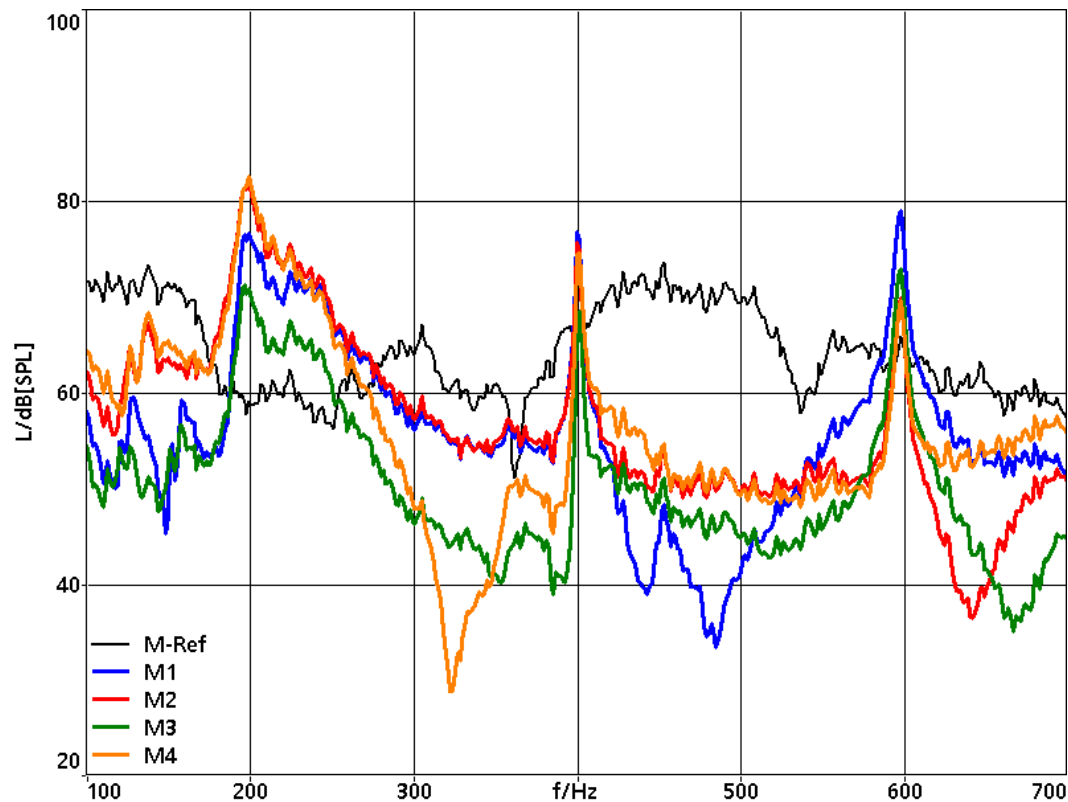
- 4 microphones M1 – M4 in the tire cavity at a spacing of 90 degrees
- acoustical excitation with loudspeaker LS in direct proximity of the suspended wheel



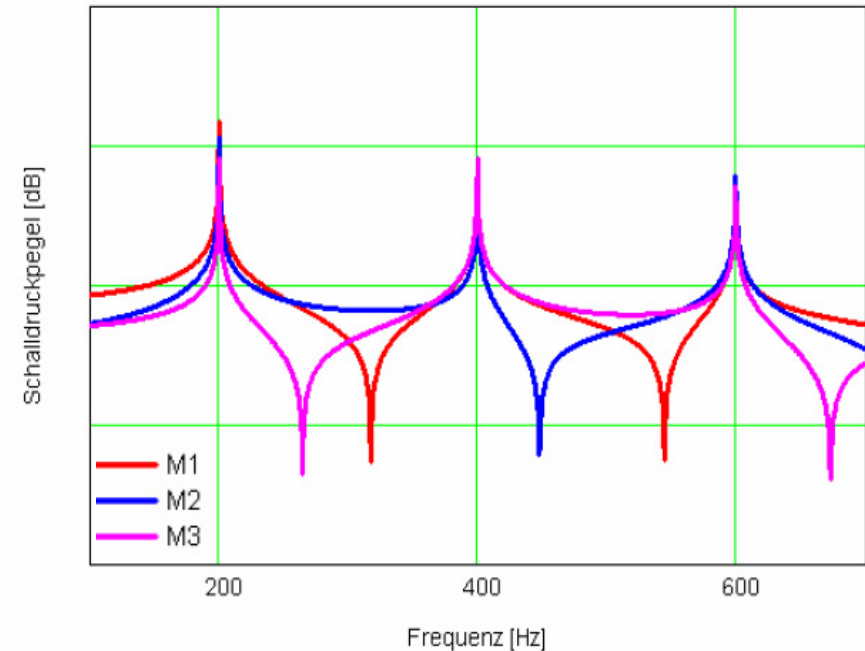
Picture of the laboratory test setup.

Identification tire cavity mode/Results part I

Comparison between theory and measurement (prototype 1.1):



Sound pressure levels measured in the tire cavity with microphone M1-M4 and outside reference (M-Ref).

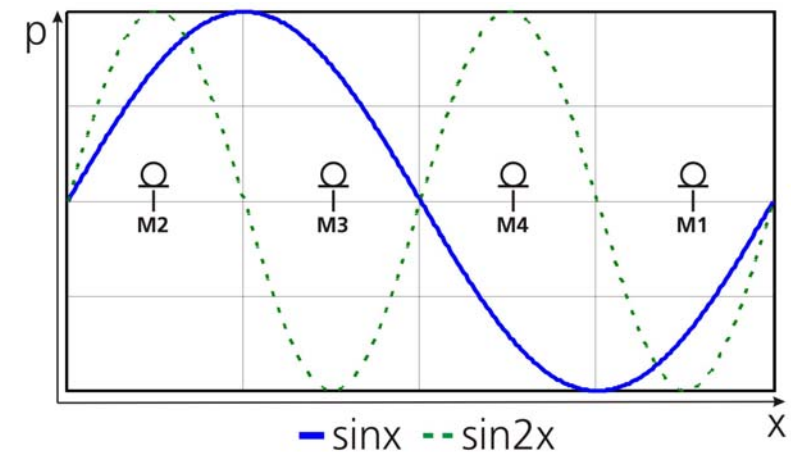
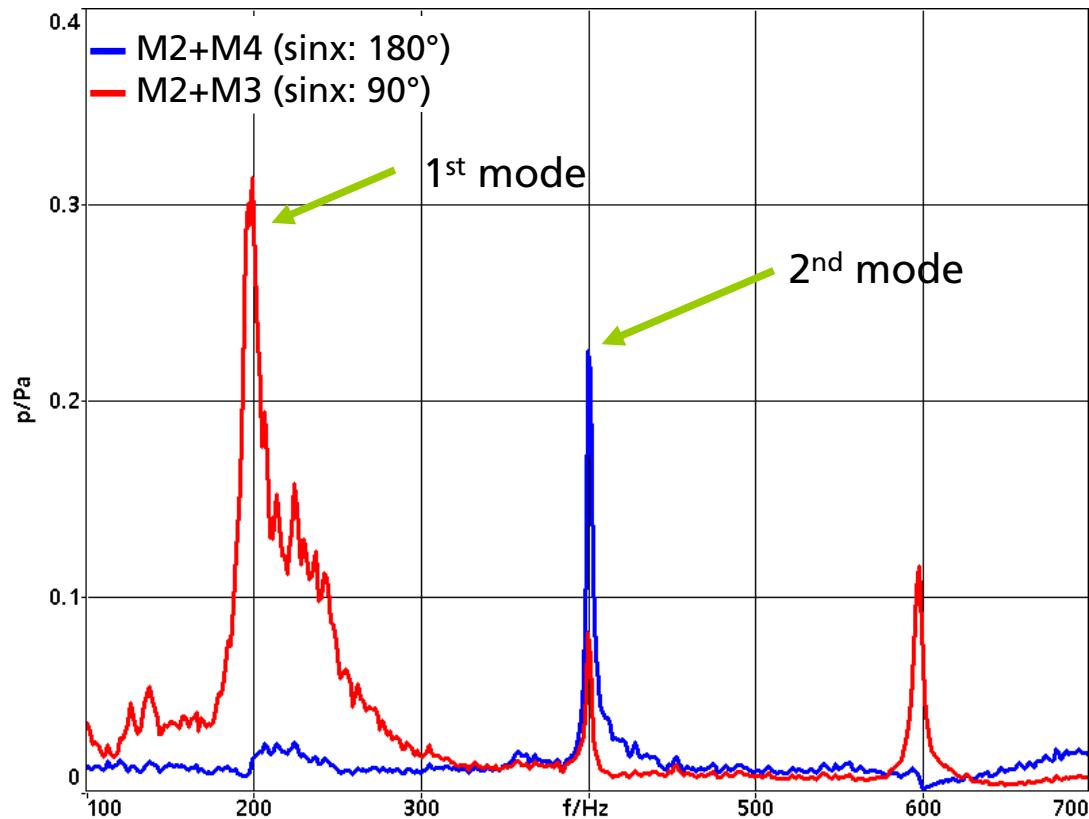


Theoretical eigenfrequencies in the tire cavity.

► Indication of the tire cavity mode.

Identification tire cavity mode/Results part II

Identification via selected microphone positions in the tire cavity:



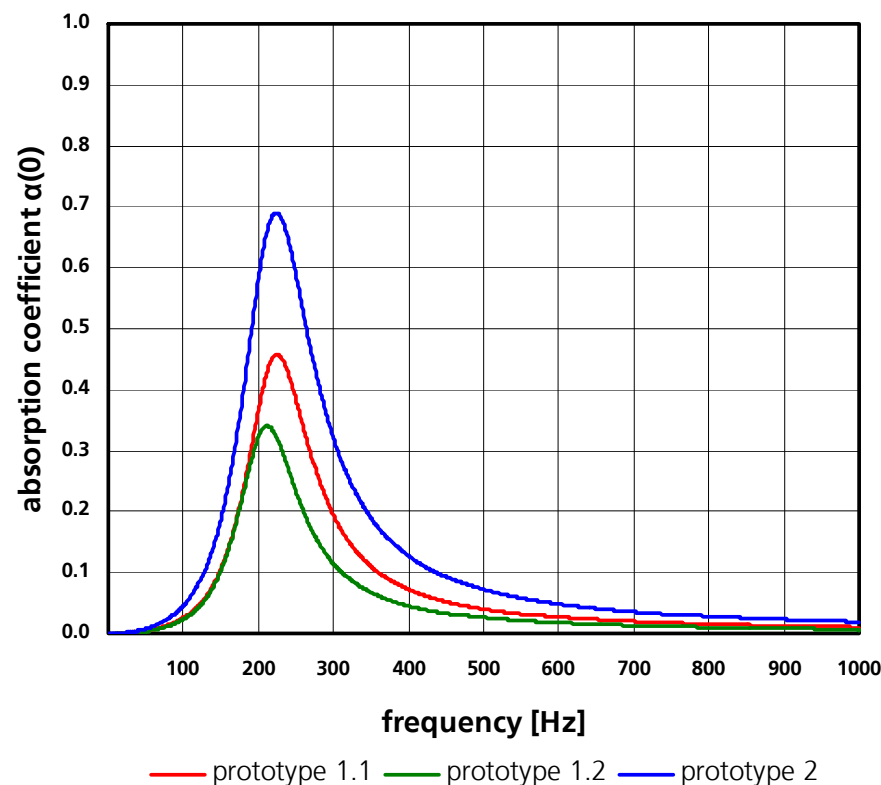
- added time domain signals $\xrightarrow{\text{Trans-formation}}$ FFT
- 1st mode: at 180° \triangleright cancellation (sin x) at 90° \triangleright pressure increase
- 2nd mode: at 360° \triangleright pressure increase (sin 2x) at 180° \triangleright pressure reduction

Resulting spectra from added sound pressure in the time domain (left) and standing wave pattern relative to the microphone positions (right).

- Clear identification of the first tire cavity mode with 200 Hz.

Dimensioning of the absorber/Parameter

- Due to the space restrictions for the absorber (page 7), the parameters for dimensioning are limited.
- A perforation ratio of approximately 0.15 % was chosen in order to tune the absorber to 200 - 250 Hz.

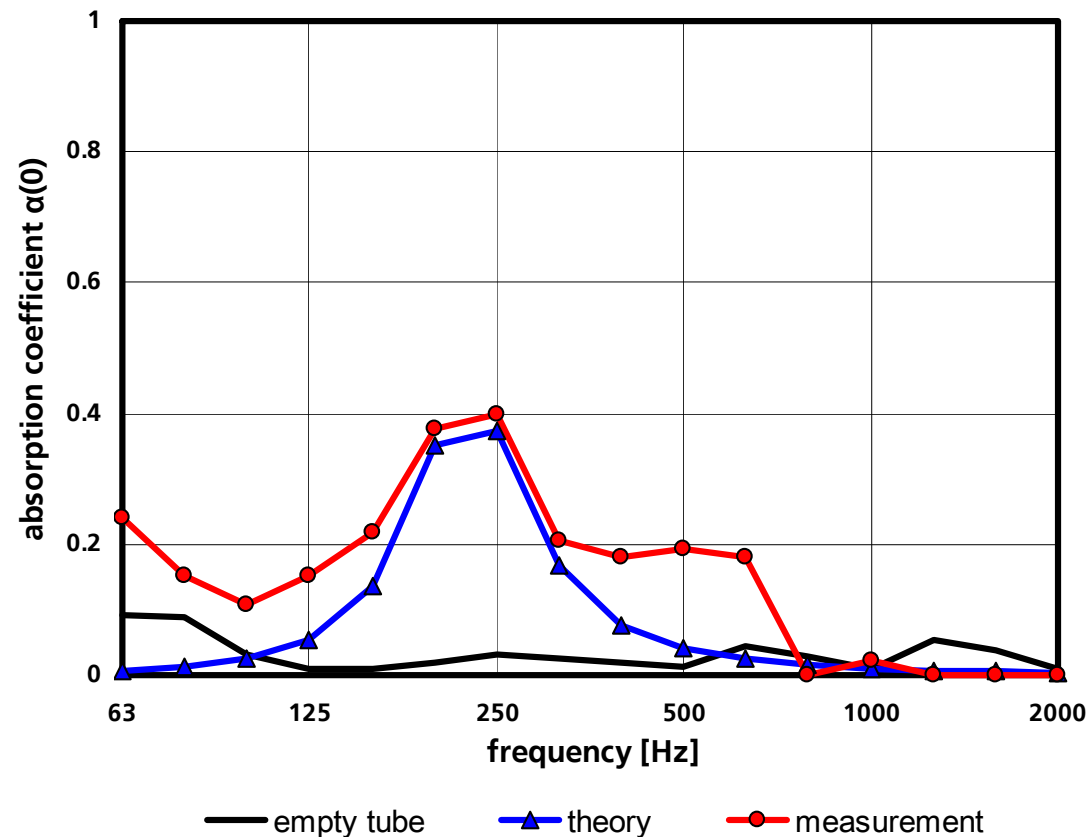


These three versions differ primarily by a changed wall distance D :

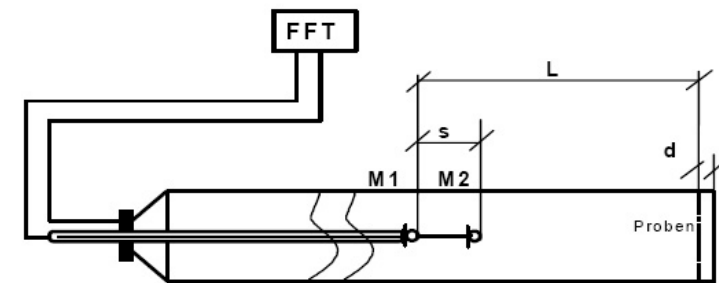
- ▶ prototype 1.1 $D \approx 15$ mm
- ▶ prototype 1.2 $D \approx 11$ mm
- ▶ prototype 2, latest version $D \approx 28$ mm

Dimensioning of the absorber/Absorption coefficient

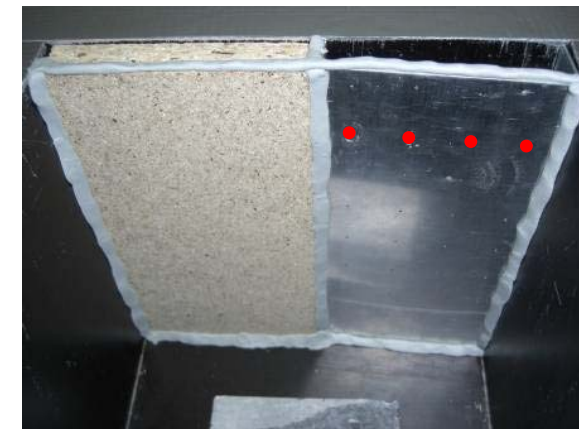
- Measurements were carried out in the impedance tube.
- Comparison between theoretical and measured values.



► Theory and measurement agree well.



Schematic plot of the impedance tube.



Installation of the test sample in the impedance tube.

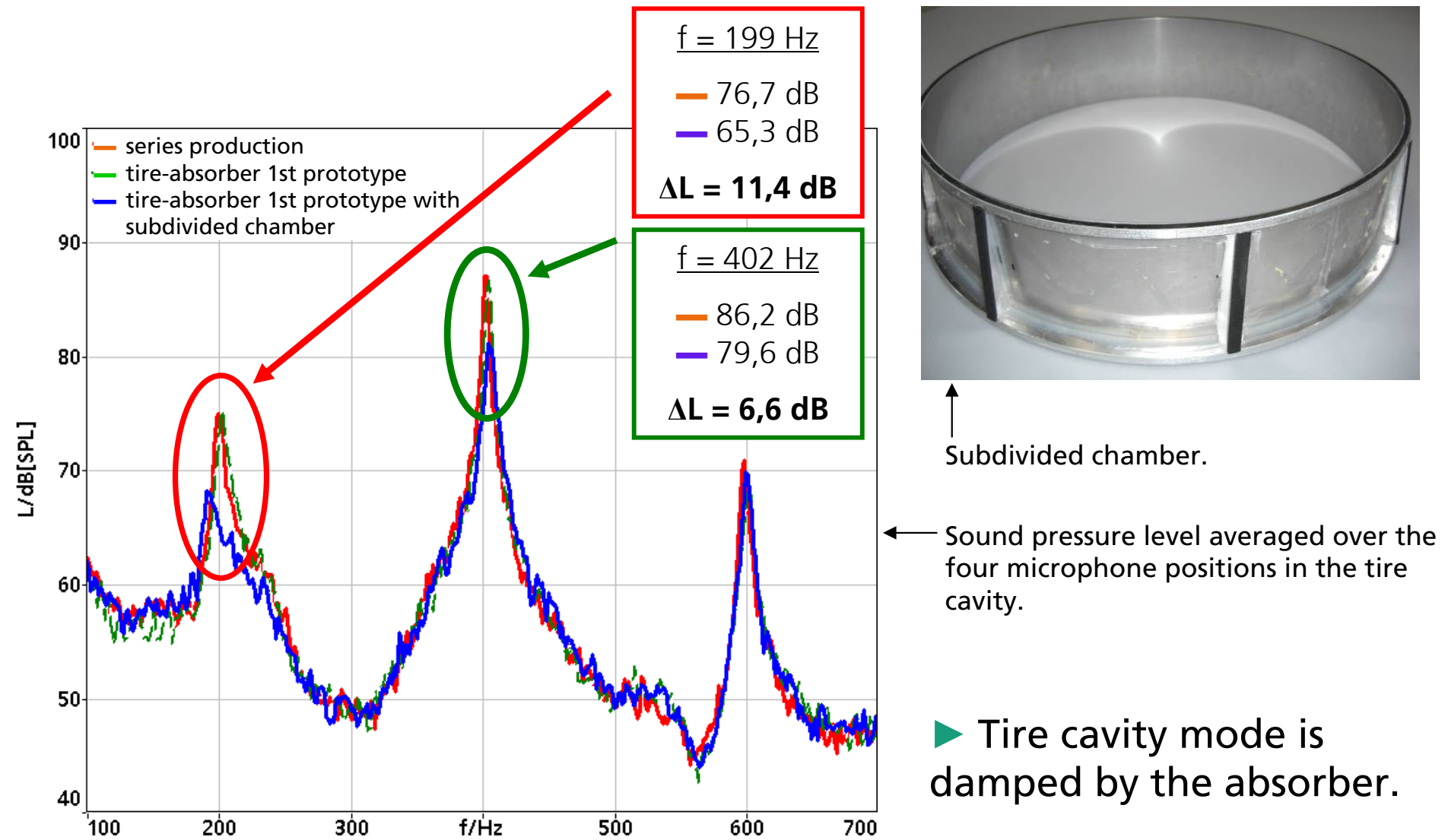
Production of tire-absorber prototype 1

- The holes for the microperforation are in the rim.
- Circumferential absorber chamber is mounted inside the rim.



Tire-absorber/Laboratory measurements

Comparison between series rim and tire-absorber:



Tire-absorber/Four-wheel roller test bench



Four-wheel roller test bench in a semi-anechoic room at Fraunhofer IBP.

Tire-absorber/Roller test bench configurations



Safety walk.



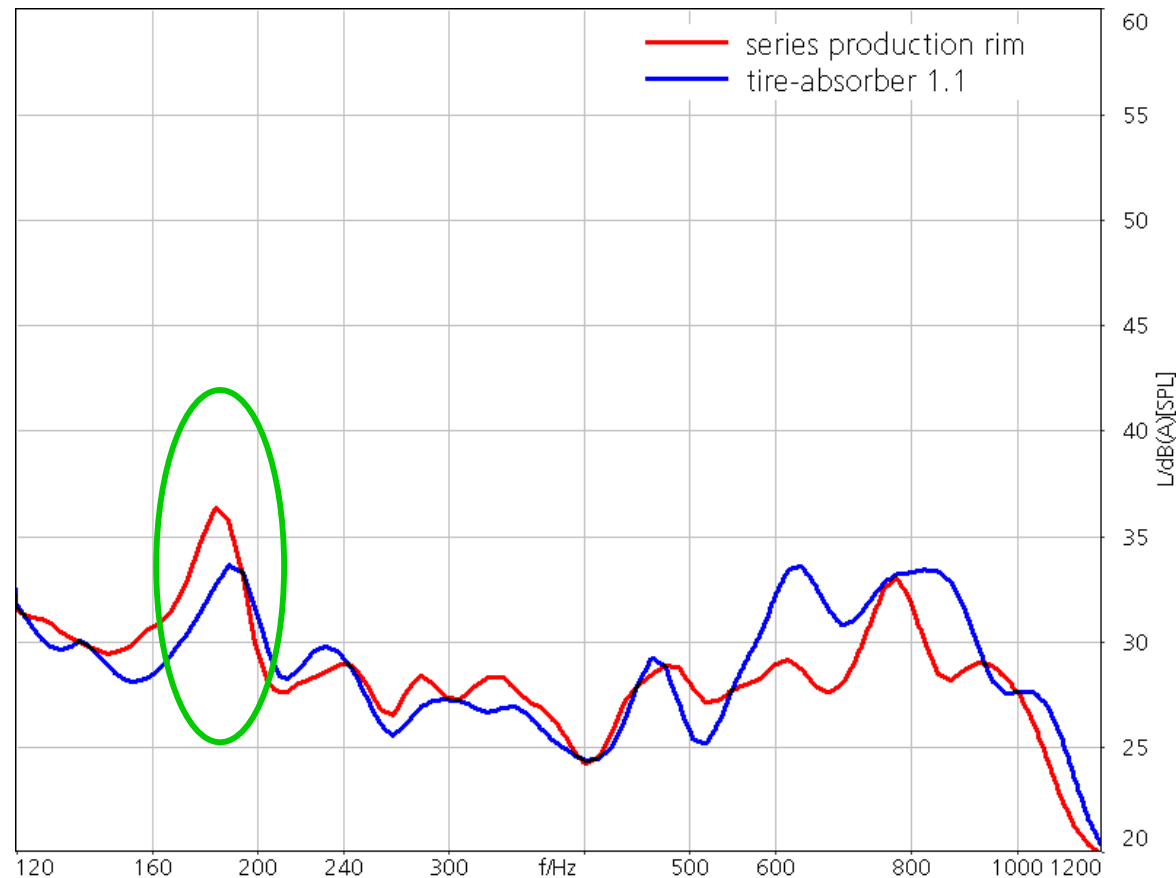
Rough-textured asphalt simulation.



Dummy head at passenger seat inside the vehicle.

Tire-absorber/Measurement results/Safety walk I

Prototype 1.1 – dummy head at passenger seat inside the vehicle
powered by the engine; $v = 60 \text{ km/h}$

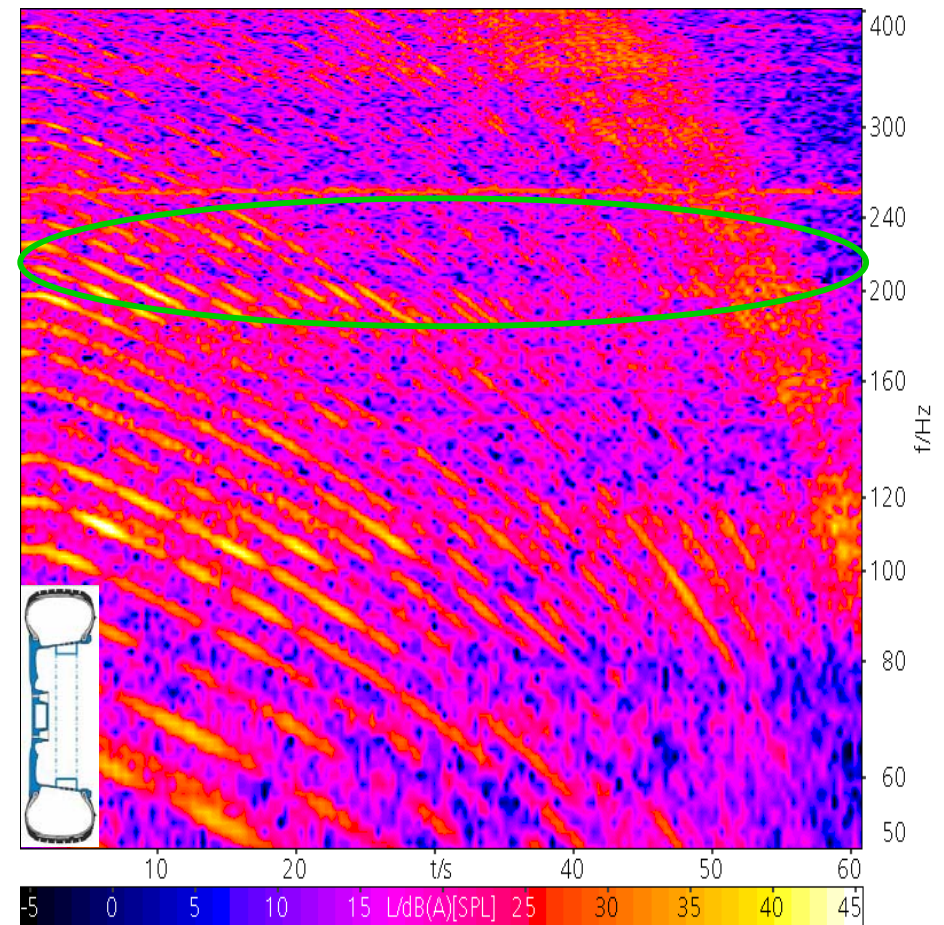
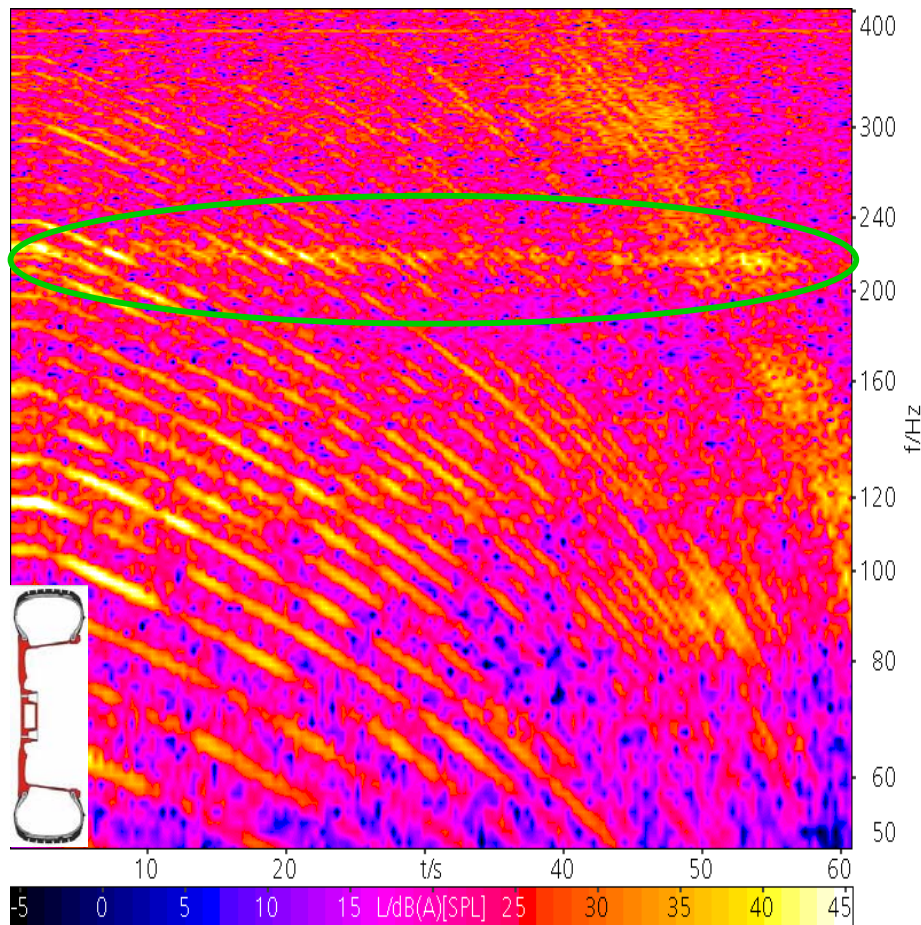


Measurement at IBP roller test bench

- ▶ Effect of absorber is visible, but repeatability of measurements is low.
- ▶ Effect is not clearly visible at other speeds on the roller test bench with safety walk (smooth surface).
- ▶ Effect is more clearly measurable on the street.
- ▶ Assumption:
Force excitation of the tire cavity mode on the smooth safety walk is too low.

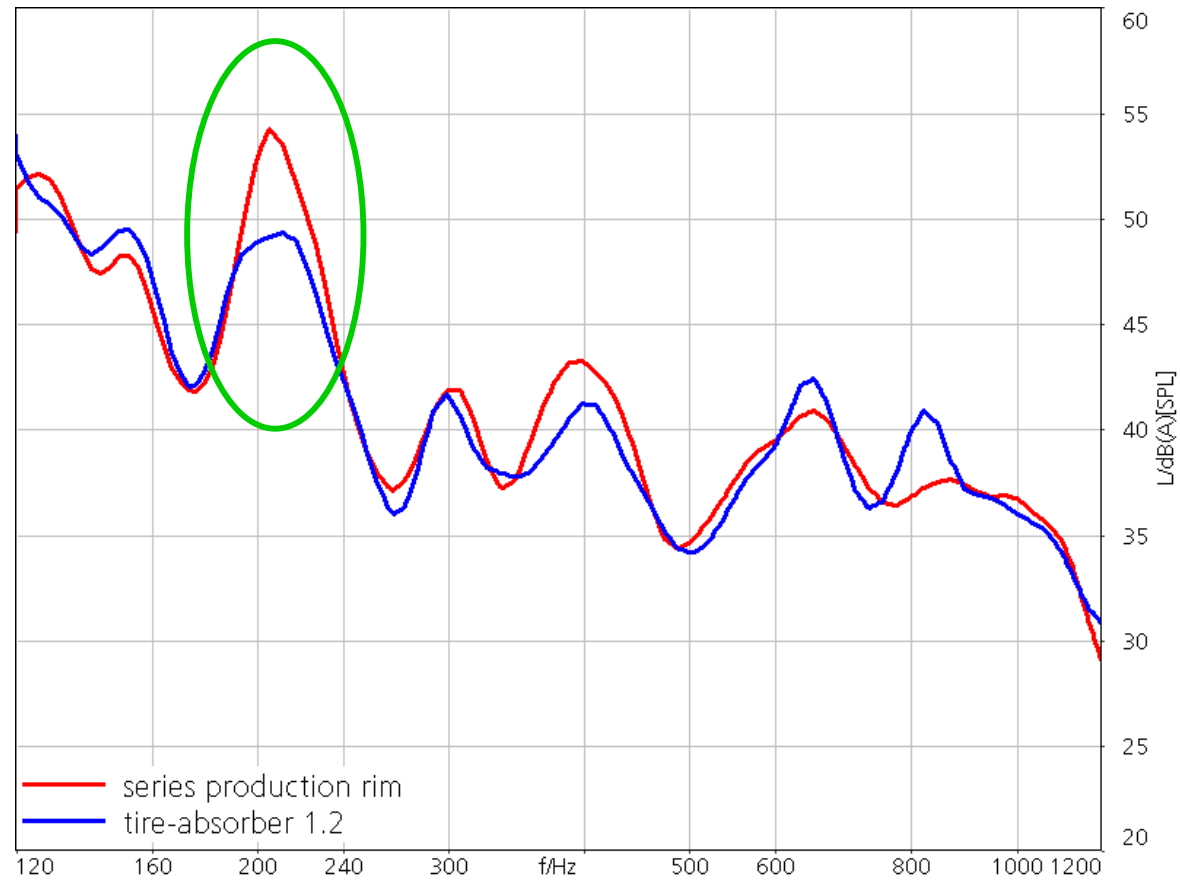
Tire-absorber/Measurement results/Safety walk II

Prototype 1.1 – dummy head at passenger seat inside the vehicle
powered by the test bench; Run-Down $v = 100$ to 10 km/h



Tire-absorber/Measurement results/Rough textured asphalt I

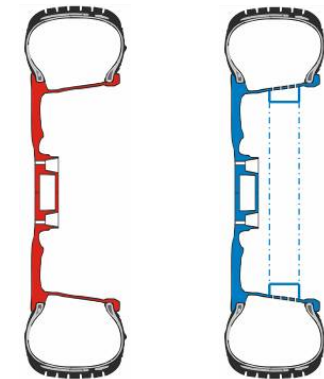
Prototype 1.2 – dummy head at passenger seat inside the vehicle
 powered by the test bench (engine off); $v = 90 \text{ km/h}$
 diagram shows A-weighted FFT



Maximum SPL at $f = 205 \text{ Hz}$

$L_{\text{series}} = 54,3 \text{ dB(A)}$

$L_{\text{tire-absorber}} = 49,1 \text{ dB(A)}$

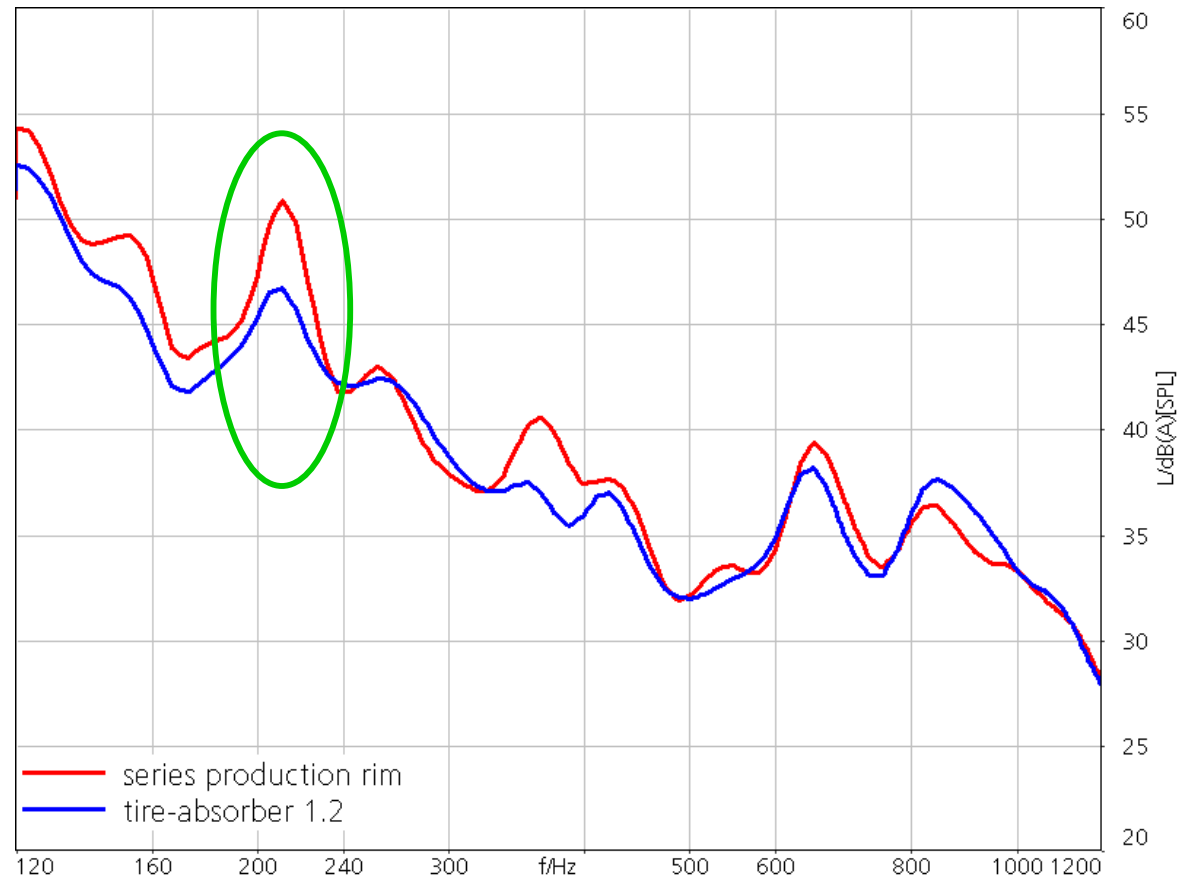


Series production Tire-absorber – prototype 1.2

Measurement at IBP roller test bench

Tire-absorber/Measurement results/Rough textured asphalt II

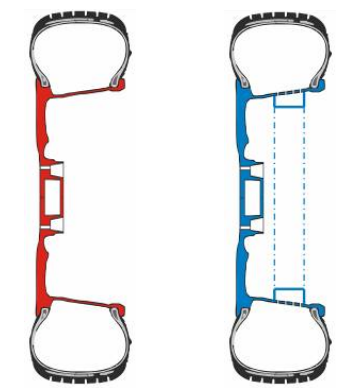
Prototype 1.2 – dummy head at passenger seat inside the vehicle
 powered by the engine; $v = 60 \text{ km/h}$
 diagram shows A-weighted FFT



Maximum SPL at $f = 210 \text{ Hz}$

$L_{\text{series}} = 50,9 \text{ dB(A)}$

$L_{\text{tire-absorber}} = 46,8 \text{ dB(A)}$

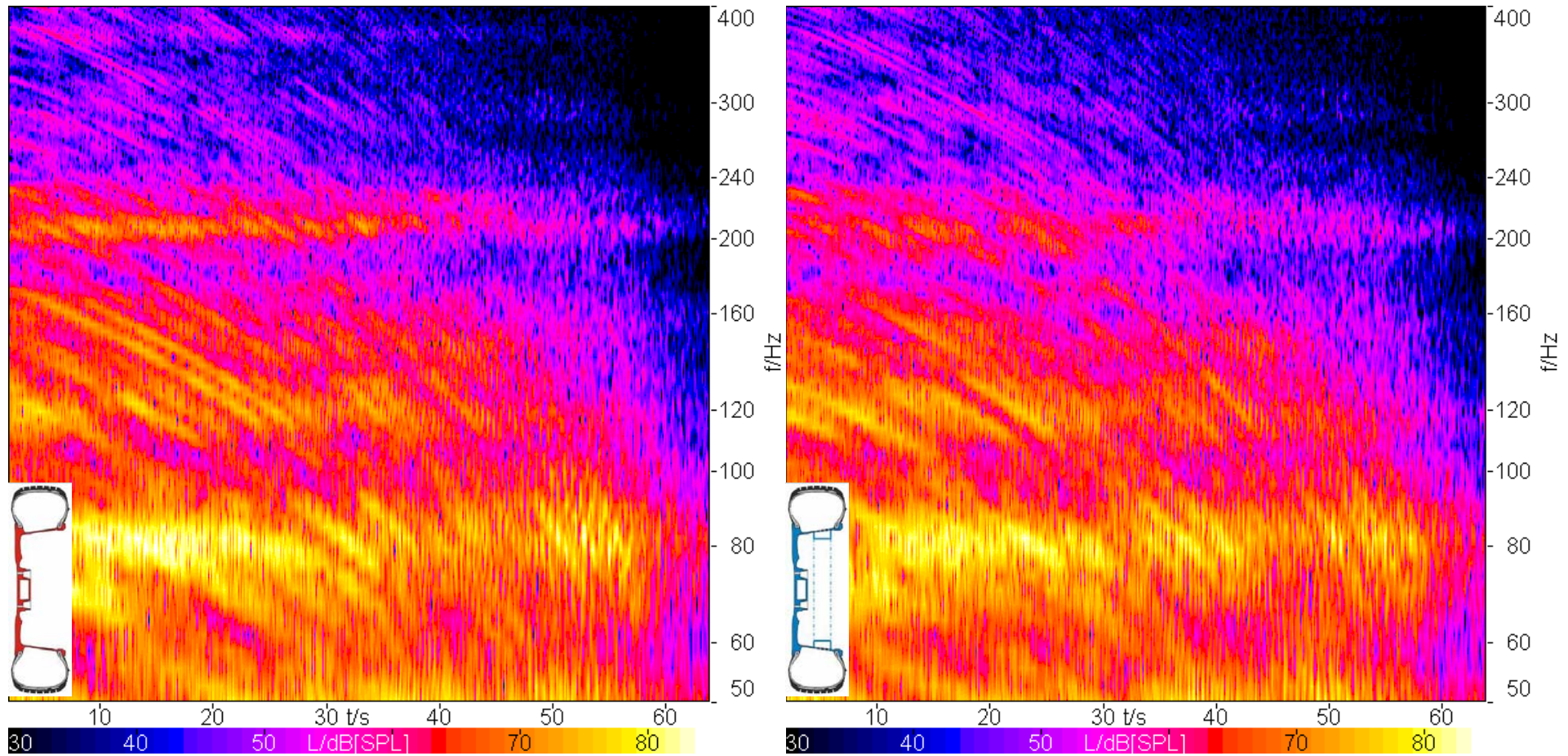


Series production Tire-absorber – prototype 1.2

Measurement at IBP roller test bench

Tire-absorber/Measurement results/Rough textured asphalt III

Prototype 1.2 – dummy head at passenger seat inside the vehicle
powered by the test bench; Run-Down $v = 120$ to 10 km/h



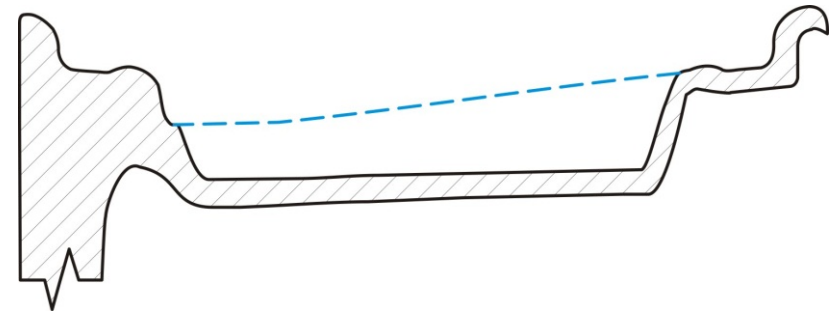
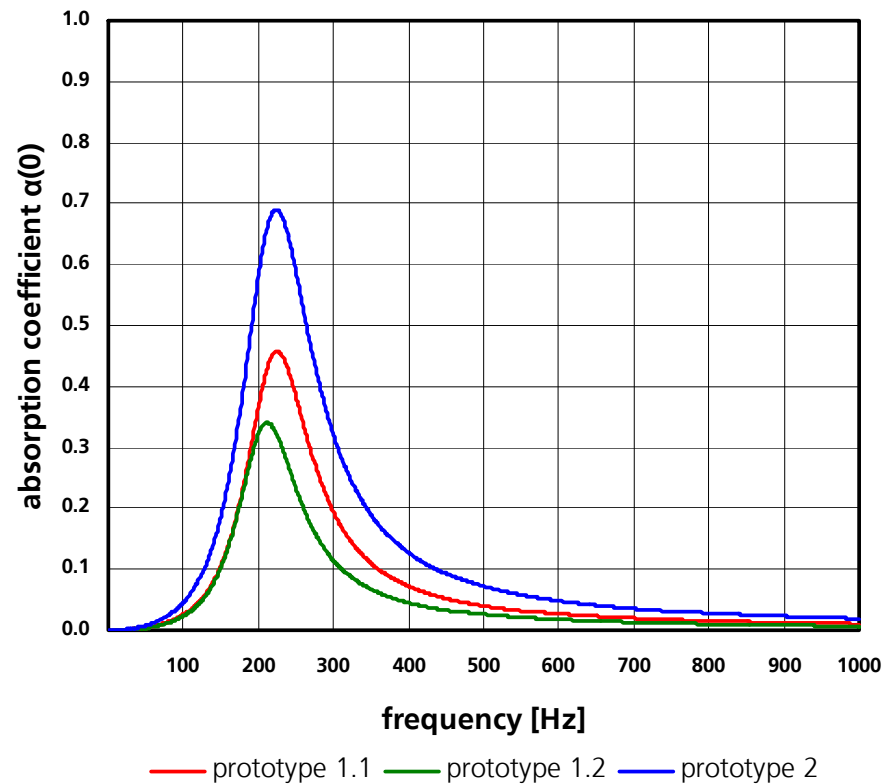
Series production.

Tire-absorber – prototype 1.2.

Tire-absorber/Measurement results/Prototype 2

Prototype 2

topically produced rim
measurement results not yet available



- ▶ Increased wall distance should lead to increased absorption (blue curve)
- ▶ Higher damping of the tire cavity mode is expected

Summary

- ▶ The tire cavity mode was determined theoretically and identified by experiments
- ▶ Dimensioning of the microperforated absorbers for peak absorption at 200 - 250 Hz
- ▶ Measurements in the impedance tube verified the absorber design
- ▶ Realization of the absorbers in a rim well
- ▶ Measurements in the laboratory resulted in a noise reduction of the tire cavity mode by 11 dB in narrow bands and 4.5 dB in 1/3-octaves with a partitioned air volume
- ▶ Comparative measurements with an artificial head in the car showed a level reduction of approx. 5dB (prototype 1.2) in the relevant frequency range
- ▶ These attenuation effects could be verified by measurements on the road and on the roller test bench
- ▶ The measurement results were also achieved for different vehicles and two absorber designs due to different brake callipers