

CONTENTS

	Page
1 INTRODUCTION	1
1.1 Introduction	1
1.2 Basic Properties of Waves	1
1.3 RMS Sound Pressure	9
1.4 Power, Intensity, and Energy Density	10
1.5 Levels and the Decibel	11
1.6 Relations Among Sound-Power Levels, Intensity Levels, and Sound-Pressure Levels	15
1.7 Manipulations with Decibels	16
1.8 Octave Bands	24
2 THE HEARING MECHANISM AND HEARING DAMAGE	27
2.1 Introduction	27
2.2 Anatomical Structure of the Human Ear	27
2.3 Some Properties of Normal Hearing	29
2.4 Ear Damage	31
2.5 Hearing Loss—Threshold Shifts	35
2.6 Damage Risk Criteria	37
2.7 The Walsh-Healey Act	43
2.8 Damage Risk for Impulsive Noise	44
3 PSYCHOLOGICAL AND SOCIOLOGICAL INTERPRETATION OF SOUND	48
3.1 Introduction	48
3.2 The A-Weighted Sound Level	49
3.3 Speech Interference Level (SIL)	52
3.4 Loudness	56
3.5 Critical Bandwidths	57
3.6 Masking	57
3.7 Stevens and Zwicker Methods to Calculate Loudness	59
3.8 Perceived Noise Level (PNL)	63
3.9 Noise Criteria (NC) Curves	66
3.10 Traffic Noise Index (TNI)	69
3.11 Noise Pollution Level (NPL)	70
3.12 Noise Exposure Forecast (NEF)	77
3.13 Day-Night Level (L_{dn})	80
3.14 Comparison of the Ratings	81
4 INSTRUMENTATION FOR THE MEASUREMENT AND ANALYSIS OF SOUND	84
4.1 Analysis of Signals	84
4.2 Filters	88
4.3 Amplifiers	95
4.4 Voltage Detectors	100
4.5 Microphones	101
5 NOISE SOURCES	120
5.1 Introduction	120
5.2 Noise from Fans, Pumps, and Compressors	120
5.3 Flow Noise in Ducts	130
5.4 Grille Noise	138
5.5 Valve Noise	141

5.6	Machinery Noise	143
5.7	Transportation Noise: Trucks and Trains	158
5.8	A Nomograph Method for the Prediction of Highway Traffic Noise	162
5.9	Cooling Tower Noise	170
6	ROOM ACOUSTICS	176
6.1	Sound Absorption Coefficients	176
6.2	Porous Materials	181
6.3	Sound Absorbing Materials	183
6.4	Steady-State Sound-Pressure Levels in Direct and Reverberant Fields	195
6.5	Room Reverberation	205
6.6	Number of Modes and the Modal Density of a Room	209
6.7	Special Test Chambers	211
7	TECHNIQUES FOR THE REDUCTION OF SOUND AND VIBRATION	215
7.1	Acoustic Silencers and Mufflers	215
7.2	Barriers	234
7.3	Vibration Isolation	242
7.4	Transmission Loss and Impact Isolation	261
	Index	293