

051483 Musical Acoustics Module 1: Modeling of musical instruments Academic Year 2021/2022

Homework 4: Electric equivalences

Modeling of a loudspeaker

The Figure below shows the lateral cross section of a loudspeaker with a vented cabinet. The vent is represented by the tube, with a circular cross section, that links the external air with the inner volume of the cabinet. The diameter D of the venting tube is 7cm, and its length L is 24.7 cm. The volume of the cabinet V is 20 liters.



The loudspeaker - not including the cabinet - in mechanical terms, can be thought of as a mass-spring-resistance system attached to a force generator. The mass is equal to 45.5 grams, and the resonance frequency is 49 Hz. The quality factor of the system is 50 at resonance.

Mechanical characterization

- a) Find the stiffness of the mechanical compliance of the loudspeaker (not considering the coupling with the cabinet).
- b) Derive the mechanical schematic of the whole system (in terms of masses, springs and resistances).

Equivalent electric circuit

- c) From the mechanical system derive the equivalent electric circuit;
- d) From the equivalent electric circuit, derive the transfer function of the whole system;

System characterization from the equivalent electric circuit

- e) Derive the resonance frequency of the overall system;
- f) Verify that, at resonance, the lumped element approximation is valid (i.e. that the maximum dimension of a possible cabinet with the given volume does not exceed 1/10 of the wavelength), and suggest a possible strategy to assess the error introduced by this approximation.

Notes & suggestions:

- Answer concisely;
- Describe concisely the procedure used to obtain the results: if an error is present, I
 cannot identify the reason numerical or conceptual if the procedure is not described: in
 grading I will be forced to use the worst-case option.
- Upload the report by November 25th.
- All students must upload the report.
- When uploading the PDF file, specify the name, surname and ID of all the students participating to the HW, if more than one student worked on it.