

Condenser Microphone

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Abstract—For the application of voice recording, a simple and cheap condenser-microphone design is considered. Analysis of theoretical characteristics such as sensitivity, dynamic range, and signal-to-noise ratio is presented. In conclusion, quantitative measurements from a working prototype are corroborated with the theoretical analysis and compared against desired performance characteristics.

Keywords—Capacitive, Condenser, Microphone.

I. INTRODUCTION

THE transduction of sound into an electrical signal using a microphone is naturally useful for conveying the human voice. Human conversation typically occurs within the range of 40-60 dB SPL. When converting human speech into an electrical signal, to ensure the output accurately represents the source, the microphone should strive for unity-gain response in the frequency range of interest.

A variety of devices exist for transducing sound. Of commercially viable designs, condenser and dynamic microphones are the most common.¹ It is not unusual for condenser microphones to have an upper 20 kHz frequency limit whereas dynamic microphones tend to have a 16 kHz limit.² This makes a condenser microphone preferable for applications involving voice.

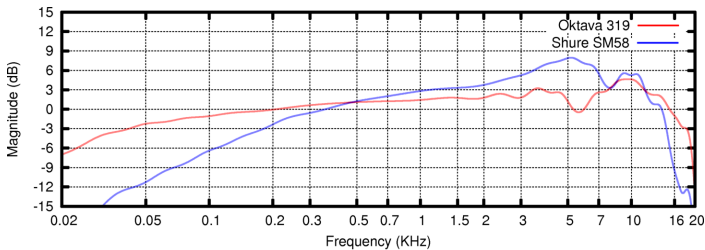


Fig. 1: Oktava MK-319 condenser microphone³ and Shure SM58 dynamic microphone⁴ frequency responses

II. SENSOR STRUCTURE AND MEASUREMENT PRINCIPLE

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III. CONCLUSION

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APPENDIX A

PROOF OF THE FIRST ZONKLAR EQUATION

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APPENDIX B

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