

# MATAA – Mat’s Audio Analyzer

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MATAA is a free audio analysis tool  
for use with MATLAB or GNU Octave

<http://mataa.sourceforge.net>

Manual version: 13 August 2009

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# 1 Overview

**MATAA** is a highly flexible and versatile audio analysis system. MATAA uses the computer soundcard (or an external audio interface) to feed a test signal to the device under test (DUT) and to simultaneously record the response signal of the DUT. The response signal is then analysed using one or more of the many tools provided by MATAA. MATAA is extremely flexible and extensible, so that you can make it do exactly what you need (it won't make coffee, though). MATAA runs on all sorts of computer platforms and operating systems (Mac OS X, Windows, Linux, etc.). And, most important, MATAA is free software!

However, MATAA is not just another audio analyser, such as e.g. **MLSSA**, **CLIO**, **IMP**, **LAUD**, **Praxis**, **Hobby Box**, **ARTA**, or **MacSpeaker**, etc. MATAA is rather a collection of small programs (I will call them '*MATAA tools*' or just '*tools*' from now on) that accomplish small (but sometimes difficult or tedious) tasks to acquire, process, transform, and visualise audio data. These tools are written in the standard and easy-to-understand but very powerful programming language of **MATLAB**, a numerical computing environment. Instead of MATLAB, you can also use **GNU Octave**, which is a free MATLAB clone. MATAA runs just as well under either MATLAB or Octave.

The strength of MATAA over other audio analysers is its flexibility. The various MATAA tools can be combined in any way you like. In addition, you can use MATLAB/Octave scripts to automate a measurement according to your needs and setup, or to expand on the features of MATAA. Several pre-defined scripts to automate 'typical' analyses are provided with MATAA (e.g. measuring the impulse response of a loudspeaker, removing room echoes, and calculating the anechoic frequency response). To get a feeling for MATAA, I recommend you use these scripts as a starting point and modify them as required for your needs. If you are new to MATLAB/Octave, I recommend you take a look at **Chapter 5 [Getting started with MATLAB or Octave]**, page 56. The approach of having to write MATLAB/Octave commands and scripts may seem cumbersome in comparison to interacting with MATAA using some whizz-bang graphical user interface. However, my experience with writing commands and scripts is that it makes me think twice about how my measurement works, which in turn results in a deeper understanding of the data I acquired with MATAA. Also, once a script works as desired, it is easy and very fast to repeat a given measurement procedure.

One notable advantage of using MATLAB/Octave as a basis for MATAA is that we can use all the available MATLAB/Octave tools for processing, analysis, and plotting of data. MATLAB/Octave can import and export data in various formats, which greatly simplifies the data exchange between MATAA and other software. In addition, MATLAB/Octave provide powerful tools for plotting data, and to export these plots in various graphics file formats.

While MATLAB and Octave both run on a wide variety of operating systems and computer platforms, their audio input/output routines do not work the same on different environments, and, as of this writing, they do not work at all on some operating systems (e.g. Mac OS X). I therefore designed MATAA such that the audio input/output is handled by one single tool that works differently depending on the computer environment. The user therefore does not need to worry about the audio differences of different platforms. Furthermore, I wrote a program that handles the audio input/output on Mac OS X. So far, the audio input/output of MATAA has been tested on Mac OS X and on Windows. Linux

users reported that audio input/output can be compiled successfully, but I cannot provide specific compilation instructions. **Chapter 2 [Installation and Setup]**, **page 3** provides more information on the specific requirements of MATAA regarding the audio hardware and operating systems.

To find out more about MATAA, go to the MATAA homepage at <http://mataa.sourceforge.net>.

## 2 Installation and Setup

Before digging in, I believe the following note is in order: installing MATAA and MATLAB/Octave may be difficult for those who are not experienced computer buffs. If you need help, ask a wizard. If you don't have a wizard at hand, try asking me at [mbrennwa@users.sourceforge.net](mailto:mbrennwa@users.sourceforge.net).

### 2.1 MATLAB/Octave

To run MATAA, you need to install either MATLAB or Octave. I leave it up to you to decide on either of those. You can also install both MATLAB and Octave, they can peacefully co-exist on the same computer. MATLAB is an expensive commercial product, and you get what you pay for (see <http://www.mathworks.com> for details). In contrast, Octave is free software, but you still get a lot from it (more than enough for MATAA), see <http://www.octave.org> for details. Furthermore, there is a very helpful mailing list where you can get help and assistance with Octave, see <http://www.octave.org/help>. Depending on your computer platform and operating system, the installation of MATLAB or Octave will be different. Please follow the instructions that come with MATLAB/Octave.

If you decide to run MATAA using Octave, I highly recommend to use Octave 3.0 or later. While earlier MATAA versions were able to run on Octave 2.1 or 2.9, version 3.0 incorporates a large part of Matlab's handle-graphics system. To simplify further development of MATAA on both Octave and Matlab, I therefore decided to drop support for the older gnuplot-oriented graphics system in Octave. The plotting routines of current versions of MATAA therefore rely on Octave 3.0 or later.

I recommend to keep all your MATLAB/Octave code and packages in one directory (which may of course contain several subdirectories). This greatly helps MATLAB/Octave to find your files. For MATLAB, the default path for this is `'~/MATLAB'` (where `'~'` indicates your home directory). For Octave, there is no default (I believe), but I recommend to use either `'~/Octave/'` or, if you have both MATLAB and Octave installed and want to keep the MATLAB/Octave files in the same directory, `'~/MATLAB/'`.

### 2.2 MATAA

First of all, download MATAA. There are two possibilities:

- Download a recent package file from <http://mataa.sourceforge.net> and expand it if your internet browser or computer didn't do so already. If you later need to update to a more current version, download the most current package file, expand it and replace your previous version with the new one.
- Download the most current version using subversion with the following command:  
`svn checkout https://mataa.svn.sourceforge.net/svnroot/mataa`  
 If you later need to update to the current version, use the following command:  
`svn update`

You should now have a directory `'mataa'` containing several sub-directories. Make sure `'mataa'` (and its subdirectories) is located in your default MATLAB/Octave path, which is assumed to be `'~/MATLAB/'` from now on (see [Section 2.1 \[Installing MATLAB/Octave\]](#), [page 3](#)). Your MATAA setup should now look like this (in alphabetical order):



- ‘~/MATLAB/mataa/documentation/’: This directory contains the MATAA documentation and manual in various formats.
- ‘~/MATLAB/mataa/mataa\_scripts/’: This directory contains various demo and test scripts.
- ‘~/MATLAB/mataa/mataa\_tools/’: This directory contains the MATAA ‘tools’ (see [\[MATAA tools\]](#), page 1).
- ‘~/MATLAB/mataa/microphone\_data/’: This directory contains files with information on the characteristics of measurement microphones (this data will be used to correct for the microphone characteristics, e.g. for loudspeaker testing).
- ‘~/MATLAB/mataa/test\_signals/’: This directory contains various test-signal files.
- ‘~/MATLAB/mataa/TestTone/’: This directory contains the TestTone and TestDevices programs (binaries for Mac OS X and Windows, as well as the source code if you want to compile for other platforms.).
- ‘~/.mataa\_settings.mat’: This file is used to store the ‘preferences’ of MATAA (e.g. the color to be used for data plotting). Don’t worry if this file is missing—MATAA will create it for you.

In addition to these files and paths, you might consider to create an additional path to keep your custom MATAA scripts. I highly recommend to keep this path outside the main MATAA path. Otherwise it will be difficult to upgrade to a newer version of MATAA and you increase the risk of accidentally losing your custom files during the upgrade process. For instance, I keep my custom MATAA scripts in ‘~/MATLAB/mataa\_user\_scripts/’.

If everything set up as outlined above, you are ready to use MATAA from within MATLAB/Octave. However, MATLAB/Octave will (most probably) not find the MATAA files. To tell MATLAB/Octave where the MATAA files are, you can use the `addpath` (with older versions of Octave, you may have to use `path` instead). To automate this task, I recommend to put the necessary commands into the so-called startup file of MATLAB/Octave. This file is executed by MATLAB/Octave everytime MATLAB/Octave is started. You can edit the startup file, which is an ASCII text file, using your preferred text editor:

- For MATLAB, the startup file is ‘~/MATLAB/startup.m’
- For Octave, the startup file is ‘~/.octaverc’ (note the dot in the file name)

For example, assume you have installed MATAA to ‘~/MATLAB/mataa/’. Add the following lines to the end of this file:

```
addpath ("~/MATLAB/mataa/mataa_tools");
addpath ("~/MATLAB/mataa/mataa_scripts");
addpath ("~/MATLAB/mataa/test_signals");
```

If you created a directory ‘~/MATLAB/mataa\_user\_scripts/’ to store your custom MATAA stuff, you may add the following line to let MATLAB/Octave know about this::

```
addpath ("~/MATLAB/mataa_user_scripts");
```

If the path to your MATAA files contains spaces, you will need to add a backslash in front of the space(s). Otherwise MATLAB/Octave will not recognize the space(s) and the `path` commands will fail. For example, if your MATAA files are in ‘~/My Octave files/mataa/’, the above lines would read `addpath ("~/My\ Octave\ files/mataa/mataa_tools/");`, etc.

Also, it is not recommended to install the MATAA files (or any of your personal MATLAB/Octave files) to the path where the MATLAB/Octave program is installed. Once you update your MATLAB/Octave software to a later version, the previous program files may be deleted, and hence your MATAA (or other personal MATLAB/Octave files) will be deleted, too.

## 2.3 Hardware Setup

The way your sound hardware (soundcard or audio interface) needs to be set up for use with MATAA will depend on its features, on your computer platform, and on the type of measurement you want to make. Furthermore, additional devices (e.g. amplifiers, filters, microphones, etc.) may be needed for certain measurements. Hence, the hardware setup will vary with the type of measurement and the specifics your equipment. This manual therefore aims to provide rather general advice and background on what to watch out for.

That said, you should also remember that a measurement can only be as good as the audio hardware you use!

### 2.3.1 The Building Blocks of the Measurement Setup

The basic procedure followed during a MATAA measurement is that MATAA feeds a test signal to the soundcard, which is connected to the DUT. The response of the DUT to this test signal is recorded by the soundcard. The response signal is then loaded back into MATAA for further analysis.

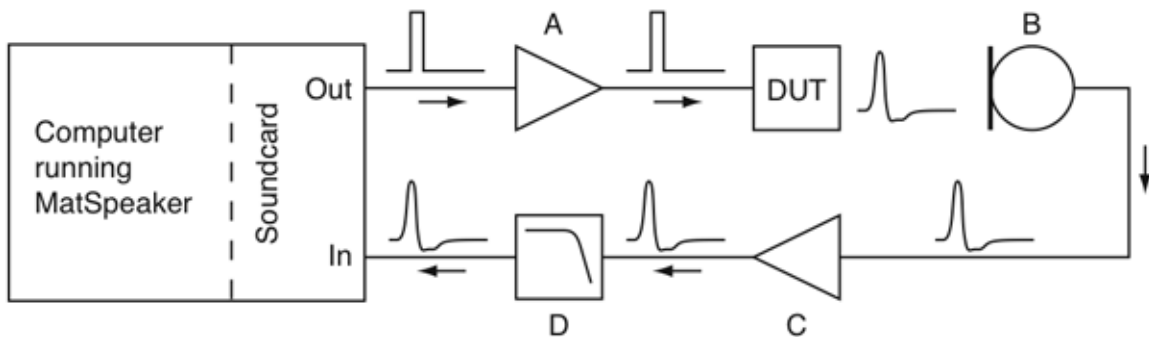


Figure 2.1: ‘Generalised’ measurement setup. A: buffer or amplifier to drive the DUT (optional), B: sensor to record the DUT’s response signal (e.g. microphone), C: output signal buffer or amplifier (e.g. microphone amplifier), D: anti-alias filter (may be omitted in special cases, see text).

Figure 2.1 shows that the measurement setup comprises several building blocks. Depending on the type of measurement and setup, some (or most) of these building blocks are obsolete. In Figure 2.1, the test signal travels through the following blocks:

- The audio output of the soundcard. The the sound hardware is usually set up via the operating system. The output level of the soundcard should be set as high as possible to maximise the signal/noise ratio (SNR). Apart from thatz, the quality of the test signal will depend on the quality of the soundcard (e.g. the D/A converter). Today, most soundcards support sampling rates of 44.1 kHz and bit depths of 16 bits (CD quality),

which is fine for many types of measurements. Many soundcards allow sampling rates of 96 kHz or even 192 kHz and sampling depths of 24 bits, therefore providing more headroom with respect to SNR and the upper frequency limit. In some applications (e.g. for low-frequency analyses utilising long test signals), however, low sampling rates are preferable to minimise memory and computing time. Most soundcards allow sampling frequencies as low as 8 kHz. Another aspect of the soundcard output is the output impedance and output power. The output impedance should be much lower than the input impedance of the next stage. While most soundcards can easily drive high-impedance headphones, the output impedance may be too high and the output power too low to directly drive a loudspeaker or other low-impedance DUT.

- A buffer or amplifier (A in [Figure 2.1](#)). Depending on the DUT, you will need a buffer or amplifier to match the impedance and power level to the DUT.
- The device under test (DUT). In principle, this can be anything accepting an electrical sound at its input. Typical MATAA applications include loudspeakers and speaker crossover filters, as well as active devices such as active filters or amplifiers.
- A sensor (B in [Figure 2.1](#)) to convert the output signal of the DUT to an electrical signal. For instance, this sensor may be a microphone or an accelerometer (e.g. for loudspeaker testing). If the output of the DUT is electrical (e.g. in case of a filter circuit or an amplifier), the DUT's output should be terminated by a resistor, which can be considered to act as a sensor. This resistor should have the same value as the impedance of the device that would otherwise be connected to the output of the DUT. For testing loudspeaker crossover filters, consider connecting the filter output to the speaker driver(s) rather than a resistor, because the behaviour of the filter may depend on the complex impedance of the driver(s). If the signal voltage from the sensor (or the DUT) is higher than the maximum voltage of the next stage, you will need to attenuate the signal, e.g. using a voltage divider. In some cases (e.g. to analyse high-voltage signals in tube amplifiers), I strongly recommend to add further over-voltage protection to avoid destroying anything!
- A buffer or amplifier (C in [Figure 2.1](#)) to match the signal amplitude and impedance level of the DUT response to the input of the soundcard. If the DUT's response was recorded with a microphone, this will be a microphone amplifier. In many other cases, this buffer/amplifier can be omitted, provided the output impedance of the previous stage (the sensor) is much lower than the input impedance of the next stage.
- The anti-aliasing filter (D in [Figure 2.1](#)) removes high-frequency components from the DUT's response signal. If the DUT response contains signal components with frequencies higher than the Nyquist frequency (half the sampling frequency) of the sound input's analog-to-digital (A/D) converter, these signal components will be aliased to lower frequencies during A/D conversion. This signal 'contamination' can be avoided (or at least constrained) by removing the signal components higher than the Nyquist frequency *before* A/D conversion. Many soundcards have a built-in anti-aliasing filter with a cut-off frequency that is automatically adjusted to the sampling rate. You can check for the presence of an anti-aliasing filter by applying sine signals with frequencies higher than the Nyquist frequency (e.g. using an analog signal generator). Then check the digitized signal for alias signals in the frequency range below the Nyquist frequency. Further, if the signal from the DUT is (virtually) free of frequencies higher than the Nyquist frequency, you can omit the anti-aliasing filter. Vice versa, you can omit the

anti-aliasing filter, if the soundcard samples the test signal with a sampling rate of at least twice the highest frequency contained in the test signal. For instance, loudspeakers and test microphones rarely extend to frequencies higher than 40 kHz. Thus, if your soundcard allows setting the sampling rate to 80 kHz or higher (e.g. 96 kHz or 192 kHz), you can omit the anti-aliasing filter by using a sampling rate of at least 80 kHz.

- The Soundcard audio input: Here, the same applies as with the audio input, with a few exceptions. Firstly, a high input impedance is preferable so that the previous stage can easily drive the audio input. Secondly, the sensitivity of the analog-to-digital (A/D) converter should be set as high as possible (to maximise SNR), but not too high (to avoid clipping of the signal).

### 2.3.2 Soundcard setup, TestTone, and TestDevices

MATAA talks to the soundcard using the TestTone and TestDevices programs (which are part of the MATAA package, see [Section 2.2 \[Installing MATAA\], page 3](#)). If your computer has more than one device for sound input or output, MATAA uses the default device set for your computer.

A few notes:

- The Windows versions of TestTone and TestDevices only work with ASIO drivers (WMME and DirectSound are not supported). If your soundcard did not come with an ASIO driver, check out ASIO4ALL (<http://www.asio4all.com>). The Windows binaries were compiled by Shu Sang ([sangshu@hotmail.com](mailto:sangshu@hotmail.com)) – thank you Shu! Please note that Shu used Microsoft Visual Studio to compile TestTone and TestDevices. Therefore, if you experience problems with sound input or output, you may need to install the Microsoft Visual C++ 2005 SP1 Redistributable Package (x86) to make TestTone and TestDevices work properly. You can download the package here: <http://www.microsoft.com/downloads/details.aspx?familyid=200B2FD9-AE1A-4A14-984D-389C361> (thanks to Gabe for this hint!).
- The Mac OS X versions of TestTone and TestDevices rely on CoreAudio, Apples application programming interface for sound on Mac OS X. CoreAudio provides automatic sample-rate conversion. It is therefore possible to use sample rates with MATAA that are not directly supported by the hardware.
- The Linux versions of TestTone and TestDevices are available for Linux running on Intel and PowerPC machines. If you need to compile your own binaries using the source code included in the MATAA distribution, see [Section 2.6 \[Compiling TestTone and TestDevices on Linux\], page 12](#).

### 2.3.3 Sound channel allocation

Most soundcards have at least two sound channels for stereo sound. While many measurements can be made using only one channel, there are a few cases where the second channel is needed to record a reference signal (e.g. impedance measurements, [\[Impedance measurement\], page \(undefined\)](#)). In most other cases, using the second channel to record a calibration signal will allow you to correct for artifacts that may be introduced by the test equipment, which will improve the precision and the quality of the measurement.

While [Figure 2.1](#) shows the path of the test signal to and from the DUT, it does not show the path reference signal. The reference-signal path will depend strongly on the type

of measurement and the test equipment used. **Figure 2.2** is an attempt to illustrate some typical examples.

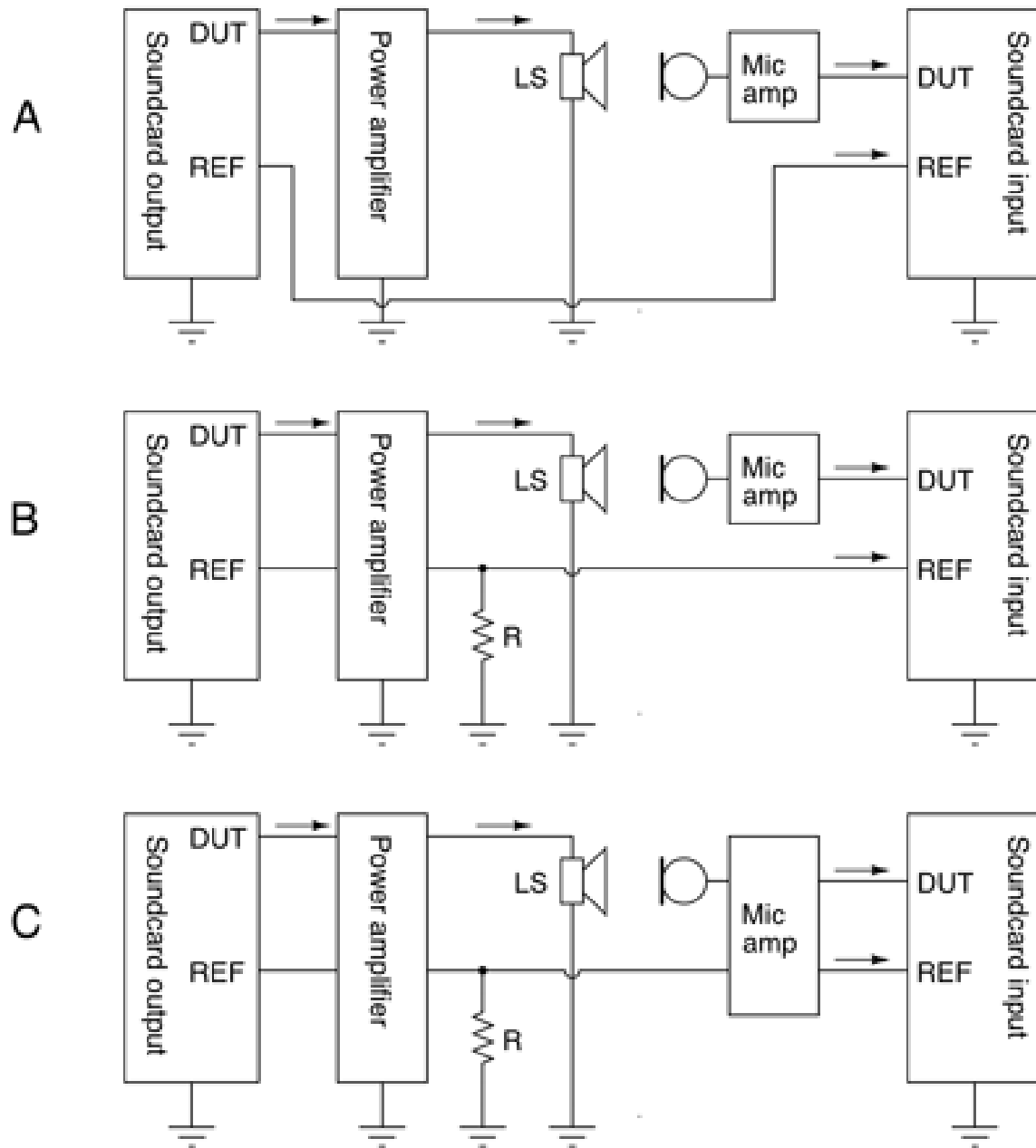


Figure 2.2: Some examples of how to use the second sound channel ('REF') of a stereo soundcard. A: both the power amplifier and the microphone amplifier are mono: wire the REF output directly to the REF input, B: the power amplifier has two (stereo) channels, but the microphone amplifier is mono: use the second channel of the power amplifier to calibrate for its characteristics, C: both the power amplifier and the microphone amplifier are stereo: use the second channel of the power amplifier and the microphone amplifier to calibrate for the characteristics of both amplifiers.

By default, MATAA uses the left channel to record the test signal from the DUT, and the right channel to record the reference signal. If your soundcard uses 3.5 mm jacks, the DUT channel (left) should be on the tip of the 3.5 mm jack. The reference channel (right) should be on the ring in the middle of the jack. The ground (common to both channels) is on the contact closest to the body of the jack [Figure 2.3](#). If the left and right channels are reversed on the connectors of your soundcard, you can adjust the channel allocation using the `mataa_settings` command.

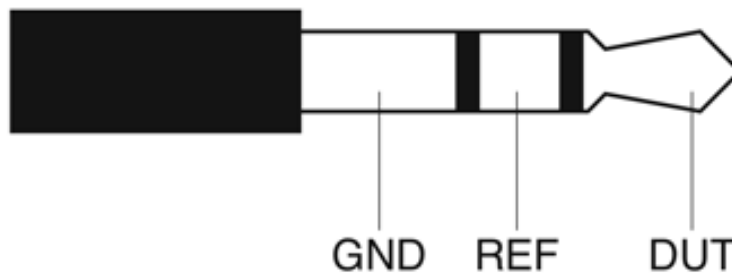


Figure 2.3: Pinout of 3.5 mm jack

### 2.3.4 Interchannel delay

With some (lesser) soundcards, the data recorded in one channel may be offset in time with respect to the other up to several tens of microseconds. This effect is called “interchannel delay”. Interchannel delay can result in wrong results from impedance measurements using the sine-sweep method as described in “MATAA: A Free Computer-Based Audio Analysis System” (article in *audioXpress* (7), 2007).

Therefore, interchannel delay must be removed from the measured data before calculating impedance function from the data. The `mataa_measure_impedance` command, which automates impedance measurement using the mentioned sine-sweep method, takes care of interchannel delay by shifting the measured data in time. The information on the amount of interchannel delay is taken from the MATAA settings file (the `interchannel_delay` field specifies the interchannel delay in seconds). By default, the interchannel delay is set to zero. You can adjust this value using the `mataa_settings` command (see [Section 4.56 \[mataa\\_settings\]](#), page 46). For instance, with a soundcard exhibiting an interchannel delay of 17 microseconds, the interchannel delay parameter would be set by:

```
mataa_settings('interchannel_delay',17E-6);
```

To test if your soundcard exhibits interchannel delay, it is best to measure the impedance of a resistor with a purely ohmic impedance (i.e. with constant resistance for all frequencies) using the method described in “MATAA: A Free Computer-Based Audio Analysis System” (article in *audioXpress* (7), 2007). If this measurement gives a flat impedance reading, your soundcard is not affected by interchannel delay (or the interchannel delay is already adjusted properly in the MATAA settings). Otherwise, you need to adjust the interchannel delay setting until you get a flat impedance reading.

## 2.4 Setting up the soundcard of an Apple Macintosh computer running Mac OS X

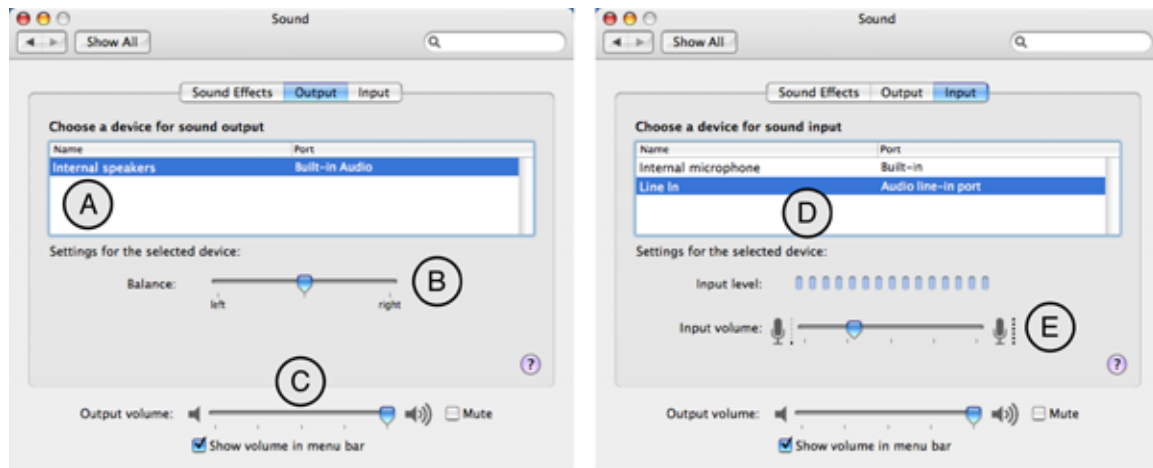


Figure 2.4: Audio hardware setup in Mac OS X (left: audio input, right: audio output). A: select the device to be used for audio output, B: set channel balance to ‘balanced’, C: set output level as high as possible, D: select the device to be used for audio input, E: set input sensitivity as high as possible, but low enough to avoid clipping of the input signal.

To set up the audio hardware in Mac OS X, choose ‘System Preferences’ in the Apple menu. Then, click on ‘Sound’, and follow the instructions in [Figure 2.1](#).

## 2.5 Setting up the soundcard of a computer running Linux

On Linux, I strongly recommend using ALSA (the Advanced Linux Sound Architecture). Choosing the right sound architecture and sound devices as the default devices (i.e. the devices that will be used by MATAA) depends on the Linux distribution used. Read the documentation for your system. Apart from that, the following terminal commands may be useful to find the relevant information on the sound devices available on your system:

- To display a list of the ALSA sound cards for sound output, including the current default device that will be used by MATAA:  
`aplay -L`
- To display a list of the ALSA sound cards for sound input, including the current default device that will be used by MATAA:  
`arecord -L`
- To display a list of the ALSA sound output devices:  
`aplay -l`
- To display a list of the ALSA sound input devices:  
`arecord -l`
- As an alternative, the following command displays information on the available ALSA devices:  
`cat /proc/asound/devices`



Also, reading the ALSA instructions on <http://www.alsa-project.org> or <http://seehuhn.de/pages/alsa> will be helpful. From reading these documents, I found that all I needed to do on my system was to create a file ‘`~/.asoundrc`’, which specifies the default. As an illustration, this is how the file looks on one of my systems:

```
pcm.!default {
    type hw
    card 0
}
ctl.!default {
    type hw
    card 0
}
```

Without this file, the default device on this system is set to something that thinks that there are 128 sound channels, both for input and output. MATAA therefore produces data for all 128 channels, both for input and output. Because my hardware only has two channels, the remaining 126 channels are somehow merged into two real channels, which takes a lot of CPU power. Sound input and output is therefore very time consuming, and I believe merging 128 data channels into the two sound channels of the hardware is not good for the data integrity. I therefore always double check if MATAA uses the right sound device using the `mataa_audio_info` command. On most systems, the number of sound channels should be 2, and probably not 128.

## 2.6 Compiling TestTone and TestDevices on Linux

The following instructions may be useful if you need to compile TestTone and TestDevices on Linux. The commands given may need to be adapted to a specific Linux environment, however.

- Download a recent release of the portaudio source code from <http://portaudio.com> (pick the one marked as ‘recommended’). The files are packaged in ‘\*.tgz’ file. Extract the files from the ‘\*.tgz’ file. In the following example, I stored the portaudio files on my Desktop (‘~/Desktop/portaudio/’).
- Compile portaudio with support for the ALSA backend only. I did this using the following commands (other backends, such as OSS, are not recommended for use with MATAA):  

```
cd ~/Desktop/portaudio
./configure --with-alsa=yes --with-jack=no --with-oss=no
make
```
- Copy the portaudio library you just compiled and ‘portaudio.h’ to the path where the TestTone source code lives, e.g.:  

```
cp lib/.libs/libportaudio.a ~/matlab/mataa/TestTone/source/
cp include/portaudio.h ~/matlab/mataa/TestTone/source/
```
- Compile TestTone and TestDevices using the following commands:  

```
cd ~/matlab/mataa/TestTone/source/
gcc -lrt -lasound -lpthread -o TestTonePA19 TestTonePA19.c libportaudio.a
```

```
gcc -lrt -lasound -lpthread -o TestDevicesPA19 TestDevicesPA19.c
libportaudio.a
```

- Finally, move the binaries you just compiled to the path where MATAA expects to find them (i.e. ‘~/matlab/mataa/TestTone/LINUX\_X86-32’, ‘~/matlab/mataa/TestTone/LINUX\_X86-64’ or ‘~/matlab/mataa/TestTone/LINUX\_PPC’):

```
mv TestTonePA19 ../LINUX_X86-64/
mv TestDevicesPA19 ../LINUX_X86-64/
```

## 2.7 Testing the Installation

To test your software installation, first start MATLAB or Octave. Then, type `mataa_selftest` to the MATLAB/Octave command prompt to run a MATAA self-test. `mataa_selftest` is a MATAA script in ‘.../mataa/mataa\_scripts/’ that runs several tests, that will display various messages on the success of the tests. Some tests may fail, but that does not necessarily mean that your MATAA installation is broken. If in doubt, carefully read the error or warning messages. If still in doubt, contact me at [mbrennwa@users.sourceforge.net](mailto:mbrennwa@users.sourceforge.net).

The self-test script also includes a test of the hardware for sound input and output. Details on the setup of the sound hardware are given in [Section 2.3 \[Hardware Setup\]](#), [page 5](#). For now, it will suffice to run the self test with the soundcard input(s) connected directly to the output(s).

If MATLAB/Octave cannot find the `mataa_selftest` script, this most likely indicates that the script file is not on the search path of MATLAB/Octave. Double check the path settings outlined in [Section 2.2 \[Installing MATAA\]](#), [page 3](#). You can also type `path` to the MATLAB/Octave prompt to display the current search path.

## 3 Working with MATAA

This manual assumes you know what kind of measurements you are after, and why. This manual is not an introduction to acoustic measurement principles. Please refer to other sources to find background information on techniques and methods for measurements in electroacoustic systems. Some documents that I can recommend:

1. J. d’Appolito: Testing Loudspeakers, Audio Amateur Press, Peterborough, New Hampshire, USA, 1987.
2. J. d’Appolito: Testing Loudspeakers: Which Measurements Matter (Parts 1 and 2), audioXpress (9,10), 2008.
3. L. Olson: A MLSSA Gallery, 2006, <http://www.nutshellhifi.com/MLS> (last checked 5 May 2007)
4. M.S. Brennwald: MATAA: A Free Computer-Based Audio Analysis System, audioXpress (7), 2007. Copies of this article are distributed together with MATAA, and are available online, too. The original article is at <http://www.audioxpress.com/magsdirx/ax/addenda/media/brennwald2806.pdf> (last checked 12 Aug 2007), and a version that is somewhat easier to read is at [http://www.audioroot.net/analysis/MATAA\\_aX\\_original.pdf](http://www.audioroot.net/analysis/MATAA_aX_original.pdf) (last checked 12 Aug 2007).

The workflow with MATAA can be separated into two parts. First, you need to figure out how to setup the connections between the DUT and the soundcard (see [Section 2.3 \[Hardware Setup\]](#), page 5). Second, you will type commands into MATLAB/Octave telling MATAA to carry out the tests, process the data, or plot the results. This second step requires you to know how to work with MATLAB/Octave (see [Chapter 5 \[Getting started with MATLAB or Octave\]](#), page 56). You will also need to know the names of the MATAA commands and how they work.

Information on the MATAA commands is available in the [Chapter 4 \[MATAA tools reference\]](#), page 15. You may also use the online help system on MATLAB/Octave by typing `help <command>` into the MATLAB/Octave command prompt. For instance, if you need to know how to use the signal generator command `mataa_signal_generator`, type `help mataa_signal_generator`. This help system is not limited to the MATAA commands, but works for all MATLAB/Octave commands (for example, if you want to find out how to save data from within Matab/Octave to disk, type `help save`).

For a few worked examples on how to use MATAA in real-world applications, please refer to the MATAA article published in audioXpress (“MATAA: A Free Computer-Based Audio Analysis System”, included with the MATAA package).

## 4 MATAA tools reference

This section contains a list of the MATAA tools and their usage information as of 13-Aug-2009.

### 4.1 mataa\_audio\_guess\_latency

file: ...mataa-tools/mataa\_audio\_guess\_latency.m

```
function latency = mataa_audio_guess_latency (fs,maxLatency);
```

#### DESCRIPTION:

This function measures the latency of the audio hardware at sampling frequency fs, including the connected DUT.

The latency is defined as follows:

- t1: the time needed by the audio output device to process the signal
- t2: the time needed by the signal to travel from the audio output to the audio input of the computer (this will be determined by the analytical setup. In case of loudspeaker analysis, t2 will be determined mainly by the distance between microphone and loudspeaker).
- t3: the time needed by the audio input device to process the signal

Then:  $\text{latency} = t1 + t2 + t3$

#### INPUT:

fs: sampling frequency to be used for audio I/O (in seconds)  
maxLatency (optional): the expected maximum of the latency (in seconds). If not specified, the user will be asked to supply a value.

#### OUTPUT:

latency: the latency of the system, as defined above (in seconds)

### 4.2 mataa\_audio\_info

file: ...mataa-tools/mataa\_audio\_info.m

```
function audioInfo = mataa_audio_info;
```

#### DESCRIPTION:

This function returns a struct (audioInfo) containing information on the default devices for audio input and output. Note: the list of supported sample rates reflects the 'standard' rates offered by the operating system. This is not necessarily identical to the rates supported by hardware itself, as the operating system may provide other rates, e.g. by (automatic) sample-rate conversion (such as in the case of Mac OS X / CoreAudio). Also, the list of supported sample rates may be incomplete, because the TestDevices programs checks

for 'standard' rates only. It may therefore be possible to use other sample rates than those returned from this function (check the description of your audio hardware if you need to know the rates supported by the hardware). This function checks for full and half duplex operation (i.e. if the input and output devices are the same), and returns the list of supported sample rates depending on full or half duplex operation (they may be different, e.g. if a high sampling rate is only available with half duplex due to limits in the data transfer rates).

**EXAMPLE:**

(get some information on the audio hardware):

```
> info = mataa_audio_info;
> info.input % shows information about the input device
> info.output % shows information about the output device
```

### 4.3 mataa\_computer

file: ...mataa\_tools/mataa\_computer.m

```
function platform = mataa_computer;
```

**DESCRIPTION:**

Returns the current computer platform.

**INPUT:**

(none)

**OUTPUT**

platform: string indicating the computer platform:

MAC: Mac OS X (Darwin)

PCWIN: MS Windows

LINUX\_X86: Linux on x86 platform

UNKNOWN: unknown platform (unknown to MATAA)

### 4.4 mataa\_deConvolve

file: ...mataa\_tools/mataa\_deConvolve.m

```
function [y] = mataa_deConvolve(z,x);
```

**DESCRIPTION:**

This function deconvolves z from x. In other words: if  $z = x * y$  ('z' is the convolution of x and y'), then this function calculates y from z and x. The deconvolution is done using the fourier-transform method. z and x should have the same length (pad zeroes, if necessary).

see also <http://rkb.home.cern.ch/rkb/AN16pp/node38.html>

Example (calculate impulse response of a loudspeaker or other DUT):

x: the input signal sent to the speaker (known),  $\text{length}(x) = L_x$

y: the impulse response of the speaker (not known),  $\text{length}(y) = L_y$

z: the measured response of the speaker to signal x (known),  $\text{length}(z) = L_z$

then:  $z = x * y$

note:  $L_z = L_x + L_y - 1$

then:  $Z = XY$  (where the uppercase letters denote the complex fourier transforms of x, y, and z)

or:  $\text{fft}(z) = \text{fft}(x) \text{fft}(y)$ , where x and y are padded with zeros to length  $L_z$

hence  $\text{fft}(y) = \text{fft}(z) / \text{fft}(x)$ , or  $y = \text{ifft}(\text{fft}(z) / \text{fft}(x))$

## 4.5 mataa\_export\_FRD

file: ...mataa-tools/mataa\_export\_FRD.m

```
function mataa_export_FRD (f,mag,phase,comment,file);
```

### DESCRIPTION:

Export frequency-domain data to a FRD file.

(see also <http://www.pvconsultants.com/audio/frdis.htm>)

An FRD file is essentially an ASCII file containing three columns of data: frequency, magnitude, and phase. A detailed description of the FRD file format is given below.

### INPUT:

f: frequency values (Hz)

mag: magnitude values (usually in dB)

phase: phase (in degrees, usually wrapped to the range -180...+180 degrees)

file: string containing the name of the file to be written (may contain a complete path. If no path is given, the file will be written to the current working directory)

comment: string containing a comment to be saved with the data, e.g. a description of the data. Use comment = "" if you do not want a comment in the data file.

### OUTPUT:

(none)

### DESCRIPTION OF THE FRD FILE FORMAT

The following is a detailed description of the FRD format (taken from the website given above):

---

What is an FRD File?

A Frequency Response Data file is a human readable text file that contains a numerical description of Frequency and Phase Response. The purpose of an FRD file to represent measurements or targets or corrections of acoustic items, like loudspeakers and/or crossovers or room effects. The reason for using FRD files is to pass information between different design programs and thus to get the programs to share data and work together to achieve a complete finished design.

Structurally, an FRD file is very simple. An \* is placed in the first character position of any line that is a comment, so the remainder of that line is ignored. Comments can only be added at the beginning of an FRD file and not embedded once the data starts.

After the comment, the data block is composed of three numerical values per line separated by either one or more spaces or a tab. Each line is a single measurement or value instance. The numerical values, in order, per line, correspond to Frequency, Magnitude and Phase. The frequency data should start at the low end of the response and proceed to the higher end with no directional reversals or overlapping repeating regions in the frequency progression. That is all. It should look something like this:

```
* Seas T25-001.frd
* Freq(Hz) SPL(db) Phase(deg)
*
10 21.0963 158.4356
10.1517 21.0967 158.4363
10.3056 21.3305 158.7836
10.4619 21.5644 159.1299
10.6205 21.7983 159.2452
10.7816 22.032 159.3599
10.9451 22.2658 159.4099
11.1111 22.4996 159.4597
11.2796 22.7335 159.4832
11.4507 22.9672 159.5065
11.6243 23.2011 159.5171
11.8006 23.4349 159.5276
11.9795 23.6687 159.5308
12.1612 23.9025 159.534
```

The comment field mentioned above is sometimes required, even if the data in it is never used, or at least we have encountered programs that will not load the FRD file if the Comment field is not there. We have also found the opposite, programs that get confused about the comment field and work better if there was none. In general the comments are useful to the human reader and specific to the last program to output the data. So box modelers may have the conditions used to create the curve, like Vb, Driver name and T/S parameters, etc.

It is usually better that the data blocks have boundaries on the numbers used. Although Scientific Notation is permitted, it is usually better, more accurate and much more readable if the numbers used have exactly four decimal places below the dot (greater accuracy is really not helpful and less has been shown to induce jitter from Group Delay derived or other secondary processing). In addition, it greatly simplified the operation of any subsequent program if the Frequency spacing is even and progresses in a log spacing format. This tends to spread the samples evenly over the frequency segment.

The Magnitude number is log gain and in db values. The scale can be SPL wattage distance format (hovering about 90) or a unity aligned offset (usually just above zero for diffraction or starting at and diving below zero steeply for box models and crossover functions). The Phase data is best if in degrees, from 180 to +180 wrapping.

In general, there are good reasons to keep the frequency sampling density high enough to accurately represent a complex waveform sequence (without losing detail) but not so dense as to generate large amounts of extra sample data. Usually between 200 to 250 samples per decade, which is about 60 to 75 samples per octave, works very well.

When processing files and using the resultants, there are also good reasons to have the response extend at least one octave and preferably 2 or more octaves beyond the region of interest (above and below) so as to keep phase tracking error very low. This is especially important when deriving Minimum Phase or Optimizing crossovers downstream. A good standard to target is the internal default one of the Frequency Response Combiner program, which was selected for those reasons above (sample density and frequency extension) and for a close adherence to digital sound cards sampling rates, and also that the sample set was easily sub-divided into many equal sized integer count pieces (2, 3, 4, 6, 7, 8, 14, 16, 21, 24). The FRC program default standard for internal FRD data calculation is 2 Hz to 96,000 Hz with 1176 equal log spaced samples or about 251 samples per decade.

## 4.6 mataa\_export\_TMD

file: ...mataa\_tools/mataa\_export\_TMD.m

```
function mataa_export_TMD (t,s,comment,file);
```

### DESCRIPTION:

Export time-domain data to a TMD file (or, in other words: export the samples a signal  $s(t)$  to an ASCII file). A TMD file is essentially an ASCII file containing two columns of data: time and signal samples. The 'TMD format' is modelled after the FRD format for frequency-domain data (see mataa\_export\_FRD for more information).

### INPUT:

t: time values (seconds)

s: signal samples



comment: string containing a comment to be saved with the data, e.g. a description of the data. Use comment = "" if you do not want a comment in the data file.

OUTPUT:

(none)

## 4.7 mataa\_file\_default\_name

file: ...mataa-tools/mataa\_file\_default\_name.m

function name = mataa\_file\_default\_name;

DESCRIPTION:

This function returns a file name that can be used to save MATAA data. If 'ask' is nonzero, the user is asked to enter a file name. If no answer is given or if 'ask' is zero, a default file name made up of the current date and time of day is returned.

INPUT:

ask: flag to specify if the user should be asked for a file name. If 'ask' is not specified, ask=0 is assumed.

OUTPUT:

name: file name

## 4.8 mataa\_FR\_extend\_LF

file: ...mataa-tools/mataa\_FR\_extend\_LF.m

function [mag,phase,f] = mataa\_FR\_extend\_LF (fh,mh,ph,fl,ml,pl,f1,f2);;

DESCRIPTION:

Extend frequency response (e.g. from an anechoic analysis of a loudspeaker impulse response measured in the far field) with low-frequency data (e.g. from a near-field measurement). The frequency ranges of the two frequency responses need to overlap, and the common data in the frequency range [f1,f2] is used to determine the offsets in the magnitude and phase of the two frequency-response data sets. The low-frequency magnitude and phase (ml, pl) is adjusted to fit the high-frequency data (mh, ph). The phase data (ph, pl) may either be wrapped (e.g. to a range of -180..+180 deg) or unwrapped.

INPUT:

mh, ph, fh: magnitude (dB), phase (deg.) and frequency (Hz) data of the frequency response covering the high-frequency range

ml, pl, fl: magnitude (dB), phase (deg.) and frequency (Hz) data of the frequency response covering the low-frequency range

f1, f2: [f1,f2] is the frequency range used to determine the offsets of the low-frequency magnitude and phase (ml, pl) relative to the high-frequency data (mh, ph).

**OUTPUT:**

mag, phase, f: magnitude (dB), phase (deg, unwrapped) and frequency (Hz) of the combined frequency response. The data with  $f > f2$  are identical to (mh,ph,fh), those with  $f < f1$  correspond to (ml,pl,fl) with the magnitude and phase offsets removed. The data in the range [f1,f2] corresponds to the combination of the data of both data sets, where (ml,pl) values are corrected for their offsets relative to the (mh,ph) values.

## 4.9 mataa\_f\_to\_t

file: ...mataa\_tools/mataa\_f\_to\_t.m

```
function t = mataa_f_to_t (f);
```

**DESCRIPTION:**

returns the time bins of the inverse fourier spectrum sampled at frequencies f (f is assumed to be evenly spaced!)

**INPUT:**

f: frequency-value vector (in Hz). Values must be sorted and evenly spaced.

**OUTPUT:**

t: time values (vector, in seconds)

## 4.10 mataa\_gnuplot

file: ...mataa\_tools/mataa\_gnuplot.m

```
function mataa_gnuplot (cmd);
```

**DESCRIPTION:**

This function executes the gnuplot command 'cmd' by calling `--gnuplot_raw--(cmd)`. This only makes sense with Octave if gnuplot is used as the plotting engine. **IMPORTANT: THIS FUNCTION SHOULD NOT BE USED ANYMORE, BECAUSE THE GNUPLOT INTERFACE TO OCTAVE HAS CHANGED CONSIDERABLY IN OCTAVE 2.9.X. IT WILL PROBABLY BE CHANGED FURTHER, BREAKING THIS FUNCTION.**

**INPUT:**

cmd: string containing the gnuplot command.

### 4.11 mataa\_guess\_IR\_start

file: ...mataa\_tools/mataa\_guess\_IR\_start.m

```
function [t_start,t_rise] = mataa_guess_IR_start (h,t,verbose);
```

#### DESCRIPTION:

Try to determine the start and and rise time of an impulse response signal.

Note: this function calculates the analytic signal to determine the envelope function of  $h(t)$ , and then analyses the envelope curve to find  $t_{\text{start}}$  and  $t_{\text{rise}}$ . See, for instance: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Analytic\\_signal](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Analytic_signal) .

#### INPUT:

$h$ : impulse response

$t$ : time-values vector of impulse response samples (vector, in seconds), or, alternatively, the sampling frequency of  $h(t)$  (scalar, in Hz, the first sample in  $h$  is assumed to correspond to time  $t(1)=0$ ).

verbose (optional): if verbose=0, no user feedback is given. If not specified, verbose ~ 0 is assumed.

#### OUTPUT:

$t_{\text{start}}$ : 'beginning' of  $h(t)$  (seconds)

$t_{\text{rise}}$ : rise time of  $h(t)$  (seconds)

#### EXAMPLE:

```
> [h,t] = mataa_IR_demo; % load demo data of an loudspeaker impulse response.
> mataa_plot_IR(h,t); % plot the fake signal
> [t_start,t_rise] = mataa_guess_IR_start(h,t)
```

This gives  $t_{\text{start}} = 0.288$  ms and  $t_{\text{rise}} = 0.0694$  ms. In this example might therefore safely discard all data with  $t < t_{\text{start}}$ . In real-world use (with noise and Murphy's law against us), however, it might be worthwhile to add some safety margin, e.g. using  $t_{\text{rise}}$ : discard all data with  $t < t_{\text{start}} - t_{\text{rise}}$ .

### 4.12 mataa\_hilbert

file: ...mataa\_tools/mataa\_hilbert.m

```
function y = mataa_hilbert (x)
```

#### DESCRIPTION:

Calculates the Hilbert transform of  $x$ .

his code was modelled after the Hilbert transform function 'hilbert.m' available from Octave-Forge

**INPUT:**

x: input signal (column vector). If x contains complex values, only the real part of these values will be used.

**OUTPUT:**

y: hilbert transform of x

### 4.13 mataa\_impedance\_fit\_speaker

file: ...mataa\_tools/mataa\_impedance\_fit\_speaker.m

```
function [Rdc,f0,Qe,Qm,L1,L2,R2] = mataa_impedance_fit_speaker (f,mag,phase);
```

**DESCRIPTION:**

Fits the impedance model of mataa\_impedance\_speaker\_model to the impedance data mag(f) and phase(f). This can be useful in determining Thiele/Small parameters from impedance measurements.

**INPUT:**

f: frequency values of the impedance data  
 mag: magnitude of impedance data (Ohm)  
 phase: phase of impedance data (degrees)

**OUTPUT:**

Rdc, f0, Qe, Qm, L1, L2, R2: see mataa\_impedance\_speaker\_model (input parameters)

### 4.14 mataa\_impedance\_speaker\_model

file: ...mataa\_tools/mataa\_impedance\_speaker\_model.m

```
function [mag,phase] = mataa_impedance_speaker_model (f,Rdc,f0,Qe,Qm,L1,L2,R2)
```

**DESCRIPTION:**

Calculate speaker impedance (magnitude and phase) as a function of frequency f according to the MLSSA model (see Figure 7.16 in J. d'Appolito, "Testing Loudspeakers", Audio Amateur Press). This model essentially consists of a combination of three impedance elements connected in series (where  $w = 2\pi f$ ,  $w_0 = 2\pi f_0$ ):

- (a) The DC resistance of the voice coil (Rdc)
- (b) A parallel LCR circuit, reflecting the the low-frequency part of the impedance curve (resonance peak).

(c) L1 in series with a parallel combination of R2 and L2. L1, L2, and R2 reflect the high-frequency part of the impedance curve. For  $L2 = 0$  and  $R2 = \text{Inf}$ , this model reduces to the simpler concept where the voice-coil inductance  $L_e$  is constant with frequency (and  $L1 = L_e$ ).

#### INPUT:

f: frequency values for which impedance will be calculated  
 Rdc: DC resistance of the voice coil (Ohm)  
 f0: resonance frequency of the speaker (Hz)  
 Qe: electrical quality factor of the speaker (at resonance)  
 Qm: mechanical quality factor of the speaker (at resonance)  
 L1, L2, R2 (optional): see above (in H or Ohm, respectively)

#### OUTPUT:

mag: magnitude of impedance (Ohm)  
 phase: phase of impedance (degrees)

#### NOTES:

- The ratio  $Q_m/Q_e$  reflects the height of the impedance peak. If  $Z_{\text{max}}$  is the impedance maximum (at resonance) then  $Z_{\text{max}}/R_{\text{dc}} = Q_m/Q_e - 1$ .
- $Q_e$  reflects the width of the impedance peak (at least I think so; large  $Q_e$  corresponds to a narrow peak)

#### EXAMPLE:

The following gives a good approximation of the data shown in Fig. 7.18 in J. d'Appolito, "Testing ouspeaker" on page 122:

```
[mag,phase] = mataa_impedance_speaker_model (f,7.66,33.22,0.45,3.4,0.4e-3,1.1e-3,13);
semilogx (f,mag,f,phase)
```

## 4.15 mataa\_import\_FRD

file: ...mataa\_tools/mataa\_import\_FRD.m

```
function [f,mag,phase,comments] = mataa_import_FRD (file);
```

#### DESCRIPTION:

Import frequency-domain data from a FRD file.  
 (see also `mataa_export_FRD`).

#### INPUT:

file: string containing the name of the file containing the data to be imported. The string may contain a complete path. If no path is given, the file is assumed to be located in the current working directory.

**OUTPUT:**

f: frequency values (Hz)

mag: magnitude values

phase: phase

comments: cell string containing the comments in the data file (if any)

**HISTORY:**

9. January 2008 (Matthias Brennwald): first version

**4.16 mataa\_import\_mlssa**

file: ...mataa\_tools/mataa\_import\_mlssa.m

```
function [mlsvec,mlsfs,stimulus_amp,mlsdf] = mataa_import_mlssa (File,Outfile,Withir);
```

Reads a MLSSA .TIM or .FRQ file and extracts all data from it. Note that this function has been designed using Matlab only (i.e. it might not work as well with Octave).

**INPUT:**

File (optional): should contain the filename, including path and extension (.TIM or .FRQ). If File is empty, a file dialog is presented.

Outfile: should contain a filename, including path but no extension (will be given.mat). The output data will be saved in this file.

Withir (optional): parameter, should be included and with the text 'Withir' if the impulse response (or transfer function) mlsvec should be included in the Output file.

**OUTPUT:**

mlsvec the impulse response (for .TIM files) or the transfer function (for .FRQ files; containing  $nfft/2 + 1$  complex values).

mlsfs the sampling frequency

stimulus\_amp the stimulus amplitude used during the measurement

mlsdf the frequency increment (only for .FRQ files)

Comment 1: Note that an MLS file (.TIM or .FRQ) is half the size of the corresponding Matlab file (MLSSA uses single precision whereas Matlab uses double precision). Thus the MLS files can be used and opened every time data is needed, instead of creating a Matlab copy of the file.

Comment 2: The output parameter stimulus\_amp might be needed to scale the impulse response correctly. MLSSA does not scale the impulse versus the stimulus\_amp so that if different stimulus\_amp have been used, the corresponding impulse responses will display different amplitudes. The transfer functions (.FRQ) are however scaled correctly.

Comment 3: The impulse response can be retrieved from the transfer function by inserting the values for negative frequencies:

```
[mlsvec,mlsfs,stimulus_amp,mlsdf] = readmls('TEST.FRQ',Outfile);
npoints = length(mlsvec);
mlsvec = [mlsvec; conj(mlsvec( npoints-1:-1:2 ))];
ir = real(iff(mlsvec)); % ir should be a real quantity. Any remaining
% imaginary values will reflect numerical errors
% or an incorrect transfer function.
```

Note however that if a window was used before calculating the transfer function the windowed impulse response will be extracted.

Comment 4: The MLSSA files contain a large number of auxilliary parameters that are saved in

the Outfile. Refer to the appendix of the MLSSA manual for information about these parameters, which are those in the setup of the MLSSA measurements. According to the manual, this setup structure can be changed in future versions. This one is valid for version 9.0.

The program is based on code written by Peter Svensson (svensson[at]iet.ntnu.no) available at <http://www.iet.ntnu.no/~svensson/readmls.m>. Peter Svensson explicitly agreed to provide his work for inclusion in MATAA.

## 4.17 mataa\_import\_TMD

file: ...mataa\_tools/mataa\_import\_TMD.m

```
function [t,s,comments] = mataa_import_TMD (file)
```

DESCRIPTION:

Import time-domain data from a TMD file (see also mataa\_export\_TMD).

INPUT:

file: string containing the name of the file containing the data to be imported. The string may contain a complete path. If no path is given, the file is assumed to be located in the current working directory.

OUTPUT:

t: time values (s)

s: signal samples

comments: cell string containing the comments in the data file (if any)

## 4.18 mataa\_interp

file: ...mataa\_tools/mataa\_interp.m

```
function y = mataa_interp (xi,yi,x);
```

**DESCRIPTION:**

Linear interpolation of  $y(x)$  from  $y_i(x_i)$

if  $x$  is outside the range of  $x_i$ , `mataa_interp` returns a linear extrapolation of the  $y_i$

Linear interpolation is of course available in Matlab and Octave-Forge as `interp1`. However, it's available in plain-vanilla Octave, which is a shame, I think. I therefore provided this function for MATAA so that I don't have to worry about `interp1` missing in Octave while still being able to easily write code that is compatible with both Matlab and Octave.

FIXME: THIS CODE IS AS INEFFICIENT AS IT GETS!

## 4.19 mataa\_IR\_demo

file: ...mataa\_tools/mataa\_IR\_demo.m

```
function [h,t] = mataa_IR_demo (IRtype)
```

**DESCRIPTION:**

This function returns the an impulse response  $h(t)$ , specified by 'IRtype'.

**INPUT:**

type (optional): string describing the type of impulse response (see below). If not specified, type = 'DEFAULT' is used.

valid choices for 'IRtype':

FE108: impulse response of a Fostex FE108Sigma full-range driver, sampled at a rate of 96 kHz.

DIRAC: dirac impulse (first sample is 1, all others are zero), with a length of 1 second, sampled at 44.1 kHz.

EXP: exponential decay ( $f(t) = \exp(-t/\tau)$ , with  $\tau=1E-2$  seconds), with a length of 1 second, sampled at 44.1 kHz.

DEFAULT: same as 'FE108'.

**OUTPUT:**

h: impulse response samples

t: time coordinates of samples



## 4.20 mataa\_IR\_remove\_echo

file: ...mataa-tools/mataa\_IR\_remove\_echo.m

```
function [h,t] = mataa_IR_remove_echo (h,t,t_echo_start,t_echo_end);
```

### DESCRIPTION:

This function removes echos from an impulse response. The echos are replaced by data calculated by linear interpolation.

### INPUT:

h: values impulse response (vector)  
t: time values of samples in h (vector)  
t\_echo\_start: start time of echo  
t\_echo\_end: end time of echo

### OUTPUT:

h: values impulse response with echo removed  
t: time values of samples in h

## 4.21 mataa\_IR\_to\_CSD

file: ...mataa-tools/mataa\_IR\_to\_CSD.m

```
function [spl,f,t] = mataa_IR_to_CSD (h,t,T,smooth_interval);
```

### DESCRIPTION:

This function calculates cumulative spectral decay (CSD) data (SPL-responses spl at frequencies f and delay times d).

### INPUT:

h: values impulse response (vector)  
t: time values of samples in h (vector, in seconds) or sampling rate of h (scalar, in Hz)  
T: desired delay times (should be evenly spaced)  
smooth\_interval (optional): if supplied, the SPL curves are smoothed using mataa\_IR\_to\_FR\_smooth

### OUTPUT:

spl: CSD data (dB)  
f: frequency (Hz)  
d: delay of CSD data (seconds)

## 4.22 mataa\_IR\_to\_ETC

file: ...mataa\_tools/mataa\_IR\_to\_ETC.m

```
function [etc,t] = mataa_IR_to_ETC (h,t);
```

### DESCRIPTION:

This function calculates the energy-time-curve (ETC) from the impulse response  $h(t)$ . The ETC is the envelope (magnitude) of the analytic signal of  $h$  (see D'Appolito, J.: Testing Loudspeakers, p. 125)

### INPUT:

$h$ : impulse response (in volts)

$t$ : time coordinates of samples in  $h$  (vector, in seconds) or sampling rate of  $h$  (scalar, in Hz)

### OUTPUT:

$etc$ : energy-time curve

$t$ : time coordinates of  $etc$  (in seconds)

### EXAMPLE:

```
> [h,t] = mataa_IR_demo;  
> [etc,t] = mataa_IR_to_ETC(h,t);  
> mataa_plot_ETC_lin(etc,t)
```

## 4.23 mataa\_IR\_to\_FR

file: ...mataa\_tools/mataa\_IR\_to\_FR.m

```
function [mag,phase,f] = mataa_IR_to_FR (h,t,smooth_interval);
```

### DESCRIPTION:

Calculate frequency response (magnitude in dB and phase in degrees) of a system with impulse response  $h(t)$

### INPUT:

$h$ : impulse response (in volts)

$t$ : time coordinates of samples in  $h$  (vector, in seconds) or sampling rate of  $h$  (scalar, in Hz)

$smooth\_interval$  (optional): if specified, the frequency response is smoothed over the octave interval  $smooth\_interval$ .

### OUTPUT:

$mag$ : magnitude of frequency response (in dB)

$phase$ : phase of frequency response (in degrees). This is the TOTAL phase including the 'excess phase' due to (possible) time delay of  $h(h)$ .  $phase$  is unwrapped (i.e. it is not limited to  $\pm 180$  degrees, and there are no discontinuities at  $\pm 180$  deg.)

f: frequency coordinates of mag and phase

EXAMPLE:

```
> [h,t] = mataa_IR_demo;
> [mag,phase,f] = mataa_IR_to_FR(h,t); % calculates magnitude(f) and phase(f)
> [mag,phase,f] = mataa_IR_to_FR(h,t,1/24); % same as above, but smoothed to 1/24
octave
(use mataa_plot_FR(mag,phase,f) to plot the results)
```

## 4.24 mataa\_IR\_to\_SR

file: ...mataa\_tools/mataa\_IR\_to\_SR.m

```
function [s,t] = mataa_IR_to_SR (h,t);
```

DESCRIPTION:

calculates the step response of a system with impulse response  $h(t)$

INPUT:

h: impulse response (in volts)

t: time coordinates of samples in h (vector, in seconds) or sampling rate of h (scalar, in Hz)

OUTPUT:

s: step response

t: time (seconds)

## 4.25 mataa\_measure\_HD

file: ...mataa\_tools/mataa\_measure\_HD.m

```
function [THD,kn] = mataa_measure_HD (f1,T,fs,N);
```

DESCRIPTION:

This function measures harmonic distortion using a sine wave with a given frequency.

INPUT:

f1: base frequency in Hz.

T: sine-signal length in seconds.

fs: sampling frequency in Hz

N (optional): number of harmonics to be analyzed. By default, N=12 is assumed.

OUTPUT:

THD = total harmonic distortion, see below.

kn: harmonic distortion spectrum, in voltage units (not power). kn is a vector containing

the harmonic components ( $k_1, k_2, k_3, \dots, k_N$ ), where  $k_1$  corresponds to  $f_1$ . The spectrum is normalised such that  $k_1$  is equal to one.

$f_1$ : true value of  $f_1$  used for analyses (value may be adjusted slightly to fit in the resolution of the fourier spectrum).

NOTE 1: THD is computed WITHOUT the noise in the spectrum ranges between the harmonics.

NOTE 2: There exist different definitions of THD (see e.g. <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/THD> and the external links cited there for some of these definitions). Here, the following definition is used:

$$\text{THD} = \sqrt{k_2^2 + k_3^2 + \dots + k_N^2} / k_1$$

NOTE 3: THD is returned in relative units, not percentage or dB. For instance,  $\text{THD} = 0.02$  corresponds to 2% THD.

NOTE 4: Only the harmonic components up to  $k_N$  are analysed. Signal components in between the harmonic components (noise, hum, etc.) are NOT included in THD. The result is therefore NOT  $\text{THD} + \text{noise}$  !

EXAMPLE:

```
> [thd,k] = mataa_measure_HD(1000,1,96000); % measure THD and harmonic power distortion spectrum for a base-frequency of 1 kHz.
> mataa_plot_HD(k,'f1: 1kHz'); % plot the distortion spectrum
```

## 4.26 mataa\_measure\_impedance

file: ...mataa-tools/mataa\_measure\_impedance.m

```
function [Z,f] = mataa_measure_impedance (fLow,fHigh,R,fs,resolution);
```

DESCRIPTION:

Measures the complex, frequency-dependent impedance  $Z(f)$  in the frequency range  $[f_{\text{Low}}, f_{\text{High}}]$ .

The measurement relies on the setup described in the MATAA manual.

INPUT:

$f_{\text{Low}}$ : lower limit of the frequency range (Hz)

$f_{\text{High}}$ : upper limit of the frequency range (Hz)

$R$ : resistance of the reference resistor (Ohm)

$f_s$  (optional): sampling frequency to be used for sound I/O. If not value is given, the lowest possible sampling frequency will be used.

resolution (optional): frequency resolution in octaves (example: resolution = 1/24 will give 1/24 octave smoothing). Default is resolution = 1/48. If you want no smoothing at all, use resolution = 0.

**OUTPUT:**

Z: vector of complex impedance values (Ohm)

f: vector of frequency values

**4.27 mataa\_measure\_IR**

file: ...mataa\_tools/mataa\_measure\_IR.m

```
function [h,t] = mataa_measure_IR (input_signal,fs,N);
```

**DESCRIPTION:**

This function measures the impulse response  $h(t)$  of a system using sample rate  $fs$ . The sampling rate must be supported by the audio device and by the TestTone program. See also 'help mataa\_measure\_signal\_response'.

input\_signal is the file name of the input signal, for example 'whitenoise1.in'. This file must be in ASCII format. It must contain a one-column vector of the signal samples, where +1.0 is the maximum and -1.0 is the minimum value. The file should be in the 'test\_signals' path. NOTE: it can't hurt to have some zeros padded to the beginning and the end of the input\_signal. This helps to avoid that the DUT's response is cut off due to the latency of the audio hardware (and possibly the 'flight time' of the sound from a loudspeaker to a microphone).

N (optional): the impulse response is measured N times and the mean response is calculated from these measurements. N = 1 is used by default.

$h(t)$  is determined from the deconvolution of the DUT's response and the original input signal.

The RAW impulse response is measured, i.e. no filtering or deconvolution from the impulse responses of the audio hardware or microphone etc. is applied.

**4.28 mataa\_measure\_signal\_response**

file: ...mataa\_tools/mataa\_measure\_signal\_response.m

```
function [responseSignal,inputSignal,t] = mataa_measure_signal_response (input_signal,fs,latency,verbose);
```

**DESCRIPTION:**

This function feeds one or more test signal(s) to the DUT(s) and records the response signal(s).

**INPUT:**

input\_signal: this is either a matrix containing the samples of the test signal, or

a string containing the name of a TestTone file containing the test signal. See `mataa_signal_to_TestToneFile` for the format of the matrix containing the test signal samples. If a data file is given as the input, and if the file name is given without the full path of the file, the file is assumed to reside in the MATAA signals-path (you can retrieve the signals path with the command `mataa_path('signals')` ).

`fs`: the sampling rate to be used for the audio input / output (in Hz). Only sample rates supported by the hardware (or its driver software) are supported.

`latency`: if the signal samples were specified rather than a file name/path, the signal is padded with zeros at its beginning and end to avoid cutting off the test signals early due to the latency of the sound input/output device(s). 'latency' is the length of the zero signals padded to the beginning and the end of the test signal (in seconds). If a file name is specified instead of the signal samples, the value of 'latency' is ignored.

`verbose` (optional): If `verbose=0`, no information or feedback is displayed. Otherwise, `mataa_measure_signal_response` prints feedback on the progress of the sound in/out. If `verbose` is not specified, `verbose ~ 0` is assumed.

#### OUTPUT:

`inputSignal`: matrix containing the input signal(s). This may be handy if the original test-signal data are stored in a file, which would otherwise have to be loaded into into workspace to be used.

`responseSignal`: matrix containing the signal(s) from the audio input device. This will contain the data from all channels used for signal recording, where each matrix column corresponds to one channel.

`t` is vector containing the times corresponding the samples in `responseSignal` and `inputSignal` (in seconds)

#### FURTHER INFORMATION:

The signal samples range from -1.0 to +1.0).

The TestTone program feeds the `input_signal` to both stereo channels of the output device, and records from both stereo channels of the input device (assuming we have a stereo device). Therefore, the response signal has two channels. As an example, channel 1 is used for for the DUT's response signal and channel 2 can be used to automatically calibrate for the frequency response / impulse response of the audio hardware (by directly connecting the audio output to the audio input). Channel allocation can be set using `mataa_settings`.

#### EXAMPLE:

Feed a 20Hz square-wave signal to the DUT and compare the input and response signals:

```
> [out,in,t] = mataa_measure_signal_response('squareburst_96k_1s_20Hz.in',96000);
> plot(t,in,t,out)
```

## 4.29 mataa\_menu

file: ...mataa-tools/mataa-menu.m

function out = mataa\_menu (title, varargin)

### DESCRIPTION:

This function prints a menu and asks the user to choose a command from the menu.

title: the title of the menu (string)

varargin: a list of menu entries as described in the below example

out: the command chosen by the user

### EXAMPLE:

To print a menu with the title 'Main menu' and the commands 'measure', 'plot', 'save' and 'exit':

```
choice = mataa_menu('Main menu','m','measure','p','plot','s','save','e','exit');
```

The result will look like this:

---

Main menu:

[m] measure – [p] plot – [s] save – [e] exit

Choose a command:

---

The user then chooses one of the four commands by entering 'm', 'p', 's' or 'e'. If he/she enters something else, an error message will be shown, and the menu is displayed again.

## 4.30 mataa\_microphone\_correct\_IR

file: ...mataa-tools/mataa-microphone-correct-IR.m

function [h,t] = mataa\_microphone\_correct\_IR (mic\_name,h,t)

### DESCRIPTION:

This function corrects  $h(t)$  from the transfer function of the specified microphone the phase response of the microphone are calculated by assuming the microphone to be minimum phase  
frequency components outside the range of the specified microphone frequency response are set to zero

### INPUT:

mic\_name: name of microphone

h: impulse response samples

t: time coordinates of samples in h (vector, in seconds) or sampling rate of h (scalar, in Hz)

OUTPUT:

h\_corr: corrected impulse response

t: time coordinates of samples in h

### 4.31 mataa\_minimum\_phase

file: ...mataa\_tools/mataa\_minimum\_phase.m

```
function min_phase = mataa_minimum_phase (mag,f);
```

DESCRIPTION:

Calculates minimum phase from magnitude frequency response using the Hilbert transform

(see [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Minimum\\_phase#Relationship\\_of\\_magnitude\\_response\\_to\\_phase\\_response](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Minimum_phase#Relationship_of_magnitude_response_to_phase_response)).

INPUT:

mag: magnitude of frequency response (in dB)

f: frequency coordinates of mag (in Hz)

OUTPUT:

min\_phase: minimum phase at frequencies f (unwrapped, in degrees)

```
%% % calculate minimum phase using the Hilbert transform:
```

```
%% % see: http://www.foureelectronics.com/Hilbert-transform-to-calculate-Magnitude-
from-Phase-10052397.html
```

```
%% % and: http://www.dsprelated.com/showmessage/29416/1.php
```

```
%% % this should use the NATURAL log, and 'abs(p)' rather than '10*abs(p)'
```

```
convert mag from dB to natural units:
```

### 4.32 mataa\_octave\_version

file: ...mataa\_tools/mataa\_octave\_version.m

```
function [version,subversion,subsubversion] = mataa_octave_version
```

DESCRIPTION:

Returns the Octave version. If called with Matlab, the output values are set to NaN.

INPUT:

(none)



**OUTPUT:**

version: main version  
subversion: subversion  
subsubversion: subsubversion

**EXAMPLE:**

With Octave 2.1.73, the output is:

version = 2  
subversion = 1  
subsubversion = 73

### 4.33 mataa\_path

file: ...mataa\_tools/mataa\_path.m

```
function path = mataa_path (whichPath);
```

**DESCRIPTION:**

This function returns the Matlab / MATAA paths as specified by 'whichPath'

**INPUT:**

whichPath (optional): a string specifying which path should be retrieved.  
whichPath can be one of the following:  
'main' (default) the main MATAA path  
'signals' the path where the test signal data is stored  
'tools' the path where the MATAA 'tools' routines are stored (the MATAA toolbox)  
'TestTone' the path to the TestTone program  
'TestDevices' the path to the TestDevices program  
'mataa\_scripts' the path to the MATAA scripts  
'microphone' the path to the microphone-data files  
'settings' the path where the MATAA settings are stored

If whichPath is not specified, it is set to 'main' by default.

**OUTPUT:**

path: the MATAA path as indicated by whichPath (string)

### 4.34 mataa\_phase\_remove\_delay

file: ...mataa\_tools/mataa\_phase\_remove\_delay.m

```
function [phase,f] = mataa_phase_remove_delay (phase,delay);
```

**DESCRIPTION:**

This function removes excess phase due to time delay.

**INPUT:**

phase: phase, including excess phase due to time delay (unwrapped, in degrees)

f: frequency coordinates of phase (in Hz)

delay: time delay to be removed from the phase (in seconds)

**OUTPUT:**

phase: phase with excess phase corresponding to delay removed (unwrapped, in degrees)

### 4.35 mataa\_phase\_remove\_trend

file: ...mataa\_tools/mataa\_phase\_remove\_trend.m

```
function [phase, delay] = mataa_phase_remove_trend (phase, f, f1, f2);
```

**DESCRIPTION:**

Remove linear trend in phase(f), e.g. excess phase due to time delay.

**INPUT:**

phase: phase, including excess phase due to time delay (unwrapped, in degrees)

f: frequency coordinates of phase (in Hz)

f1, f2 (optional, in Hz): if both f1 and f2 are specified, the linear trend in phase(f1<f<f2) is removed from phase(f). If both f1 and f2 are not specified, the full range of f is used from trend analysis.

**OUTPUT:**

phase: phase with excess phase corresponding to delay removed (unwrapped, in degrees)

delay: time delay corresponding to the removed phase trend (in seconds)

### 4.36 mataa\_plot\_CSD

file: ...mataa\_tools/mataa\_plot\_CSD.m

```
function mataa_plot_CSD (spl, f, t, spl_range, annotate, options);
```

**DESCRIPTION:**

Plot cumulative spectral decay (CSD) data from mataa\_IR\_to\_CSD(...)

('waterfall plot'). The argument 'annotate' is optional, and can be used to specify annotations to be added to the titles of the plots.

**INPUT:**

spl, f, t: see description of output of mataa\_IR\_to\_CSD

spl\_range: the range covered on the y axis of the waterfall diagram (in dB)  
 annote: annotations to the plot title (string, optional)  
 options: plot options (string or cell string containing multiple options, optional). Currently, the following options are available (for Octave 2.9.10 or newer):  
 options = 'contours' : plot contours of waterfall diagram below the waterfall  
 options = 'countours2': plot contours (lines) only in a 2-D plot  
 options = 'shaded2': similar to 'countours2', but fills the areas in between the contours with a solid color)

### 4.37 mataa\_plot\_defaults

file: ...mataa-tools/mataa\_plot\_defaults.m

function mataa\_plot\_defaults

#### DESCRIPTION:

In earlier version of MATAA, this function sets default gnuplot state for MATAA plots in Octave. With the current version of MATAA, this function has no effect.

#### HISTORY:

26. December 2007 (Matthias Brennwald): commented out all commands so they have no effect anymore. Leave setting of plotting options to the user.

first version: 7. November 2006, Matthias Brennwald

```
%% if exist('OCTAVE_VERSION')
%% % do Octave specific stuff here
%% else
%% % do Matlab specific stuff here
%% %%% fh = gcf;
%% %%% p = get(fh,'Position');
%% %%% if p([3,4]) == [560 420];
%% %%% % make plots somewhat smaller than default
%% %%% p([3,4]) = [450 280];
%% %%% set(fh,'Position',p);
%% %%% end
%% %%% set(fh,'PaperPositionMode','auto'); % use same plot size for saving files as for
plotting on screen
%% end
%% if mataa_settings('plotHoldState')
%% hold on
%% end
%%
%% % otherwise leave the plot state as it is (the user may have typed 'hold on' or something
```

### 4.38 mataa\_plot\_ETC\_dB

file: ...mataa\_tools/mataa\_plot\_ETC\_dB.m

```
function mataa_plot_ETC_log (etc,t,annotate,dB_range);
```

**DESCRIPTION:**

Same as mataa\_plot\_ETC, but uses a dB scale for the vertical axis.

The 'dB\_range' parameter (optional) can be given to specify the dB range to be plotted. If not specified, a default value of 60 dB is used

### 4.39 mataa\_plot\_ETC\_lin

file: ...mataa\_tools/mataa\_plot\_ETC\_lin.m

```
function mataa_plot_ETC_lin (etc,t,annotate);
```

**DESCRIPTION:**

Plots the energy-time-curve (ETC) etc(t), using a linear y-axis scale.

**INPUT:**

etc: values of the energy-time curve (vector)

t: time values (vector)

annotate (optional): annotation to the plot title (string)

**OUTPUT:**

(none)

**EXAMPLE:**

```
> t = [0:100]/1000; h = sin(200*t).*exp(-70*t);  
> etc = mataa_IR_to_ETC(h,t);  
> mataa_plot_ETC(t,etc, 'damped sine');
```

### 4.40 mataa\_plot\_FR

file: ...mataa\_tools/mataa\_plot\_FR.m

```
function mataa_plot_FR (mag,phase,f,annotate,fNorm,phaseUnwrap);
```

**DESCRIPTION:**

Plots frequency response magnitude, and phase (optional)

**INPUT:**

mag: magnitude of frequency response (in dB)

phase (optional): phase of frequency response (in degrees). If you don't want to plot phase, but other optional arguments below are required, use phase = [].

f: frequency coordinates of mag and phase (in Hz)

annotate (optional): text note to be added to the plot title. If you don't want to add a note, but other optional arguments below are required, use annotate = "".

fNorm (optional): frequency to which the magnitude plot is normalised. If you don't want to normalise the plot, but other optional arguments below are required, use fNorm = [].

phaseUnwrap (optional): if phaseUnwrap is not zero, the phase is unwrapped (so that discontinuities at +/- 180 deg. are avoided). Otherwise, phase is wrapped to +/- 180 deg.

EXAMPLE(S):

```
> [h,t] = mataa_IR_demo;
> [mag,phase,f] = mataa_IR_to_FR(h,t,1/12);
> mataa_plot_FR(mag,[],f); % plain vanilla plot of magnitude vs. frequency (without phase)
> mataa_plot_FR(mag,[],f,'demo',1000); % plots magnitude with an annotation to the plot
title and normalizes mag by mag(f=1000).
> mataa_plot_FR(mag,phase,f,'demo again',80,1); % plots magnitude and phase with an
annotation to the plot title. Magnitude is normalised such that mag(f=80) = 0 dB, and
phase is unwrapped.
```

## 4.41 mataa\_plot\_HD

file: ...mataa\_tools/mataa\_plot\_HD.m

```
function mataa_plot_HD (kn, annotate);
```

DESCRIPTION:

This function plots the harmonic distortion spectrum in kn.

INPUT:

kn = [ k1 k2 k3 ... kn ] is the normalised distortion spectrum.

k1 corresponds to the fundamental frequency or first harmonic (k1 = 1, not plotted), k2 the component of second harmonic relative to the fundamental, k3 that of the third harmonic, etc.

annotate (optional): optional annotation to be added to the plot title

EXAMPLE:

```
> [thd,k] = mataa_measure_thd(1000,1,96000); % measure THD and harmonic distortion
spectrum
> mataa_plot_HD(k,'f0: 1kHz'); % plot the distortion spectrum
```

## 4.42 mataa\_plot\_impedance

file: ...mataa\_tools/mataa\_plot\_impedance.m

```
function mataa_plot_impedance (mag,phase,f,annotate);
```

**DESCRIPTION:**

Plots impedance (magnitude and phase) versus frequency.

**INPUT:**

mag: impedance magnitude (Ohm)

phase: impedance phase (degrees)

f: frequency (Hz)

annotate (optional): text note to be added to the plot title.

**OUTPUT:**

(none)

### 4.43 mataa\_plot\_IR

file: ...mataa-tools/mataa\_plot\_IR.m

```
function mataa_plot_IR (h,t,annotate);
```

**DESCRIPTION:**

This function plots the impulse response  $h(t)$ .

**INPUT:**

h: impulse response samples

t: time coordinates of impulse response samples (vector, in seconds), or, alternatively, the sampling frequency of  $h(t)$  (scalar, in Hz)

annotate (optional): text note to be added to the plot title.

**EXAMPLE:**

```
> [h,t] = mataa_IR_demo;
```

```
> mataa_plot_IR(h,t,'demo impulse response');
```

### 4.44 mataa\_plot\_one

file: ...mataa-tools/mataa\_plot\_one.m

```
function h = mataa_plot_one (x,y,figNum,plottit,xtit,ytit);
```

**DESCRIPTION:**

Plots y vs. x.

**INPUT:**

x: x values

y: y values to be plotted vs. x.  
 figNum: number (handle) of the figure window to be used for the plot. Use figNum = [] if the default window is to be used (e.g. the current plot window)  
 plottit: plot title.  
 xtit: x-axis label  
 ytit: y-axis label

**OUTPUT:**

h: handle to the axes of the plot.

### 4.45 mataa\_plot\_save

file: ...mataa\_tools/mataa\_plot\_save.m

```
function mataa_plot_save (fileName);
```

**DESCRIPTION:**

Saves the last plot to an EPS (encapsulated post script) file.

'fileName' is the name (and path) of the file. If it does not include a path, the file is saved to the current directory (type 'pwd' to see the current directory).

### 4.46 mataa\_plot\_SR

file: ...mataa\_tools/mataa\_plot\_SR.m

```
function mataa_plot_SR (h,t,annotate);
```

**DESCRIPTION:**

This function plots the step response  $h(t)$ .

**INPUT:**

h: step response samples

t: time coordinates of response samples (vector), or, alternatively, the sampling frequency of  $h(t)$  (scalar)

annotate (optional): text note to be added to the plot title.

**EXAMPLE:**

```
> [h,t] = mataa_IR_demo;
> [h,t] = mataa_IR_to_SR(h,t);
> mataa_plot_SR(h,t,'demo step response');
```

### 4.47 mataa\_plot\_time\_signal

file: ...mataa-tools/mataa\_plot\_time\_signal.m

```
function mataa_plot_time_signal (s,t,plottit,xtit,ytit,plotWindow);
```

#### DESCRIPTION:

This function plots the signal  $s(t)$ .

#### INPUT:

s: signal samples

t: time values (vector, in seconds), or, alternatively, the sampling frequency of the signal (scalar, in Hz)

plottit: plot title.

xtit, ytit: labels for the x-axis and y-axis

plotWindow: number (handle) of the figure window to be used for the plot. Use plotWindow = `[]` if the default window is to be used (e.g. the current plot window)

### 4.48 mataa\_plot\_two

file: ...mataa-tools/mataa\_plot\_two.m

```
function h = mataa_plot_two (x,y1,y2,figNum,plottit,xtit,y1tit,y2tit);
```

#### DESCRIPTION:

Plots  $y1$  and  $y2$  vs.  $x$ .

#### INPUT:

x: x values

$y1, y2$ : y values to be plotted vs.  $x$ .  $y2$  may be empty ( $y2 = []$ ), which will result in a single plot of  $y1$  vs  $x$ .

figNum: number (handle) of the figure window to be used for the plot. Use figNum = `[]` if the default window is to be used (e.g. the current plot window)

plottit: plot title.

xtit: x-axis label

$y1tit, y2tit$ : y-axis label of the  $y1$  and  $y2$  data

#### OUTPUT:

h: a 2-vector containig the handles to the axes of the two plots. If the second plot is omitted  $h(2)$  will be set to NaN,

### 4.49 mataa\_plot\_two\_logX

file: ...mataa-tools/mataa\_plot\_two\_logX.m



```
function h = mataa_plot_two_log (x,y1,y2,figNum,plottit,xtit,y1tit,y2tit);
```

**DESCRIPTION:**

Same as `mataa_plot_two`, but with logarithmic x axes.

**INPUT:**

(see `mataa_plot_two`)

**OUTPUT:**

(see `mataa_plot_two`)

**4.50 mataa\_realFT**

file: ...mataa\_tools/mataa\_realFT.m

```
function [S,f] = mataa_realFT (s,t);
```

**DESCRIPTION:**

Identical to `mataa_realFT0`, but without the component corresponding to  $f=0$ .

**INPUT:**

(see `mataa_realFT0`)

**OUTPUT:**

(see `mataa_realFT0`)

**4.51 mataa\_realFT0**

file: ...mataa\_tools/mataa\_realFT0.m

```
function [S,f] = mataa_realFT0 (s,t);
```

**DESCRIPTION:**

Calculates the complex fourier-spectrum  $S$  of a real signal  $s$  for frequencies  $f \geq 0$ . Only the half spectrum corresponding to positive frequencies is returned, because for a real signal  $S(-f)=S^*(f)$ .  $S$  is normalized to length of  $s$ . The fourier spectrum  $S$  therefore does not depend on the sample rate used to digitize a given signal (i.e.  $S$  does not depend on the length of the signal).  $s$  can be of any length (no padding to length of  $2n$  or even length necessary). In order to avoid frequency leakage, `mataa_realFT` does NOT pad  $s$  to even length. Each column of  $s$  represents one audio channel.

**INPUT:**

$s$ : signal samples (vector containing the real-valued samples)

t: time values of the signal samples (vector, with evenly spaced values) or sample rate (scalar)

OUTPUT:

S: complex fourier spectrum of s ('positive' half, see also DESCRIPTION).

f: frequency values (vector)

## 4.52 mataa\_realIFT

file: ...mataa\_tools/mataa\_realIFT.m

```
function [s,t] = mataa_realIFT (S,f);
```

DESCRIPTION:

Same as mataa\_realIFT0, but without f=0.

INPUT:

S: complex fourier spectrum of the signal ('positive' half, see also DESCRIPTION).

f: frequency values (vector)

OUTPUT:

s: signal samples (real-valued samples)

t: time values of the signal

## 4.53 mataa\_realIFT0

file: ...mataa\_tools/mataa\_realIFT0.m

```
function [s,t] = mataa_realIFT0 (S,f);
```

DESCRIPTION:

Calculates the inverse Fourier transform of a spectrum  $S(f)$  of a signal with real-valued samples. Only the 'positive' half of the spectrum is used, i.e. only positive frequencies (including  $f=0$ ) must be given as input. See also mataa\_realFT0.

INPUT:

S: complex fourier spectrum of the signal ('positive' half, see also DESCRIPTION).

f: frequency values (vector)

OUTPUT:

s: signal samples (real-valued samples)

t: time values of the signal

### 4.54 mataa\_running\_mean

file: ...mataa-tools/mataa\_running\_mean.m

```
function y = mataa_running_mean (x,n,w);
```

**DESCRIPTION:**

Returns a running mean of a data series x.

**INPUT:**

x: vector containing the original data series

n: width of the smoothing window (number of samples, should be an odd number,  $n > 0$ )

w (optional): name of window type to be used. Default is 'rectangular', for other window types see mataa\_signal\_window

**OUTPUT:**

y: running mean of y,  $\text{length}(y) = \text{length}(x)$

**EXAMPLE:**

```
> N=1000; f0=500; fs=96000; t=[0:N-1]/fs; s = sin(2*pi*f0*t); % prepare a 500-Hz sine
> x = s+randn(size(s))/10; % create a noisy version of s
> y = mataa_running_mean(x,41,'hamm'); % remove the noise using a 41 samples wide
Hamming window
> plot(t,x,'k',t,s,'g',t,y,'r') % plot the different versions of s
```

### 4.55 mataa\_select\_signal\_window\_time

file: ...mataa-tools/mataa\_select\_signal\_window\_time.m

```
function [t_start,t_end] = mataa_select_signal_window_time;
```

**DESCRIPTION:**

Interactively select start and end times of a signal.

**INPUT:**

(none)

**OUTPUT:**

t\_start: start of selected signal range

t\_end: end of selected signal range

### 4.56 mataa\_settings

file: ...mataa-tools/mataa\_settings.m

```
function val = mataa_settings (field,value)
```

#### DESCRIPTION:

Retrieve and set MATAA settings.

`mataa_settings` with no arguments returns all the settings  
`mataa_settings(field)` returns the value of the setting of 'field'  
`mataa_settings(field,val)` sets the value of the setting 'field' to 'val'.  
`mataa_settings('reset')` resets the settings to default values

#### EXAMPLES:

```
** get the current settings (this also shows you the available fields):
> mataa_settings
```

```
** get the current plot color:
> mataa_settings('plotColor')
```

```
** set the plot color to red:
> mataa_settings('plotColor','r')
```

```
** In principle, you can store anything in the MATAA settings file. For instance, you can
store the birthday of your grandmother, so you'll never forget that:
> mataa_settings('BirthdayOfMyGrandmother','1st of April 1925');
```

## 4.57 mataa\_signal\_analytic

file: ...mataa\_tools/mataa\_signal\_analytic.m

```
function a = mataa_signal_analytic (s);
```

#### DESCRIPTION:

Calculate analytic signal `a` of signal `s`.

#### INPUT:

`s`: vector containing the samples values of the signal.

#### OUTPUT:

`a`: vector containing the analytic signal of `s`.

#### EXAMPLE:

```
calculate the amplitude envelope of the impulse response of a loudspeaker
> [h,t] = mataa_IR_demo; % load demo impulse response
> a = mataa_signal_analytic; % calculate analytic response
> a = abs(a); % abs(a) is the amplitude envelope of impulse response
```

```
> plot(t,a);
```

## 4.58 mataa\_signal\_autocorr

file: ...mataa\_tools/mataa\_signal\_autocorr.m

```
function [c,T] = mataa_signal_autocorr (s,t);
```

### DESCRIPTION:

Autocorrelation  $c(T)$  of signal  $s(t)$ , for positive delays ( $T \geq 0$ ).

### INPUT:

s: vector containing the samples values of the signal.

t: time values of the signal samples (vector, in seconds, with evenly spaced values) or sample rate (scalar, in Hz).

### OUTPUT:

c: vector containing the autocorrelation of s.

T: time lag (vector).

## 4.59 mataa\_signal\_clipcheck

file: ...mataa\_tools/mataa\_signal\_clipcheck.m

```
function n = mataa_signal_clipcheck (s,N);
```

### DESCRIPTION:

Returns the number of samples with amplitude less than N percent% lower than the maximum amplitude of the signal (absolute values).

### INPUT:

s: vector of signal samples

N (optional): percentage of deviation from maximum amplitude. Default value is  $N = 1$  (i.e. 1%).

### OUTPUT:

n: number of samples with amplitude less than 1% lower than the maximum amplitude of the signal (absolute values).

### EXAMPLES:

\* White-noise signal (not clipped):

```
> wn = mataa_signal_generator('pink',1000,1); % a white-noise signal with 1000 samples
(with sample ranges distributed in the range between -1...+1).
```

```
> n = mataa_signal_clipcheck(wn,0.1); % find number of samples with (absolute) amplitudes
that are within 0.1% of the maximum (absolute) amplitude. This will result in a low value
of n (i.e. n=1, 2, or 3, but higher values are unlikely).
```

\* Clipped white-noise signal:

```
> wn = 2.5*mataa_signal_generator('pink',1000,1); % a white-noise signal with 1000 samples
(with sample ranges distributed in the range between -2.5...+2.5).
> wn(wn > 1) = 1; wn(wn < -1) = -1; % fake clipping, i.e. truncate the samples to the range
(-1...+1).
> n = mataa_signal_clipcheck(wn,0.1); % find number of samples with (absolute) amplitudes
that are within 0.1% of the maximum (absolute) amplitude. This will result in a much higher
value of n than in the previous example (n ~ 200).
```

\* Square-wave signal:

```
> sq = mataa_signal_generator('square',10000,0.1,1000); % a square wave signal with 1000
samples (i.e. a signal with sample values of either +1 or -1).
> n = mataa_signal_clipcheck(sq,0.01); % find number of samples with (absolute) amplitudes
that are within 0.01% of the maximum (absolute) amplitude. This results in n=1000,
because the amplitude of all samples is equal to 1.
```

## 4.60 mataa\_signal\_crop

file: ...mataa\_tools/mataa\_signal\_crop.m

```
function [s,t] = mataa_signal_crop (s,t,t_start,t_end);
```

DESCRIPTION:

This function crops out the part of the signal  $s(t)$  in the range  $t = t\_start \dots t\_end$

INPUT:

s: signal samples

t: time coordinates of impulse response samples (vector, in seconds), or, alternatively, the sampling frequency of  $s(t)$  (scalar, in Hz)

OUTPUT:

s: signal samples of cropped signal

t: time coordinates of cropped signal (in seconds)

## 4.61 mataa\_signal\_generator

file: ...mataa\_tools/mataa\_signal\_generator.m

```
function [s,t] = mataa_signal_generator (kind,fs,T,param);
```

**DESCRIPTION:**

This function creates a signal  $s(t)$  of a specified type.

**INPUT:**

kind: kind of signal (see below)

fs: sampling rate (in Hz)

T: length of the signal (in seconds)

param: Some signals require additional information, which can be specified in 'param' (a vector or structure containing the required parameters, depending on the signal kind, see below)

kind can be one of the following:

'white': White noise (no additional parameters required)

'pink': Pink noise (no additional parameters required)

'MLS': Maximum length sequence (MLS). The 'T' parameter is ignored, and param = n is the number of taps to be used for the MLS. The length of the MLS will be  $2^{n-1}$  samples.

'sine','sin': Sine wave (param = frequency in Hz)

'cosine','cos': Cosine wave (param = frequency in Hz)

'sweep','sweep\_exp': Sine sweep, where frequency increases exponentially with time (param = [f1 f2], where f1 and f2 are the min. and max frequencies in Hz) % % 'sweep\_lin': Sine sweep, where frequency increases linearly with time (param = [f1 f2], where f1 and f2 are the min. and max frequencies in Hz)

'square': Square (rectangle) wave (param = frequency in Hz)

'rectangle','rect': Same as 'square'

'sawtooth','saw': Sawtooth wave (param = frequency in Hz)

'triangle','tri': Triangle wave (param = frequency in Hz)

'dirac': Dirac signal (First sample 1, zeroes otherwise)

'zero': Zero signal ('silence')

**OUTPUT:**

s: vector containing the signal samples (the values in s can range from -1...+1)

t: vector containing the sample times (in seconds)

**Examples:**

1. Create a 1-second pink-noise signal 96kHz sample rate:

```
> [pink,t] = mataa_signal_generator('pink',96000,1);
> plot(t,pink)
```

2. Create a 0.1-second 1-kHz square-wave signal with 10 kHz sample rate:

```
> [sq,t] = mataa_signal_generator('square',10000,0.1,1000);
> plot(t,sq)
```

3. Create a 1-kHz sine burst windowed by a Hanning window:

```
> [burst,t]=mataa_signal_generator('sin',96000,0.01,1000);
> burst = mataa_signal_window(burst,'hann');
```

```
> plot(t,burst)
```

#### FURTHER READING:

- different kinds of noise: [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Colors\\_of\\_noise](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Colors_of_noise)
- pink noise generation: <http://www.mathworks.com/matlabcentral/fileexchange/loadFile.do?objectId=5091&>
- sine sweeps (chirp signals): <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chirp>

### 4.62 mataa\_signal\_pad\_Zeros

file: ...mataa\_tools/mataa\_signal\_pad\_Zeros.m

```
function [s,t] = mataa_signal_pad_Zeros (s0,t0,T);
```

#### DESCRIPTION:

This function pads a signal  $s_0(t_0)$  with zeroes, i.e. replaces signal  $s_0(t_0)$  with  $s(t)$ , where...

... $s(t=t_0) = s_0(t_0)$

... $s(t>\max(t_0)$  and  $t<T) = 0$

The new signal  $s(t)$  therefore has length  $T$

### 4.63 mataa\_signal\_removeHF

file: ...mataa\_tools/mataa\_signal\_removeHF.m

```
function [s,t] = mataa_signal_removeHF (s,t,fc);
```

#### DESCRIPTION:

Removes signal components with frequencies higher than  $fc$  from  $s(t)$  by repeated convolution of  $s$  with a Hann window.

#### INPUT:

$s$ : signal samples

$t$ : time (vector, in seconds) or sampling frequency (scalar, in Hz)

$fc$ : cut-off frequency (in Hz)

#### OUTPUT:

$s$ : filtered signal samples

$t$ : time

### 4.64 mataa\_signal\_save

file: ...mataa\_tools/mataa\_signal\_save.m



```
function mataa_signal_save (s,fs,file,description);
```

**DESCRIPTION:**

Saves the signal  $s(t)$  to an binary file (Matlab 6 format).

**INPUT:**

...

**OUTPUT:**

...

## 4.65 mataa\_signal\_to\_TestToneFile

file: ...mataa\_tools/mataa\_signal\_to\_TestToneFile.m

```
function pathToFile = mataa_signal_to_TestToneFile (s,pathToFile,zeroTime,fs);
```

**DESCRIPTION:**

Saves the test signals in matrix  $s$  to a file on disk (for use with TestTone). Optionally, the signals are padded with zeroes at the beginning and the end.

**INPUT:**

$s$ : the signal samples (in the range of  $[-1..+1]$ ). In general,  $s$  is a matrix with each column corresponding to one data channel, and each row corresponding to a signal frame (i.e. all samples corresponding to the same time step). For single-channel data (i.e. mono signals),  $s$  is a column vector. A warning will be printed if  $s$  has more columns than rows.

$pathToFile$  (optional): the path (including the file name) of the destination file. If not specified, a temporary file will be used. If you want to specify  $zeroTime$  and  $fs$ , but not  $pathToFile$ , use  $pathToFile = ''$ ;

$zeroTime$  (optional): duration of 'zero signal' to be padded to the beginning and the end of the signal (in seconds). If not specified, no zeros will be padded to the signal.

$fs$  (only if  $zeroTime$  is specified): the sample rate of the signal (in Hz). This is required to determine the number of 'zero samples'.

**OUTPUT:**

$pathToFile$ : the path (including the file name) of the file to which the data was written.

**NOTE 1:** TestTone assumes that all information regarding the sample rate / time interval in between the samples is handled appropriately. `mataa_signal_to_TestToneFile` therefore does NOT handle any sample timing information. Only the sample VALUES are written

to disk.

NOTE 2: the data in `s` should be padded with zeros at the beginning and the end of the signal to avoid problems with sound-I/O latency. If `s` does not include zeros at the beginning and the end, use the `zeroTime` option.

check format of input data:

## 4.66 mataa\_signal\_window

file: ...mataa\_tools/mataa\_signal\_window.m

```
function s = mataa_signal_window (s0,window,par);
```

### DESCRIPTION:

Multiplies the signal `s0` by the window function with the name `'window'`, and returns the result in `s`.

Some window functions rely on a parameter, which can be specified by `par` (`par` can be omitted for those functions that don't rely on an extra parameter)

The following window functions are available (see e.g. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Window\\_function](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Window_function) for a description of these functions):

`'rectangular'`, `'rect'`, `'nowindow'` : rectangular window (i.e. no window at all)

`'gauss'`: gauss window, with shape parameter `sigma = par` (`par <= 0.5`)

`'hamming'`, `'hamm'`: Hamming window

`'hann'`: Hann window (cosine window). Note: in analogy to the `'Hamming'` window, this is often wrongly referred to as `'Hanning'`. However, the name relates to a guy called Julius von Hann.

`'bartlett'`, `'bart'`, `'triangular'`: Bartlett (triangular) window.

`'blackman'`, `'black'`: Blackman window

`'kaiser'`: Kaiser window with parameter `alpha = par`

Also, `'half'` windows may be used, whereby the second half of the window is used. This is done by appending `'_half'` to the window name. This is useful, for instance, to attenuate echoes towards the end in an impulse response, while retaining the information at the beginning of the signal.

Furthermore, `mataa_signal_window` can also be used to return the window function itself, see example below.

### INPUT:

`s0`: vector containing the samples values of the original signal (i.e. the signal that will be windowed).

`window`: string containing the name of the window type to be used (see above).

par: parameter(s) to further specify the window function. Depending on the window type, par may not be required (and will be ignored in these cases).

**OUTPUT:**

s: vector containing the sample value of the windowed signal.

**EXAMPLES:**

> s = mataa\_signal\_window(s,'hamming'); replaces s by a hamming-windowed version of itself

> s = mataa\_signal\_window(s,'hamming\_half'); replaces s by a version of s windowed by the second half of a hamming window

> s = mataa\_signal\_window(repmat(1,1,1000),'gauss',0.4); returns just the gauss %

## 4.67 mataa\_smooth\_log

file: ...mataa\_tools/mataa\_smooth\_log.m

function [y,x] = mataa\_smooth\_log (yRaw,xRaw,step)

**DESCRIPTION:**

This function smoothes a data set (xRaw,yRaw) reflecting a function  $y(x)$ , where the size of the averaging bins of x increases exponentially. y may be a multi-dimensional function of x.

**INPUT:**

yRaw, xRaw: vectors containing raw data corresponding to function  $y(x)$ . If  $y(x)$  is multi dimensional, yRaw is a matrix.

step: smoothing width in octaves (e.g. step = 1/12 gives smoothed data with 1/12-octave resolution)

**OUTPUT:**

y, x: vectors containing smoothed data. If  $y(x)$  is multi dimensional, y is a matrix.

## 4.68 mataa\_tempfile

file: ...mataa\_tools/mataa\_tempfile.m

function filepath = mataa\_tempfile;

**DESCRIPTION:**

returns a path to a tempfile to be used with MATAA

**INPUT:**

(none)

**OUTPUT:**

filepath: string containing the path to the tempfile (including the file name).

**4.69 mataa\_t\_to\_f**

file: ...mataa-tools/mataa\_t\_to\_f.m

function f = mataa\_t\_to\_f (t);

**DESCRIPTION:**

Same as mataa\_t\_to\_f0, but the component corresponding to f=0 is removed from the output.

**INPUT:**

(see mataa\_t\_to\_f0).

**OUTPUT:**

(see mataa\_to\_f0).

**4.70 mataa\_t\_to\_f0**

file: ...mataa-tools/mataa\_t\_to\_f0.m

function f = mataa\_t\_to\_f0 (t);

**DESCRIPTION:**

This function returns the frequency bins of the fourier spectrum of a signal sampled at times t (vector). t must be sorted and evenly spaced for this.

**INPUT:**

t: time values (vector, in seconds) of the signal

**OUTPUT:**

f: vector of the fourier-frequency bins (in Hz)

## 5 Getting started with MATLAB or Octave

MATLAB and Octave are powerful number crunching tools. While MATLAB is a commercial product, Octave is free and largely compatible with MATLAB. Both MATLAB and Octave run on various computer platforms. The name ‘MATLAB’ (*Matrix laboratory*) indicates that MATLAB (and therefore also Octave) basically work with matrices (for the non-mathematicians out there: a matrix is nothing more than a collection of numbers arranged in a rectangular way). This also includes scalars (i.e. a 1 x 1 matrix) and vectors (e.g. a 3 x 1 matrix for a vector containing 3 elements).

MATAA uses mostly scalars and vectors rather than ‘full-blown’ matrices. For example, consider a test signal made up by 2000 samples. This test signal would be stored in a vector with 2000 elements, or, in MATLAB terminology, in a 2000 x 1 matrix. Such a vector is also called a *column* vector, because its elements are arranged vertically. The same test signal might as well be represented by a 1 x 2000 matrix, which would then be called an *row* vector, because its elements are arranged horizontally. I leave it to the MATAA user to choose between column and row vectors. However, I usually prefer to store test signals and the like in column vectors, because if the data is stored in a text file, I find it easier to read with a text editor.

In some later version of this manual I may add more information on using MATLAB and Octave. For the time being, please refer to the excellent tutorials listed below. These tutorials should get you started with MATLAB or Octave, but beware: you will not need to read (or even understand) every detail in these documents to run MATAA. Also note that ‘MATLAB tutorials’ are also useful for Octave users, and vice versa. Finally, typing **help** at the MATLAB/Octave prompt will display an overview of the MATLAB/Octave environment. Also, **help** can be used to get help on a specific command, e.g.: **help fft** will display information on the **fft** command (fast Fourier transform).

- Kermit Sigmon wrote an excellent MATLAB tutorial. It is available in HTML format for online viewing ([http://www.mines.utah.edu/gg\\_computer\\_seminar/MATLAB/MATLAB.html](http://www.mines.utah.edu/gg_computer_seminar/MATLAB/MATLAB.html)) and as a post-script file for printing ([http://www.mines.utah.edu/gg\\_computer\\_seminar/MATLAB/primer.ps](http://www.mines.utah.edu/gg_computer_seminar/MATLAB/primer.ps)).
- Mark Gockenbach wrote another good introduction to MATLAB. It is available in HTML format for online viewing (<http://www.math.mtu.edu/~msgocken/intro/intro.html>) and as a post-script file for printing (<http://www.math.mtu.edu/~msgocken/intro/intro.ps>).
- Henri Gavin has compiled a list of various MATLAB tutorials and books: <http://www.duke.edu/~hpgavin/MATLAB.html>
- The full documentation for Octave (by John W. Eaton) is available online : <http://www.gnu.org/software/octave/doc/interpreter/>
- Another Octave tutorial is available online at <http://homepages.nyu.edu/~kp12/dsts6/octaveTutorial>
- Henri Amuasi, Carl Scheffler and Mike Pickles also wrote a nice Octave tutorial, which is available online at <http://www.aims.ac.za/resources/tutorials/octave/>
- There are also some Octave Wikis: <http://wiki.octave.org/> and <http://www.aims.ac.za/wiki/index.php/Octave>
- Finally, Wikipedia has nice pages on both MATLAB (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/MATLAB>) and Octave ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/GNU\\_Octave](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/GNU_Octave)).

## Appendix A Licences

### A.1 GNU General Public License (Version 2, June 1991)

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