

Designing to Meet New Expectations for Audio Experiences and Standards Critical for Competitiveness

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Agenda

- Introduction
- Far Field Voice and Speech
- Output and Speakers
- Innovation, SoundWire and New Audio Hardware
- Wrap Up



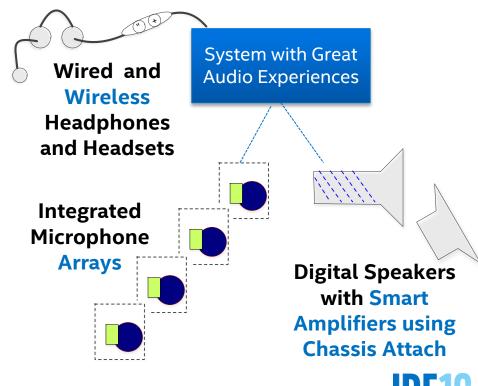
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Audio Drives Key Experiences

- Interacting with AI based bots and intelligent assistants on your system or in the cloud
- Communicating with coworkers, friends and family from anywhere in the room hands and eyes free
- Enjoying music and movies





Computing Renaissance

- We are entering a computing renaissance
 - Renaissance is being driven by speech (sometimes called voice) as new interface and new programming paradigm with AI based (chat) BOTs impact
 - Al and speech-based **assistants** and **bots** will have a dramatic impact on the man-machine interface
- Users will want to use speech NOT text with hands and eyes free
 - Speech outside of mobile becomes key capability
- The next generation of Intel CPUs and GPUs, wireless technologies, mobile screens and optics are going to make the man-machine interface richer and more immersive
- **Great microphones and speakers** critical for every computing device and system



Agenda

Introduction

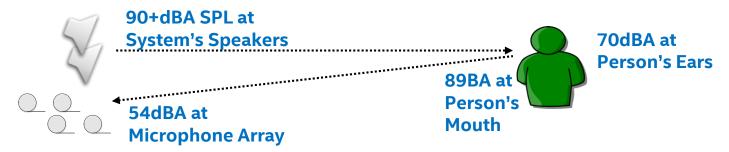
Far Field Voice and Speech

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What is "Far-Field Audio"

- "Far Field" is the ability to interact with system up to 4 meters away
 - Can be just in front of a system or full 360 degrees all around the device
 - Includes both clear voice calls and excellent speech recognition
- Transmission of human voice
 - Speech from 4 meters is only ~54dBA at microphones in reverberant rooms
 - Speaker output 85dBA is only 65dBA 4 meters away

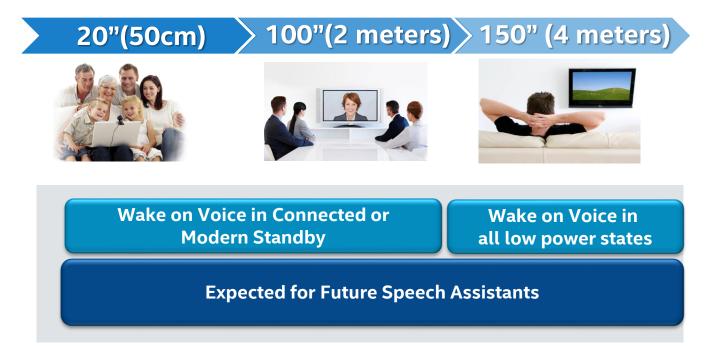


- Input and output both must be good
 - Must be able to clearly hear device speech interaction responses far-end voice
 - Speech recognition challenge is to properly pick correct speech signal
- Requires improved algorithms, especially AEC and better speakers



Wake on Voice for Far Field

- Far Field Speech is both hands free and eyes free
- Must be able to gain "attention" of the system without any physical contact
- Wake functionality provided by key phrase detection in low power states

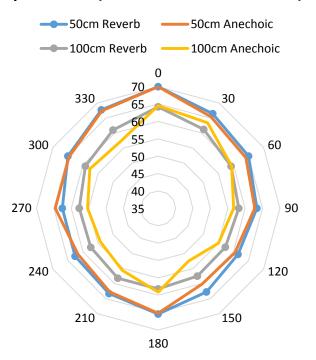




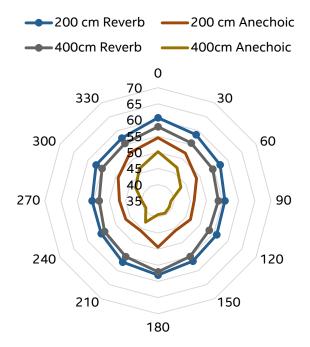
Speaker Output and Reverberation

Impact of reverb and speaker output

SPL (dBA) around the notebook, with pink noise (reverb vs. anechoic room)



SPL (dBA) around the notebook, with pink noise (reverb vs. anechoic room)





Speaker Expectations for Far Field Usages

Real world is what would be recreated for best experience

- Human & Machine Speech is 70-85dBa Average with at least 30dB of Dynamic Range attenuated for distance to listener although in noisy environments this might go as high as 90dB peaks; the Frequency for Speech is 100Hz to 16kHz
- Music listened to with at least 40dB of dynamic range and average levels about 70dB at your ears and thus must increase as you move away from the speakers with the frequency desire to go as low as 80Hz and at least up to 16-18kHz
- Movie sound track likely to have much higher crest factors with perhaps 80dB
 of dynamic range but with average listening levels again determined by the
 speech levels but adjusted in loudness as you go further from the speakers

For whole room (4 meters) real world best case desired

100Hz-16kHz 99dBa Peaks, 12-15dB crest

80Hz-20kHz 88dBa Peaks, 18dB crest

80Hz-20kHz 105dBa Peaks, 20+dB crest

Speaker Quality Metrics for Whole Room (Far Field) User Experiences

Basic Notebook or Convertible	Premium Notebook or Convertible	AIO, Portable AIO or "Amazon Echo* like System"
85dB	87dB	100dB
180Hz	165Hz	80Hz
MOS 3.7	MOS 4.1	MOS 4.5

SPL is measured at 50cm distance and the Frequency at the "judged" -3dB Roll-off point



User

High-Noise, High-Reverb Conditions

ASR Engine: Cortana* (CAR)

Room Condition: RT60 ~450-500ms

• SNR: ~5dB

Two Non-Stationary Noise Sources (TV Broadcast, Other Talker)

• User at 1m, 2m and 3m

120 Utterances; Combination of Male and Female Talkers







Conditions:	Unprocessed			4-MI	C Proce	ssed
Conditions:	1m	2m	3m	1m	2m	3m
Speech Only	78.1	81.16	70.21	94.85	92.92	90.66
Speech + Noise	39.29	42.51	25.44	91.47	83.74	78.1
Speech + Noise + Echo	12.56	10.79	3.38	87.76	81.16	74.4





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Interference





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Designing for Speech Experience

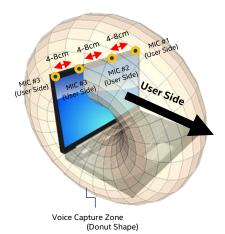
Design platforms that perform extremely well with seamless speech interaction and that works anywhere in the room, "Far Field"

- Using enough microphones with sufficient fidelity to provide 4 meter support
- Recommending 4 microphones for most systems
- Use better quality microphones with SNR of 63-65dB or more
- No singing CAPS, HDD noise, no fans or vents near microphones, etc.
- Well matched sensitivities and phase across all microphones in an array
- Properly sealing the mounting for the microphones with good isolation for all internal system noises
- Best available signal processing algorithms specifically designed for speech at 4 meters distances (Far Field)
 - User and room noise position tracking with adaptive beam forming
 - Blind-Source Separation
 - Great Acoustic Echo Cancelation (AEC)
- Don't forget the **speaker output SPL** enough to be heard at 4 meters



Far-Field Microphone Geometries

4-MIC Linear Placement



MIC Placement

 Linear (user side), the four MIC can be placed anywhere on the same dimension

Tracking Dimension

1-dimension

Performance

- Better directive beam for far-field vs. 3-MIC
- World side noise will not be suppressed.
 Beam is formed in donut shape
- Donut size can expand to have 360° full range coverage

Less affective 2-MIC Linear Placement Voice Capture Zone (Donut Shape)

MIC Placement

• Linear (user side), both MIC can be placed anywhere on the same dimension

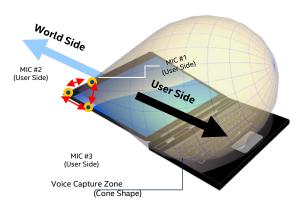
Tracking Dimension

1-dimension

Performance

- World side noise will not be suppressed.
 Beam is formed in donut shape
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3-MIC L-Shape Placement



MIC Placement

L-Shape (user side)

Tracking Dimension

2-dimension

Performance

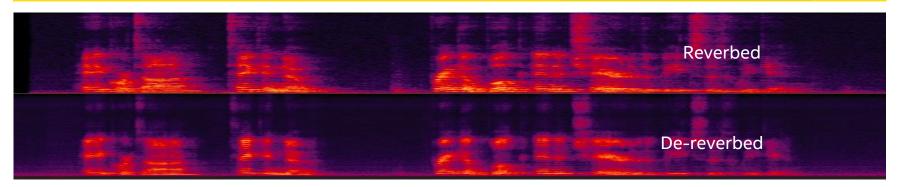
- Better directive beam for far-field vs. 3-MIC
- World side noise will be suppressed when display is sitting "FLAT"





Fortemedia* Far-Field Speech Improvement

Success Rate (%)			3 meters			50 cm
	iS700* ('15)	iS800V1* (2-Mic, 2Q16)	iS800V1* (4-Mic, 2Q16)	iS800V2* (2-Mic,3Q16)	iS800V2* (4-Mic,3Q16)	
Clean	68.26	73.21	75.12	84.83	90.85	98.01
Pub	54.71	67.81	69.18	76.17	82.88	95.12
Cafe	56.45	64.28	65.82	75.03	83.75	95.06
Music	36.35	55.26	62.22	67.61	73.15	96.32

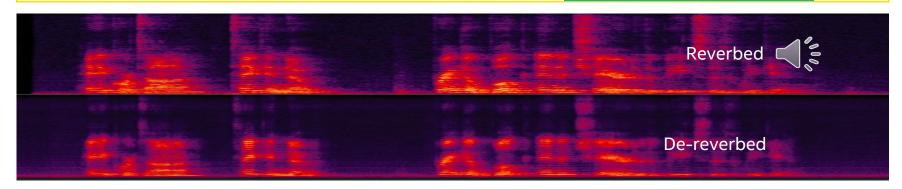






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Cafe	56.45	64.28	65.82	75.03	83.75	95.06
Music	36.35	55.26	62.22	67.61	73.15	96.32

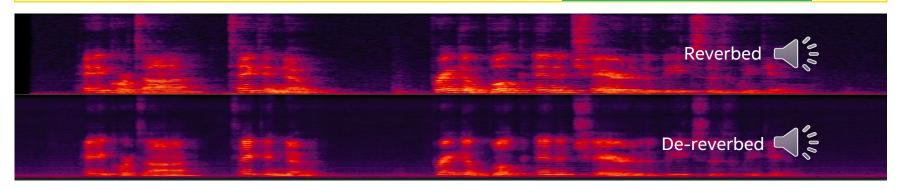






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Speech Platform Evaluation Tool (SPET)

- Modular framework supporting multiple speech environments that validates platform speech subsystem and end to end user experience using form factor specific use cases
 - Not measuring specific ASR quality and performance
- Passing ensures good implementation of electromechanical microphone array design and algorithmic processing ensuring consistent speech recognition on Intel based platforms when using chosen speech environment such as Cortana*, or RockHopper*
- Validates the signal processing built in to the platform under various conditions including environment noise and platform orientation
- Provides advanced tools for supporting preprocessing tuning, batching data generation and performance analysis

SPET Updates for 2017

- Adding additional tests specifically for key phrase recognition performance
 - Includes both false accept & false reject rate testing using multiple corpus
- Adding far-field microphone performance measurement support
- Includes room response measurements reverb time (RT20/30/60), background NC/NR level, room impulse response
- Microphone frequency response, sensitivity
- Adds speaker frequency response, and loudness
- Improved equalization of background noise speakers at test unit



Speech Assistant Requirement Expectations

	Today	Expected Next Generation Speech Assista					
	Microsoft* Cortana* Standard	Standard	Premium				
Test Distance	0.5m	Near 0.5m	Near 0.8m	Far 4m			
	Quiet		Quiet				
	Babble_Pub		Babble_Pub				
Noise Pattern	Babble_Cafe	Babble_Cafe					
Noise Pattern	Echo						
		Babble_Pub + Echo					
		Babble_Cafe + Echo					
Speech Pattern	Male + Female	Male + Fe	male + Childre	n (5-12)			
Test Angle	O dos		0 deg				
Test Angle	0 deg		50 deg				
Keyword Spotter	Only applicable for specific Windows [*] version	Yes					



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Achieving Speaker Quality

Users feel that PC speaker quality not meeting expectations, matching competitive solutions and not ready for whole room and far field experiences

- A number of options to solve the challenges are available for you to use today...
 - Removing the speaker enclosure (the Box) and utilizing the chassis to provide the sealed volume called Chassis Attached Transducer (CAT)
 - Adds substantially to speaker volume (space)
 - Providing opportunity for reducing the audio BOM cost
 - Smart amplifiers driving enhanced peak power and providing speaker protection
 - Larger speaker drivers and use of either dual magnetics or dual drivers per side
 - **Digital and multi-coil speakers** with new amplifier enhancing loudness while lowering power consumption
 - Front firing of the speakers enhancing loudness and high frequency
 - Passive radiators helping to enhance bass



Introduction to Sound Research



- Patent-pending technology
- Optimize for bass, loudness
- System BOM cost reduction





- Automated speaker tuning
- Best in class enhancement



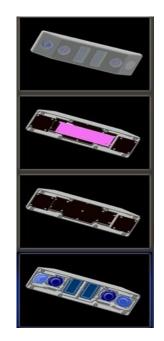




- Product mastering services
- Speaker design consulting
- OEM training and support



The Smartest, Loudest Speaker is CAT









Hawking's Voice with CAT Speakers and Smart Amp 99.7dB "A"





Chassis Attached Transducers (CAT) Speakers and Gasket Seal Technology (GST)

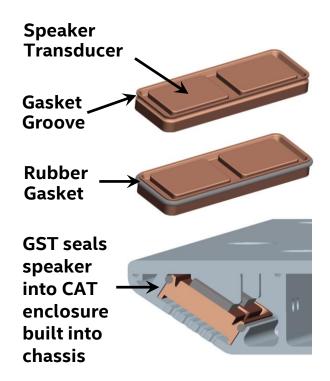
- Speakers require volume (space) to achieve the best loudness and bass (low frequency)
- Thinner form-factors mean less internal volume to be utilized for speakers and mounting speaker boxes in a chassis means you're putting a box inside of a box
 - Plastic surrounding traditionally used, significantly reduces the usable volume
 - Speaker enclosure & mounting is complex & custom for every design adding to design & BOM cost

 CAT solution removes the speaker enclosure (Box) & utilizes the chassis to provide the volume while reducing the overall BOM cost

- Challenges with CAT:
 - High mechanical Q sealing
 - Avoid glue in platform assembly
 - ODM HVM friendly
- CAT without GST mounts directly to chassis using glue which easily cracks & flexes
 - Leads to distortion & poor bass response
 - Difficult & expensive to replace damaged or defective glue-attached transducers
- CAT with GST Speakers attach such that they are easily replaceable while eliminating separate fasteners/grommets where possible, reducing parts count and complexity
- GST supports speakers of all shapes & sizes



Gasket Seal Technology



CAT/GST Advantages

- Bigger Speaker Drivers from more efficient use of space
- Superior Bass
 from additional back volume and better sealing (high "Q")
- Maximum Loudness
 from larger speakers and more stable attachment to chassis
- Lower Support Cost
 More reliable, easily replaceable
- Potentially reduced BoM Reduced parts count, less glue

GST Partnership Speaker Vendors











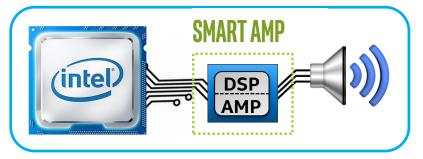


Smart Amplifiers

Another Approach for Loudness and Improved Bass

- Typically speakers are driven conservatively because of little or no direct knowledge of the overall system interactions (amplifier, speaker, enclosure, and chassis)
- Smart amplifiers can improve performance without compromising coil temperature, mechanical excursion, material fatigue, etc.

Smart...

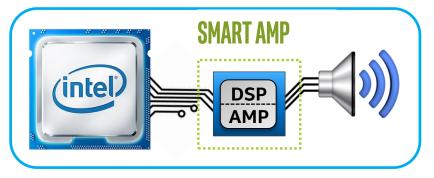


- Smart amplifiers utilize a separate DSP for processing to optimize the amplifier for the speaker you're driving
- Uses feedback mechanisms and known speaker characteristics from manufacturer to provide the best performance
- This means you are able to optimize the amplifier for the speaker in your system

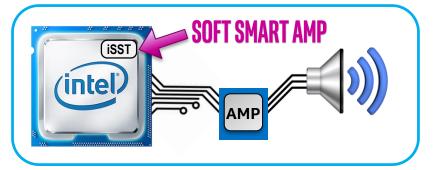


Another Approach for Loudness

Smart...



Smarter...





SOFT SMART AMP BENEFITS

CHEAP

Potentially lower BoM with equivalent speaker driver protection

LOUD

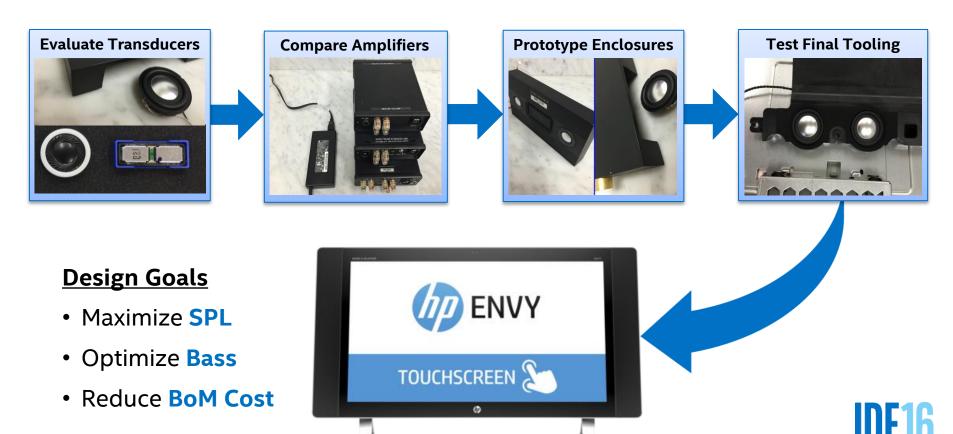
Maximum SPL with minimal distortion and enhanced audio fidelity

GOOD

Better sounding solution when tuned with SpeakerCal*



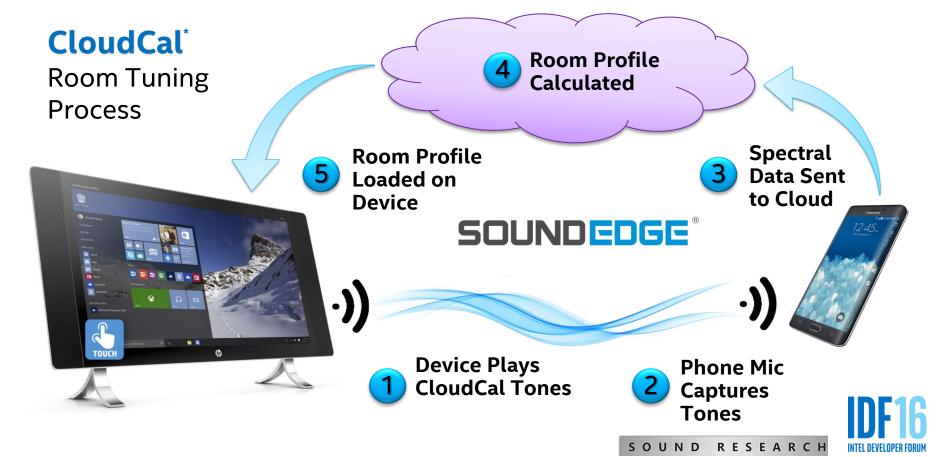
Example with 2016 HP Envy* All-In-Ones



SOUND

RESEARCH

Software Example: CloudCal* Room Tuner



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Innovation with Audio

Key User Experiences



Innovation with Audio

Key User Experiences

Speech based interactions with Al based assistants and bots

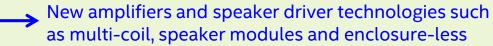
Conferencing and speech recognition from anywhere in the room

Great sounding speakers so don't

have to use headphones

Ready Today

Great microphones, algorithms and new improved speech engines such as Cortana* and Amazon* Alexa* Improved MEMS microphones and noise reduction algorithms including source separation





Innovation with Audio

Key User Experiences

Speech based interactions with Al based assistants and bots

Conferencing and speech recognition from **anywhere in the room**

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Ready Today

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algorithms including source separation

New amplifiers and speaker driver technologies such as multi-coil, speaker modules and enclosure-less

New User Experiences

VR with fantastic gaming, conferencing spatial audio with head tracking

Audio in **multiple rooms** simultaneously

User's **identification and biometrics** using voice and speech

Continuously **sensing** and adapting to environment

World and user side audio for conferencing and content creation

Opportunities

Digital headphones with 6-axis reporting and new low latency and power algorithms

Synchronization primitives, network streaming

Integrated DSP with low power new biometrics algorithms

Multi-modality, open DSP, low power microphone, algorithms and apps

Microphone arrays with world facing microphone, new algorithms with input from 3/6 axis sensors providing spatial audio



Intel® Smart Sound Technology Evolution

Today













All information provided here is subject to change without notice. Contact your Intel representative to obtain the latest Intel roadmaps.





2x performance and 50% more memory to enable more advanced features

Audio Platform Innovations



Simplified interface, improved audio/ speech fidelity, and reduced power

Improved Speech Recognition



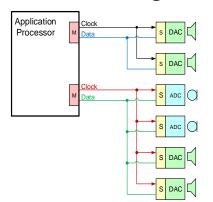
Hardware acceleration for faster and more accurate speech recognition



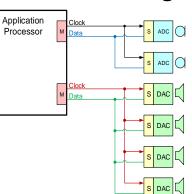
SoundWire*

- Robust, scalable, two-pin multi-drop bus
- Low power, low latency, well-bounded
 PHY and transport with master and slaves
- Embedded control, commands, status
- In-band interrupts, wakes with clock stop
- Multiple dynamically reconfigurable streams
- PCM, PDM, isochronous and asynchronous transfer modes
- Fast device configuration up to 20 Mbits/s
- Multiple clock frequencies up to 12MHz
- Double data rate signaling, lower power

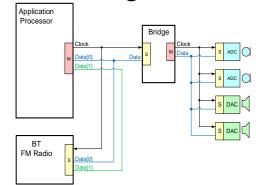
Functional Partitioning



Routing/Use Case Partitioning



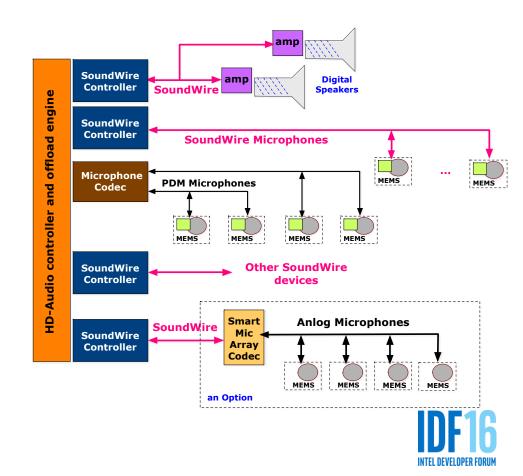
Bridged



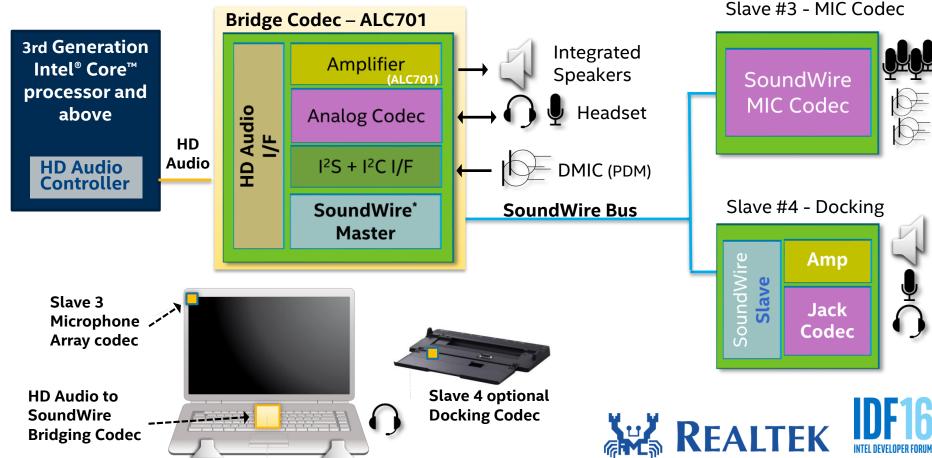


SoundWire* Integration

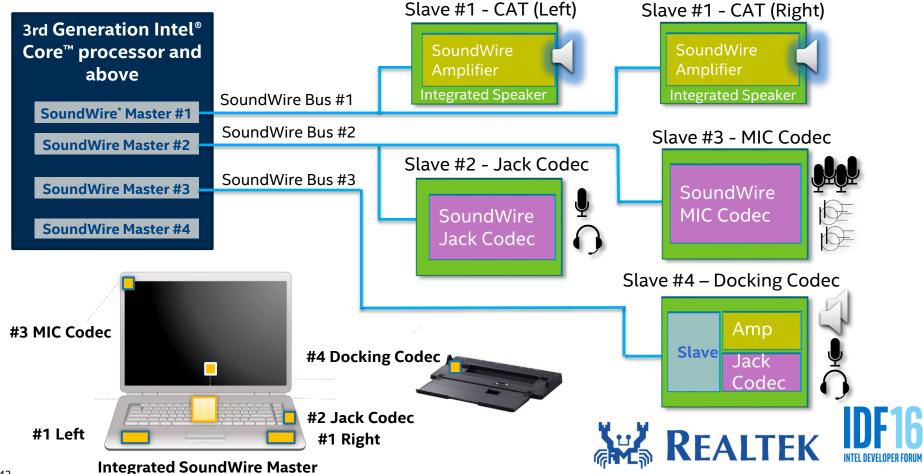
- Four controllers each with their own physical link (segment)
 - Two physical interfaces are shared with DMICs
 - 3rd and 4th take back some pins from I2S & HD-audio
- SoundWire* interfaces are part of HD-audio controller
- SoundWire support will require the use of the audio offload engine (a hardware DSP) & the bus and offload drivers as part of Intel® Smart Sound Technology



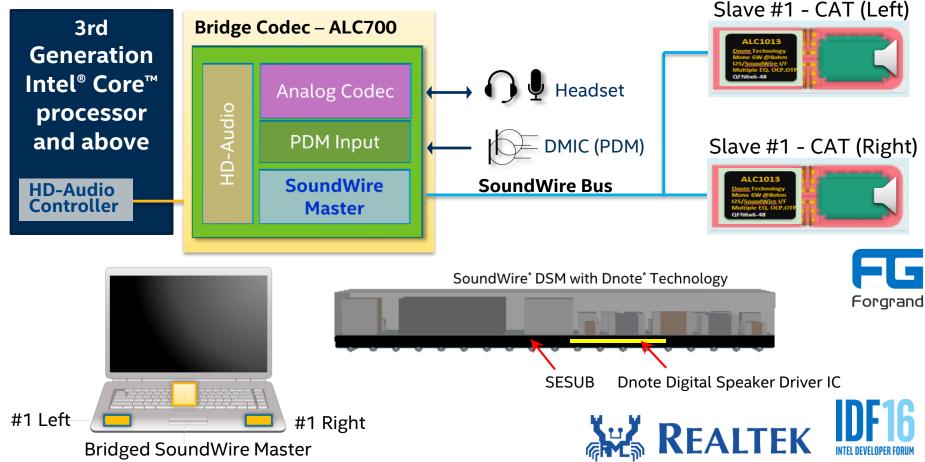
Bridging Architecture Available Now



SoundWire* with Integrated Controllers



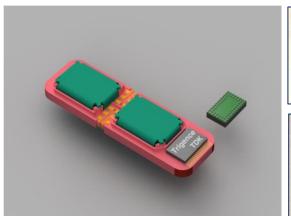
SoundWire* Digital Speaker Module (DSM)



Digital Speakers and Modules (DSMs) Using Trigence* Dnote* Technology

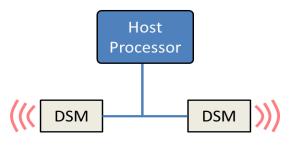


- Self-contained digital components
- Complete digital speaker sub-systems
- Individually addressable at the host level
- Incorporate a bi-directional digital audio interface, audio DSP, Dnote* processor, and digital speaker within a single speaker from









<u>Advantages</u>

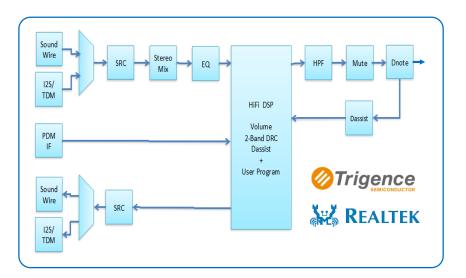
- Lower Power and Supplies
- Improve Audio Quality
- Simplify System Architecture
- Offer Advanced Functionality
- Lower Overall Cost
- Faster design and qualification





Digital Speaker Driver IC (ALC1013)





- **SoundWire***, I²S and TDM audio interfaces
- 200 MHz Tensilica* HiFi2 DSP (~100MHz available for customer IP / functionality)
- D-Assist speaker compensation algorithms derived from active measurement of speaker characteristics

- Dnote* Digital Amplifier System
- True 24-bit audio output with < -120dB in-band noise floor
- Greater output power than a conventional Class-D amplifier from the same power supply voltage

Power Supply	Dnote (8Ω x 6)	Class-D (8Ω)
1.8V	0.75W	0.15W
3.3V	2.55W	0.45W
5.0V	6.75W	1.0W

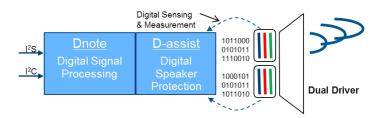
- Improved Power Efficiency (1W into speaker)
 - Dnote consumes 1.1W from system
 - Typical D-Class consumes 2.1W
- All digital / generic bulk CMOS solution





Speaker Compensation with D-Assist*

- D-Assist* is a suite of speaker compensation algorithms designed to maximize the performance of digital micro-speakers through the precise sensing and compensation of physical electro-mechanical properties
- D-Assist makes use of techniques that are only possible through the close coupling of the driving and sensing electronics with the speaker mechanics



DSA - Digital Smart-Amp

- Entirely digital smart-amp implementation
- Offers speaker protection and greater perceived SPL
- Does not rely on current sensing resistors or probe-tones
- No loss in efficiency over non smart-amp implementation

DDR - Digital Distortion Reduction

- Dynamically compensates THD (Total Harmonic Distortion) degradation in the speaker
- Typical overall speaker THD reduction to less than 20% of uncorrected value

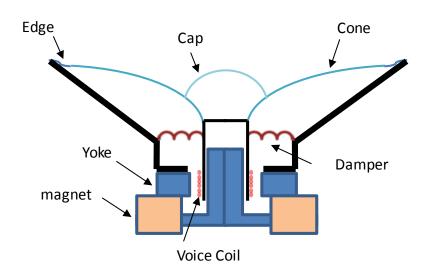
DTSC - Digital Thiele-Small Correction

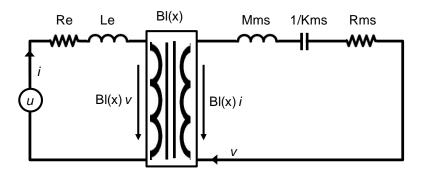
 Uses active measurement of speaker characteristics to provides control over and compensation of a speaker's Thiele-Small Parameters through use of on-chip DSP





Thiele-Small Parameters





Re: Coil Resistance

Le: Coil Inductance

BI: Force Factor

Kms: Mechanical Stiffness

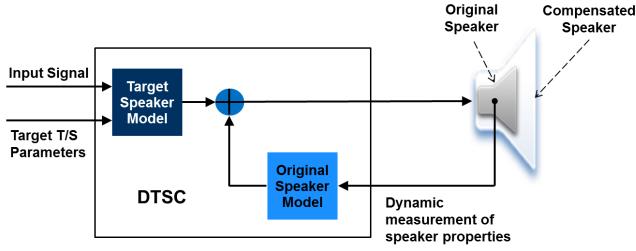
Rms: Mechanical Resistance

Mms: Driver Mass

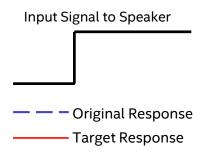


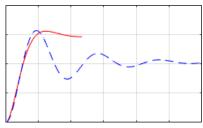


Basic DTSC Architecture



- Uses physical model of transducer and modern feed-forward control theory to permit the time-domain equalization of the speaker's transient response
- Original Speaker approximates the same sound as Target Speaker model if measurement of Original Speaker parameters is accurate





- Strong bass
- Boost-down treble
- Intermediate rise time
- Short reverb time
- Improved clarity





Comparison with Frequency Domain EQ

SPL

Trigence* reSound* EQ

Input Step Response

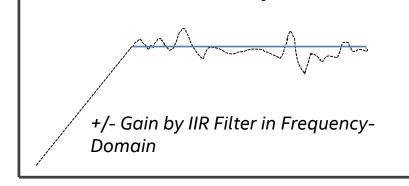
Output Step
Response

Improved Step
Response



- Can control signal response
- No group delay or phase shifts
- Minimal THD or noise degradation
- No need for "golden ear" to perfect sound
- Easy to perceive improvement

Conventional Equalizer



Frequency

- Cannot control signal response
- Inherent phase shift /delay through IIR filters
- Needs "golden ear" to perfect sound flavor
- Degrades THD and increases noise level
- Difficult to understand improvement or not

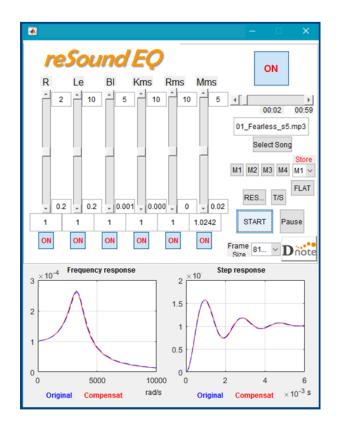




Trigence* reSound* EQ

- Works with all ALC1013-based
 Digital Speaker Modules (DSMs)
- Enables dynamic tuning of DTSC functionality within the speaker
- Fast, simple speaker alignment / compensation tool
- Designed specifically to improve Digital Speaker transducer quality

reSound EQ demo







Agenda

- Introduction
- Far Field Voice and Speech
- Output and Speakers
- Innovation, SoundWire and New Audio Hardware
- Wrap Up



Summary and Next Steps

- Computing renaissance being driven by audio especially voice and speech with AI and bots, thus becoming critical to competitiveness
- Far field for at least 4 meters voice and speech can be supported today with the new generation of improved processing algorithms from multiple vendors, improved microphone arrays with more microphones
- Speakers with 85dB SPL and 180Hz can be provided today using larger drivers, digital speakers, improved amplifiers and CAT
- SoundWire* and new audio hardware should be adopted where possible



Additional Sources of Information

- A PDF of this presentation is available from our Technical Session Catalog: www.intel.com/idfsessionsSF. This URL is also printed on the top of Session Agenda Pages in the Pocket Guide.
- See Realtek*, Trigence*, Forte Media* and Conexant* in the showcase



Technical Sessions in PC Innovation Track

Tuesday, August 16, 2016

11:00 AM – 12:00 PM PCITS02 — Designing to Meet New Expectations for Audio Experiences and Standards Critical for Competitiveness Level 2 Room 2009

11:00 AM - 12:00 PM VRGTS01 — Bringing Virtual Reality to the Mainstream Level 2 Room 2005

1:15 PM - 2:15 PM VRGTS02 — Overclocking Innovation: 2016 Enhancements and New Opportunities Level 2 Room 2005

2:30 PM – 3:30 PM SOFTS03 — ChromeOS* and coreboot* on Intel® Architecture Platforms – A Primer Level 2 Room 2006

2:30 PM - 3:30 PM VRGTS03 — Developing Virtual Reality Solution with Intel® Architecture Level 2 Room 2005

4:00 PM - 5:00 PM CONTS02 — Simplified Platform Power Measurement Using USB Type-C* Interface to Drive Software Power Optimization Level 2 Room 2008

4:00 PM - 5:00 PM SOFTS05 — Intel® Software Guard Extensions Technology Overview and Programming Model Level 2 Room 2006

Wednesday, August 17, 2016

11:00 AM – 12:00 PM PCITS01 — Touch/Stylus Technologies for 2016 – Intel® and Ecosystem Drives Improved Touch/Stylus User Experience Level 2 Room 2000

1:15 PM - 2:15 PM CONBZ03 — Thunderbolt™ 3 Technology - The USB Type-C* that Does It All Level 2 Room 2007

1:15 PM – 2:15 PM PCITS03 — Google Play* on Chrome OS* + Intel® Architecture – A Primer on Developing the Best Apps Level 2 Room 2000

1:15 PM - 2:15 PM SOFTS06 — Machine Learning: Optimizing Deep Learning Usages on Intel® Client Platform Level 2 Room 2006

2:30 PM - 3:30 PM CONTS03 — Shape the Personal Home Gateway: Flexible Design for the Connected Home Level 2 Room 2007

2:30 PM – 3:30 PM PCITS04 — Evolving the 2 in 1 through New Usages, Technologies, and Form Factor Design Optimization Level 2 Room 2000

4:00 PM – 5:00 PM PCITS05 — Intel® Authenticate – Innovation and Multi-Factor Authentication for Enterprise Level 2 Room 2000

Thursday, August 18, 2016

9:30 AM – 10:30 AM MASTS06 — Unifying the Storage Interface Across Client and Data Center Level 2 Room 2002

9:30 AM - 10:30 AM PCITS06 — Enhancing and Extending Intel® Unite™ with Plugins Level 2 Room 2004

10:45 AM - 11:45 AM PCITS07 — Driving Enterprise Value with Intel® Core™ vPro™ Processor Level 2 Room 2004

2:15 PM - 3:15 PM PCITS08 — Modern Standby: Why and How Level 2 Room 2004



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Backup



Intel® Smart Sound Technology Audio DSP



Pre-Processing

(e.g., noise reduction, echo cancellation, beam forming...)



(Voice activation and wake from standby)



(e.g., surround sound, bass enhancement, voice clarity, soft smart amp...)

Audio DSP





- Enhanced voice, speech and audio quality from microphone(s)
- · Improved voice communications and speech recognition accuracy



- Supports voice activation from SO and wake from standby
- Improved battery life running on audio DSP -vs- host CPU







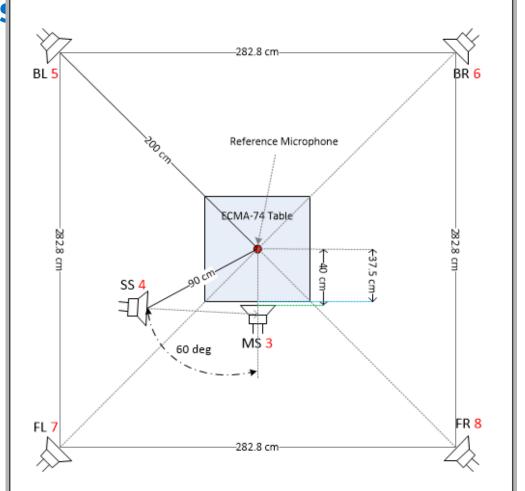


- Enhanced audio playback quality for headphones and speakers
- Soft smart amp for cost-reduction, speaker protection and improved audio fidelity

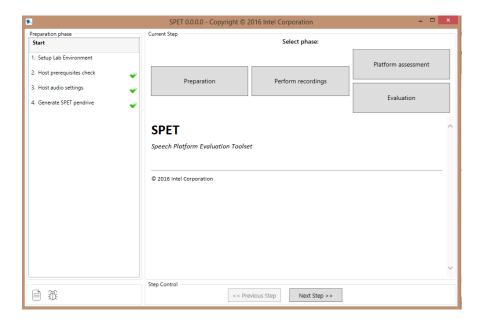




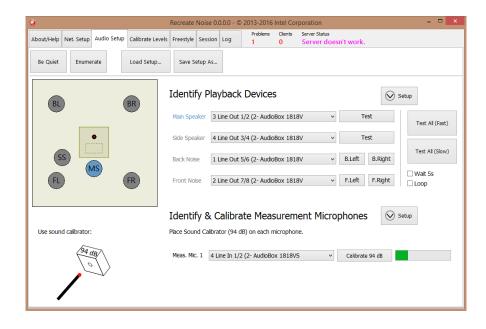
SPET Updates



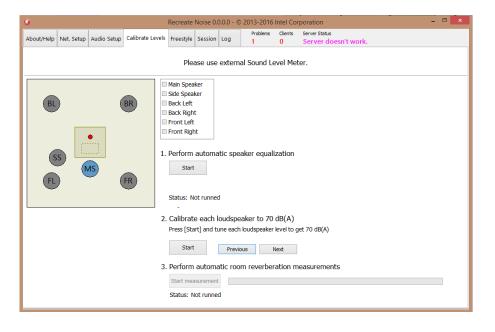




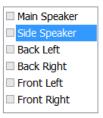




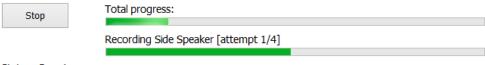








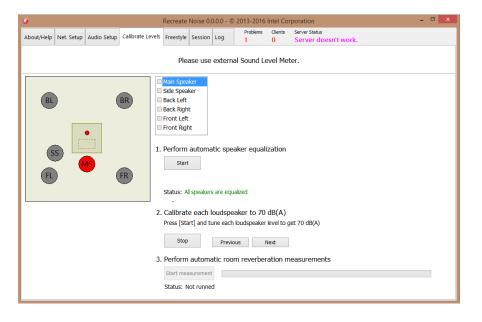
1. Perform automatic speaker equalization



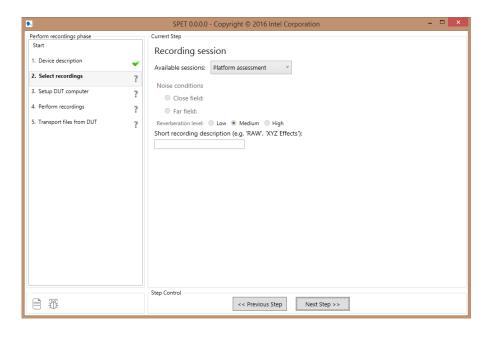
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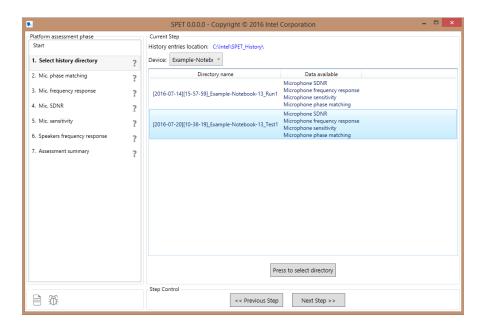




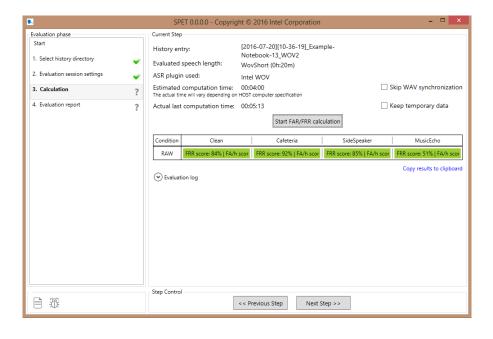










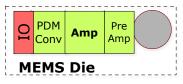


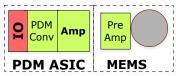


Before Now
Analog PDM I2S SoundWire*



Before Now
Analog PDM I2S SoundWire*

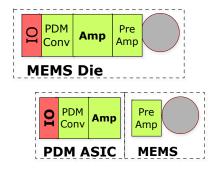




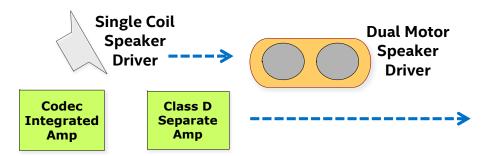
Arrays Improved Mounting



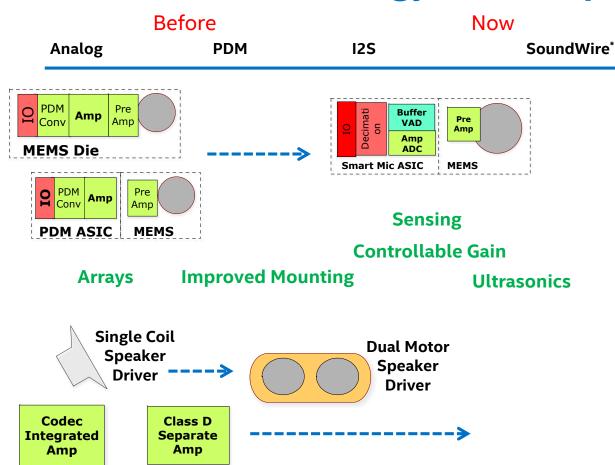
Before Now
Analog PDM I2S SoundWire*



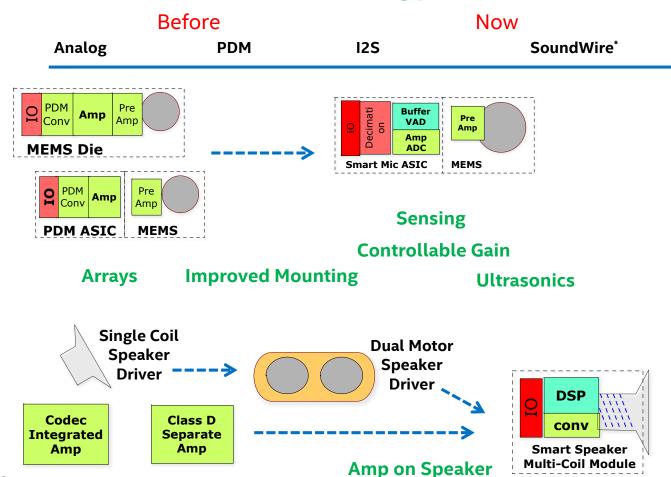
Arrays Improved Mounting



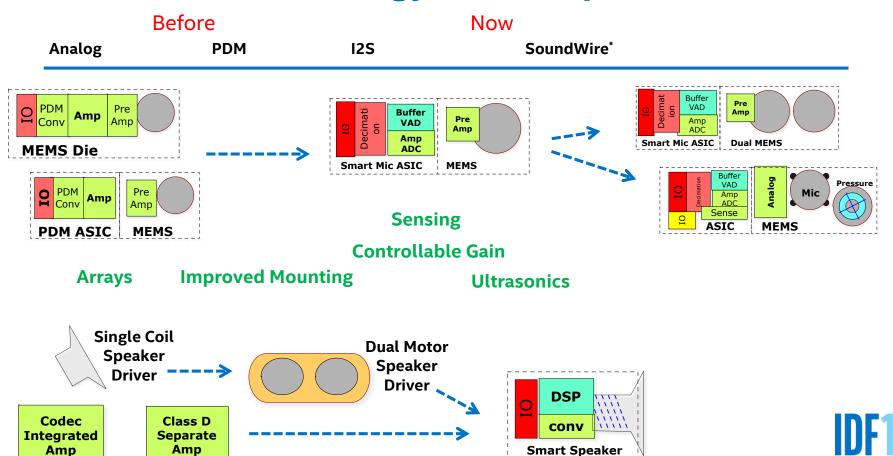






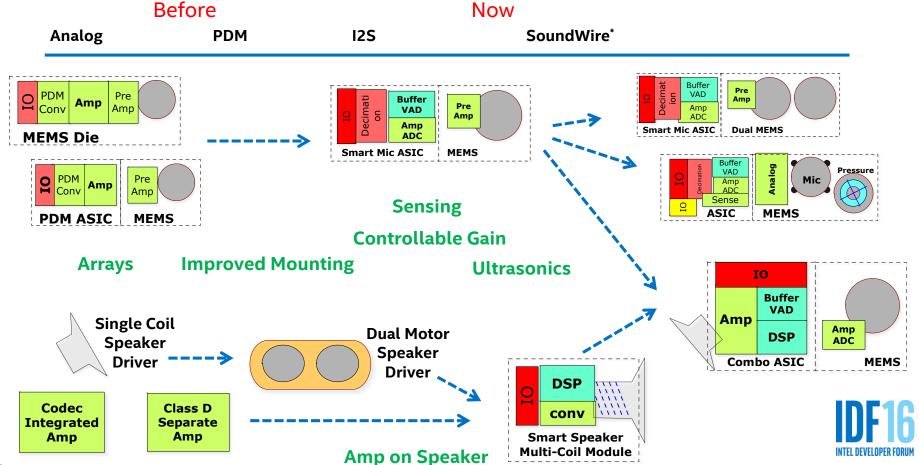






Amp on Speaker

Multi-Coil Module



<u>Digital Thiele-Small Correction</u>

- DTSC, Trigence's* Digital Thiele-Small Correction technology offers new type of equalizer tool to improve / compensate the electro-mechanical characteristics of speakers through the precise real-time measurement of the speaker properties, and use of on-chip DSP
- Uses physical model of transducer and modern feed-forward control theory to permit the time-domain equalization of speaker response
- Easy to produce preferred sound flavor
 - Stronger or slower bass
 - Fast or slow transient attack
 - Simple boost up or down of mid-high
 - Short or long reverberation
 - Clarity or warm sound

