

# OpenAUDIENCE

**Sistema para Produção e Reprodução de  
Áudio Espacial**

<http://openaudience.incubadora.fapesp.br>

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# Apresentação

- Projeto OpenAUDIENCE
  - Objetivos, metas, características
  - Aplicações, mercados, parceiros
  - Arquitetura, conceitos e componentes
  - Desenvolvimentos em curso
  - Como colaborar
  - Exemplos de aplicação e uso
  - Próximos passos





# Projeto OpenAUDIENCE

- O que é
  - Projeto para desenvolvimento colaborativo de software para áudio espacial multicanal
- Sucede ao projeto AUDIENCE com objetivos ampliados
- Hospedado na Incubadora FAPESP
- Objetivo principal
  - Desenvolvimento de software para produção, processamento, distribuição e auralização de cenas sonoras espaciais
- Metas:
  - Distribuição Beta, restrita a equipe de desenvolvimento, base para sistemas dedicados
    - Closed distributions (for specific applications, clients) in PD support or other programming languages
  - Distribuição Livre, para uso de desenvolvedores de aplicações e disseminação como plataforma de auralização
    - ruled by BSD, and will have usage limitations and may contain embedded proprietary compiled externals

# OpenAUDIENCE

- Objetivos gerais

- prover soluções em produção e reprodução de áudio espacial, comunidades abertas e indústrias (multimídia, jogos, radiodifusão, internet, música profissional, etc)
- divulgação da arquitetura e do sistema aberto para áudio 3D em desenvolvimento,
- ampliação da fertilização cruzada entre as comunidades técnicas, científicas e artísticas das engenharias, música e ciência da computação,
- identificação de pessoal capacitado e interessado em linhas de P&D em engenharia de áudio e tecnologias sonoras,
- desenvolvimento colaborativo remoto de software,
- uso do sistema em atividades de ensino e capacitação diversas usando software livre.



# OpenAUDIENCE

- Software architecture based on AUDIENCE architecture (Faria 2005)
- Developers and researchers contribute by developing functional blocks in one or more layers, and algorithms for integration, control or interfaces
- Developers have access to the distribution software while active contributors



# OpenAUDIENCE

- Deliverables
  - Software distributions for general spatial sound production and playing capable to export spatial audio in several formats and to be played in several configurations
- Academic contributors
  - POLI, UNICAMP
- Industrial partners
  - Lando Hi-Fi, Sankya Eletronica, Cabos Golden, Coding Technologies (Alemanha)
- Absolutely open to new researchers and application-interested groups!





# OpenAUDIENCE Partners

- **Lando High-Fidelity**  
Speakers systems  
<http://www.lando.com.br>
- **Sankya**  
Amplifiers solutions  
<http://www.sankya.com.br>
- **Cabos Golden**  
Cabling and connectors  
<http://www.cabosgolden.com.br>
- **Coding Technologies**  
audio codecs  
<http://www.codingtechnologies.com>



# Características principais

- Camadas funcionais com mínimo acoplamento
- Comunicação por mensagens
- Conceito de controle por camada
- Produção admite descrição da cena
- Renderização admite simulação acústica
- Codificação espaço-temporal, admite vários formatos de transmissão
- Decodificação e reprodução admite várias configurações de saída (modos e número de canais)



# Some features

- Layer-oriented: controls processes for spatial audio production, distribution and reproduction in 4 layers
- Open to many possible standards per functional layer
- Minimum coupling with visual systems, minimal coupling between layers,
- own sync strategies and process in every layer
- Each layer responsible to deliver its functionality, independent from the others.
- Many possible combination of layers and functions per layer to be employed into the encoder and in the decoder terminal (reconfigurable and flexible building of the engine).



# Some features

- Permits to build spatial auralization machines (i.e. multi-object and spatial audio encoders, authoring tools, decoders, transcoders, and players)
- Layer self-controlling embedded
- Message passing feature to send and update real-time parameters and values
- Good candidate for reconfigurable audio coding architecture
- This spatial encoding/decoding method can be used together with MPS, and transcodes into this standard.



# AUDIENCE advanced capabilities

- Permit further expansion, integrating new formats and techniques as functional units
- Can govern high-level tasks of spatial audio production such as
  - specifying in bitstream the formats/techniques used in the 4 main layers of processing and which were used to encode the payload
  - specifying (optional) how decoding blocks shall be put in line and connected (auralization engine buildup)
  - specifying valid formats and signals between layers
  - specifying a decoder which is a terminal SAOC engine, capable of analyzing the bitstream, calling the necessary functional units (AUDIENCE blocks), or providing the transcoding blocks necessary to remap sound according to its current capabilities
  - specifying a reconfigurable audio coding strategy





# Application scenario

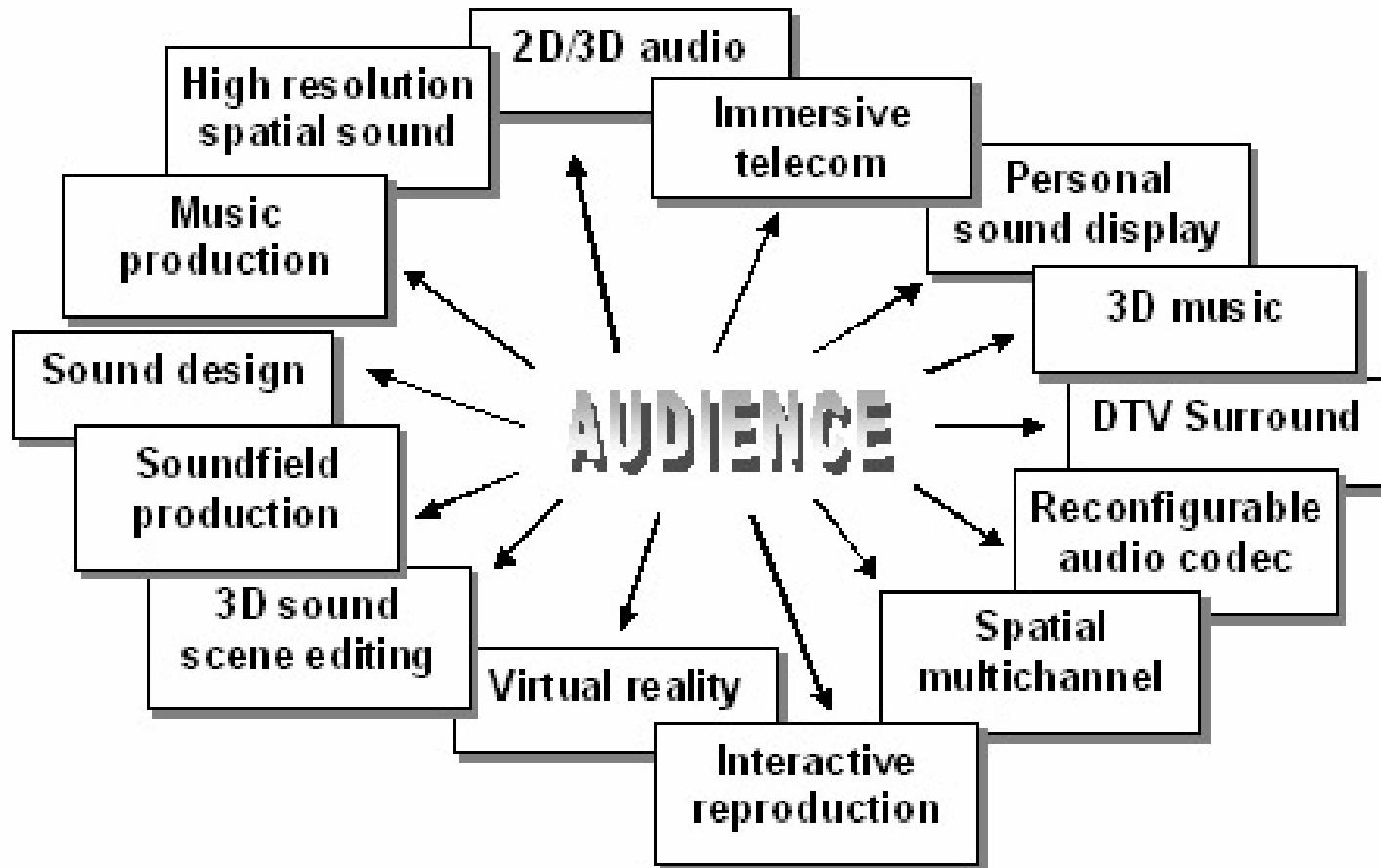
- Designed for spatial, multichannel and multi-object and multi-content scenarios
- Cover all described scenarios for MPEG SAOC, specially PAS (Personal Audio Services)
- Adequate for Hi-Fi distribution of spatial multichannel material (not only backward compatible downmix stereo)
- Accommodates general multichannel spatial encoding schemes, including 5.1 and Ambisonics
- Accommodates general compressions schemes including lossless

# Áreas de Aplicações

- Produção sonora multicanal / espacial
- Codificação de áudio espaço-temporal, orientada a objetos
- Auralização 2D/3D, projeção de mundos virtuais sonoros e ambientes artificiais
- Espacialização sonora
- Áudio surround
- Comunicação multimodal
- Serviços de áudio personalizados



# Áreas de Aplicações



# Future Spatial Audio Markets

- Music/Phonographic industry
- powerful codecs, as AAC, OGG, lossless, etc.
- Real time distribution/consume, remote storage
- Spatial audio: 3D sound, MPEG Surround
- Music at the mobile
- Personalized Audio Services
- Hi-Fi Karaoke and Professional Music
- Cinema Digital 3D Authoring





# Future Spatial Audio Markets

- Personalization of programs

No. of Object	3
Object Name	Voice (Announcer, Commentator), Environment (the audience)
Control	Loudness
Preset	1: Normal. 2: Mute mode (Vocal loudness zero). 3: More live mode (Loudness of environmental sound is increased)
User Control	Change the loudness of Announcer or Commentators voice



No. of Object	9
Object Name	Vocal, Violin 1, 2, Viola, Cello, Piano-L, R, Background-L, R
Control	Position, Distance, Loudness
Preset	1: Normal position (like figure) 2: Karaoke mode (Vocal loudness zero)
User Control	Change the loudness, position and distance of each object.



# Aplicações em DTV

- Cobertura de diversos serviços e aplicações

Services	Sound programs	Modes (channel configuration)
main video sound program	mono stereo	1 (1.0) 2 channels (2.0)
audio description secondary language side audio (music, etc.)	surround (spatial sound)	2.1 channels (plus LFE/subwoofer) alternative modes (3.0, 4.0, 4.1, etc.)
separate voice and music additional sound services	simultaneous stereo and surround	5.1 (6 channels) 7.1 (8 channels)
audiovisual realism enhancement sound synthesis (terminal) 2D/3D sound scene capability	concurrent multiformat delivery (Surround formats)	advanced n.m modes (n+m channels) mixed modes (2.0 + 5.1, etc.)





# AUDIENCE System

Spatial Audio Production, Transmission and Reproduction



*Audio Immersion Experience by Computer Emulation*

# AUDIENCE base architecture

- Layer-oriented
  - layer 1, responsible for scene compositions and description, production and interaction



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  - layer 2, responsible for scene rendering (and acoustic simulation)



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  - layer 2, responsible for scene rendering (and acoustic simulation)
  - layer 3, responsible for spatial audio encoding (encoding/compressing data) and can accommodate AAC, HE-AAC, MP3, MPS and other codecs

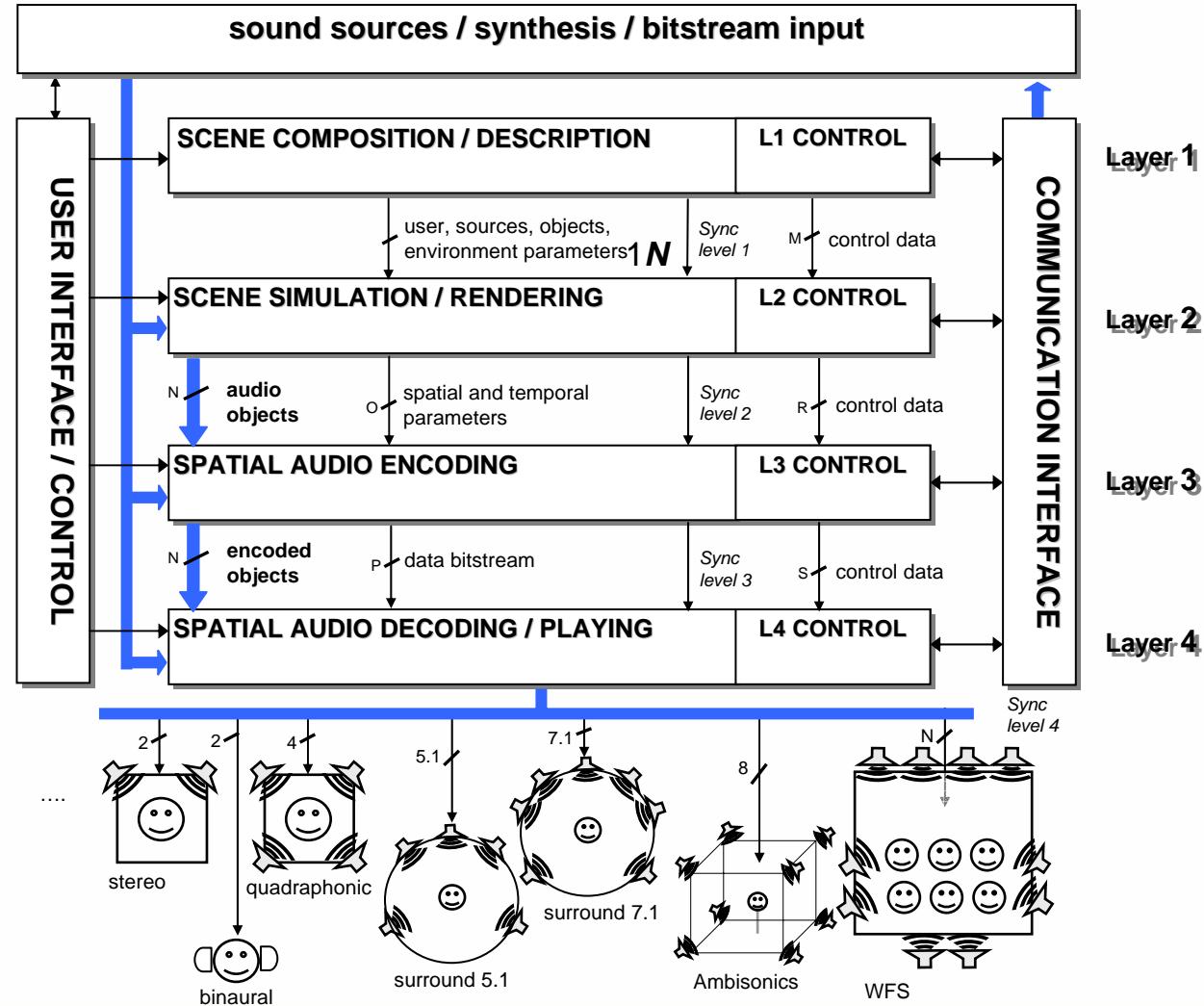


# AUDIENCE base architecture

- Layer-oriented
  - layer 1, responsible for scene compositions and description, production and interaction
  - layer 2, responsible for scene rendering (and acoustic simulation)
  - layer 3, responsible for spatial audio encoding (encoding/compressing data) and can accommodate AAC, HE-AAC, MP3, MPS and other codecs
  - layer 4, responsible for decoding and playing (reproduction). This layer decodes/uncompresses data, to feed other layers or feed an output player



# AUDIENCE base architecture



# AUDIENCE architecture

- Hierarchy
  - Technical-oriented
  - Human-oriented
- 1 layer = 1 functional group
- Layer independency
  - minimum coupling with visual systems, minimal coupling between layers
- Functional Units = Processing blocks
- Many possible combination of layers and functions per layer for the encoder and for the decoder terminal





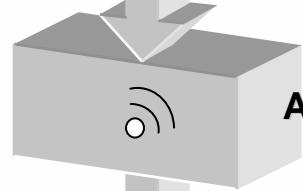
# AUDIENCE Auralization Phases

Mapping sound sources  
atributes, position, environment  
parameters



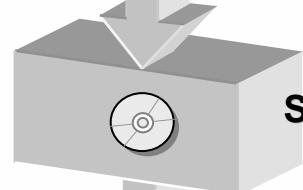
Acoustic scene description

Acoustic propagation simulation  
(sound field rendering)



Acoustic simulation

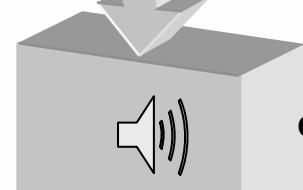
Processing and generation of  
spatial encoded sounds into a  
format for distribution



Spatial audio coding

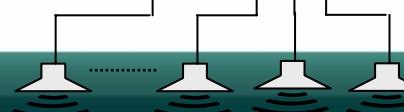
transmission  
..1010011011..  
..1001101101..

Decoding, mixing, filtering,  
generating N output signals,  
reproducing sound field



decoding

Multichannel playing





# Auralization tools

VRML97  
MPEG-4 BIFS  
X3D

CAMADA 1 (DESCRIÇÃO DE CENA)

traçado de raios,  
fonte-imagem, radiosidade  
sim. modos (baixas  
freqüências), *delay lines*,  
elementos finitos, etc.

CAMADA 2 (SIMULAÇÃO ACÚSTICA)

4-2-4 (quadrifônicos)  
2.0/3.0/4.0/5.1/6.1/  
7.1/10.2, HRTF (2.0)  
Ambisonics / UHJ  
Ambiophonics, etc.

CAMADA 3 (CODIFICAÇÃO ESPACIAL)

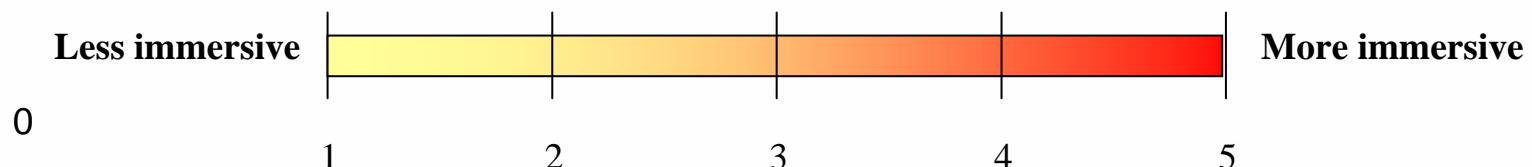
decodificadores  
equalização / mixer  
dereverberação  
filtros  
*DAC/DDC*  
amplificação, distribuição

CAMADA 4 (SONORIZAÇÃO)



# Auralization level

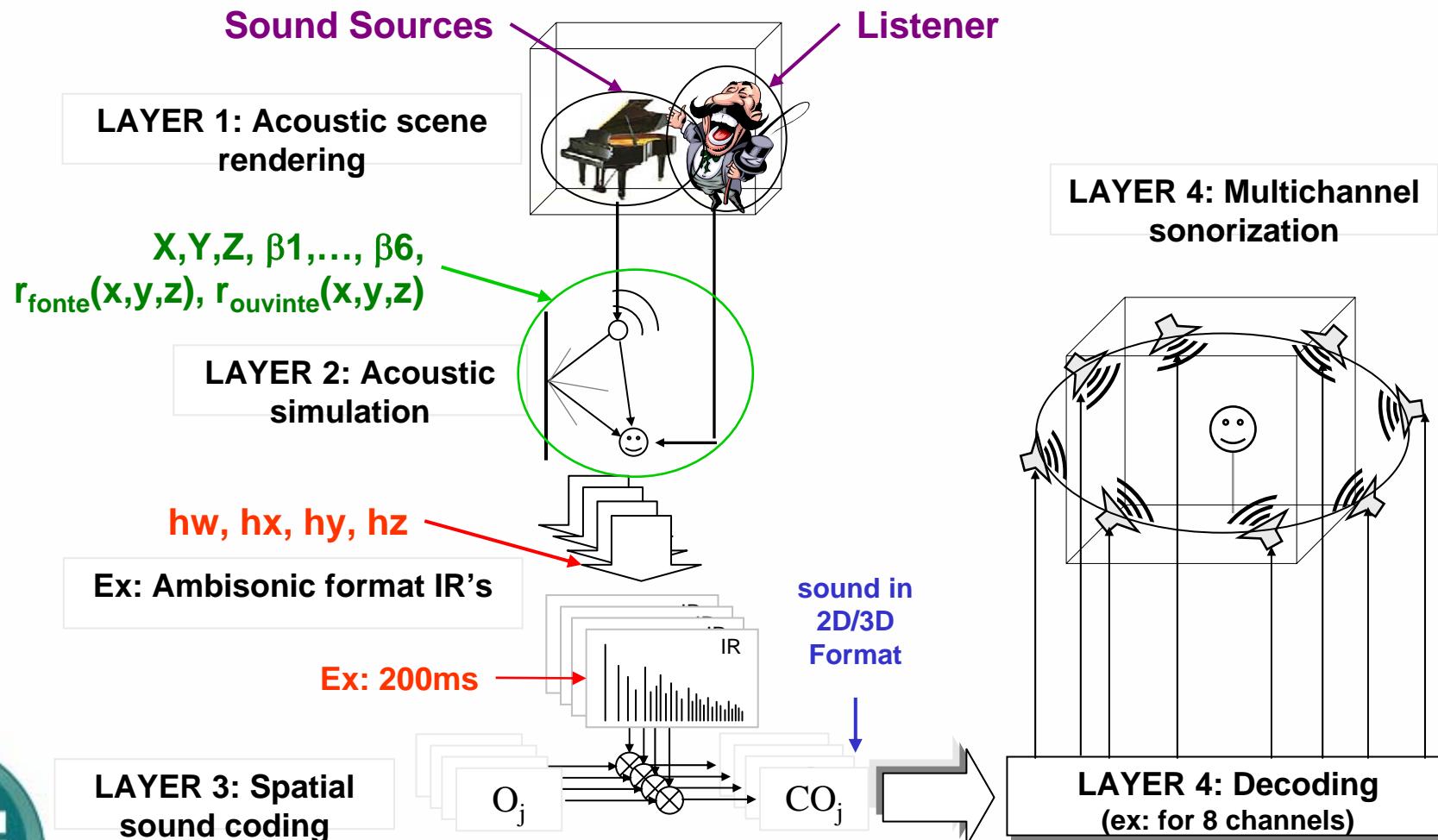
- Concept of Sound immersion: grading scale with 6 levels (Faria 2005)



level	Techniques/methods (examples)	perception (results)
0	monaural, anechoic, dry signal	no immersion
1	reverberation, echoes	spaciousness, ambience
2	panning (between speakers), stereophony, n.m (surround schemes)	sound direction, movements
3	amplitude panning, VBAP	correct positioning in limited regions
4	HRTF, auralization, periphony (Ambisonics, WFS, Ambiophonics)	stable 2D sound fields
5	HRTF, auralization, periphony (Ambisonics, WFS, Ambiophonics)	stable 3D sound fields, accurate distance and localization



# Auralization Methodology

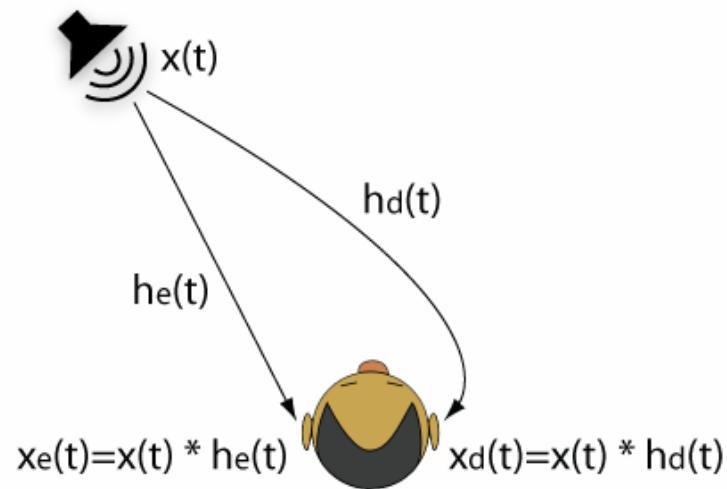


# Auralization techniques

- Bi-aural
- Dipolo Estéreo
- N.M (5.1, 7.1, etc)
- Ambiophonics
- VBAP
- WFS
- Ambisonics



# Bi-aural



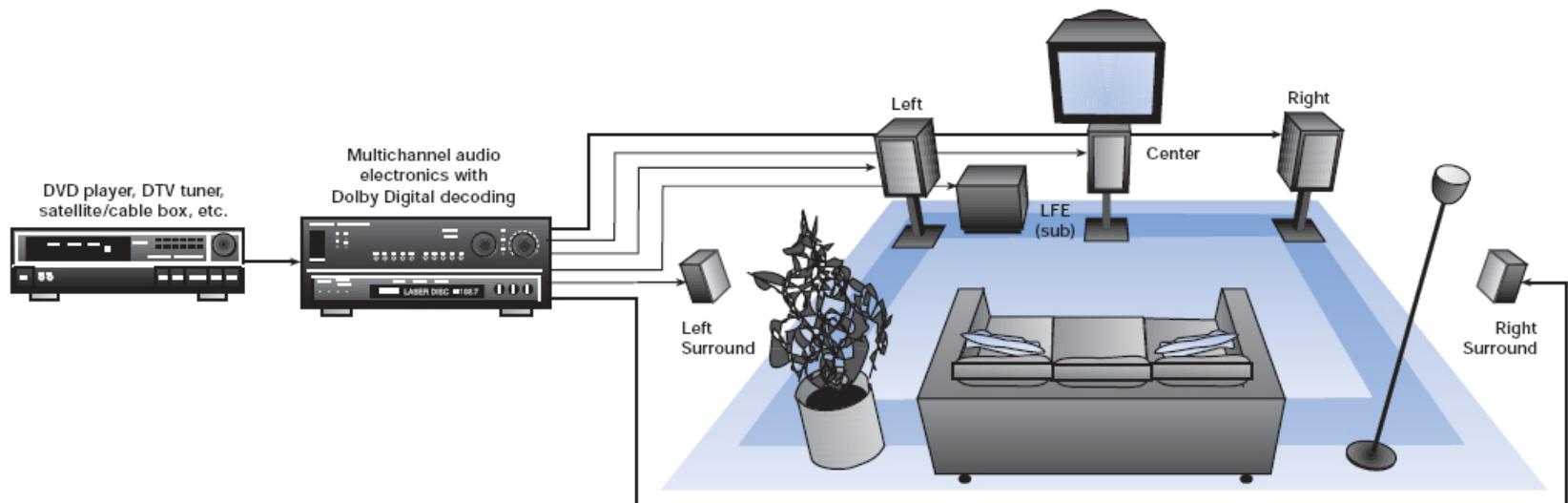
Funções de transferências dos ouvidos esquerdo e direito



Dummy Head KU100, da Neumann



N.M

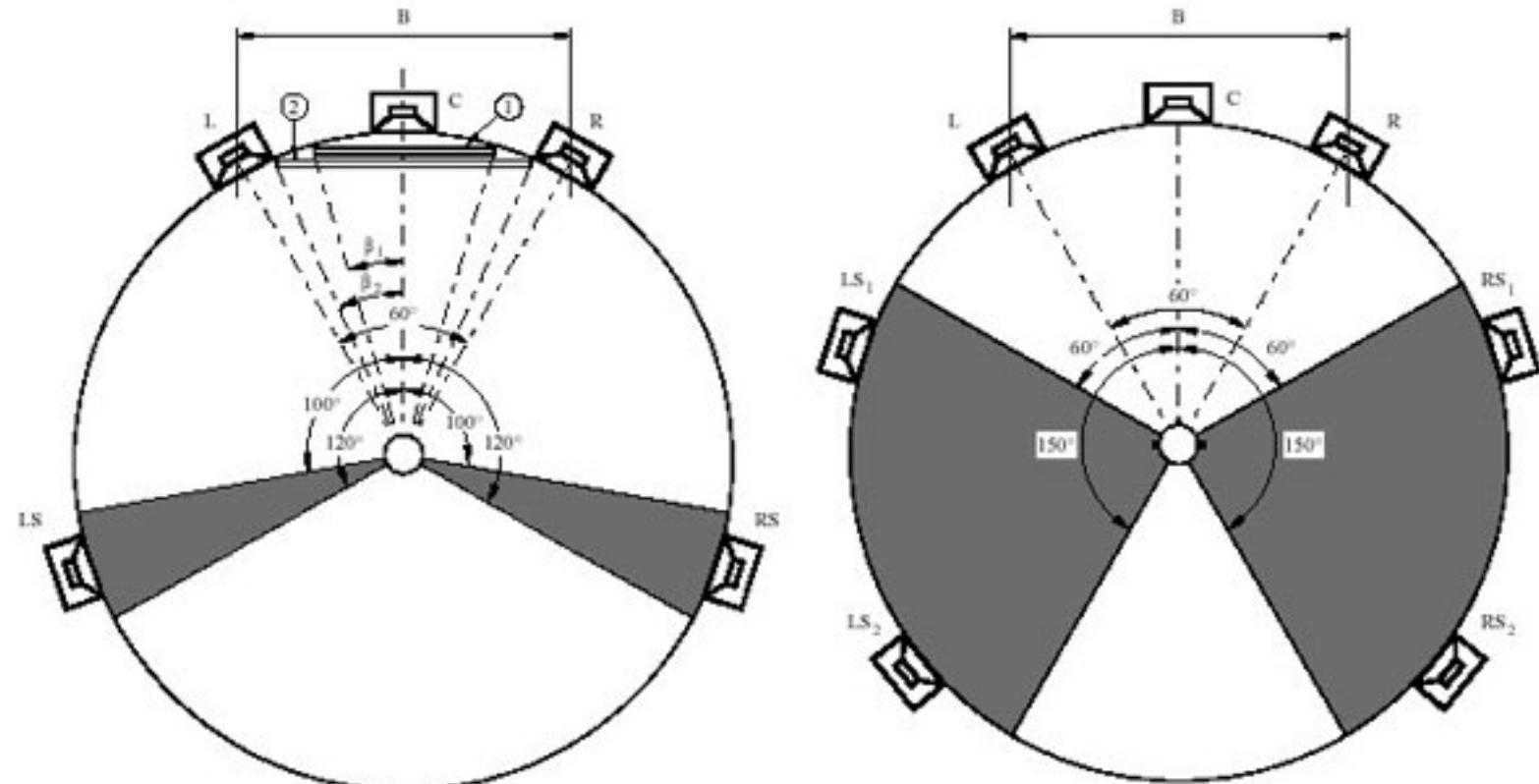


$5.1 = 3/2/1$  e  $7.1 = 3/4/1$   
Dolby / DTS



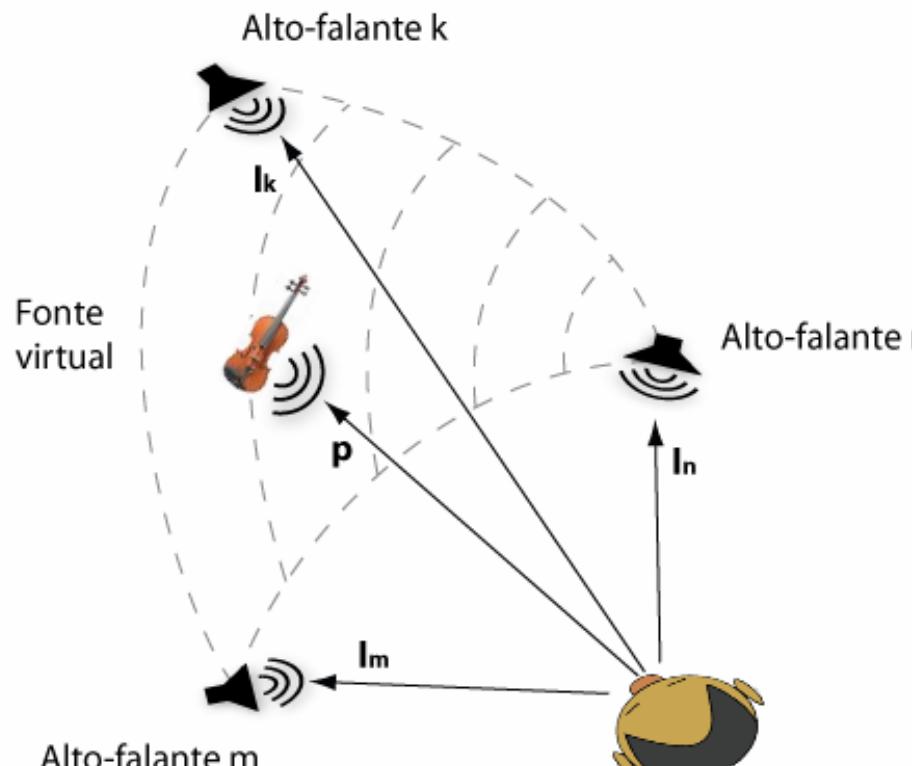
## 5.1/7.1

- ITU-R BS.775.1





# VBAP

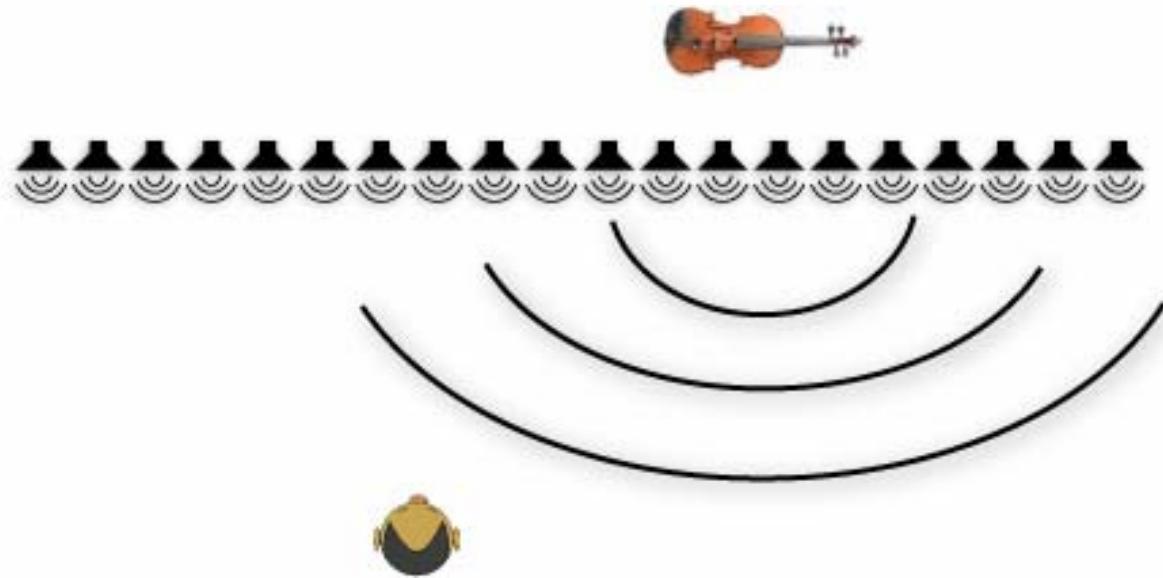


$$p = g_k l_k + g_m l_m + g_n l_n$$

Vetores e posicionamento de alto-falantes no SVPA



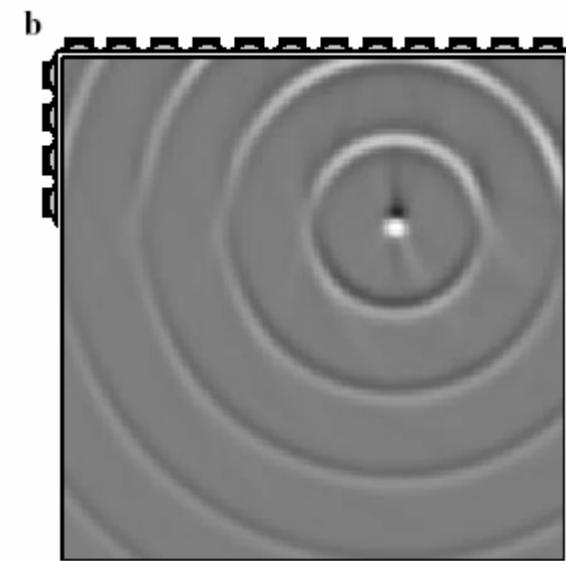
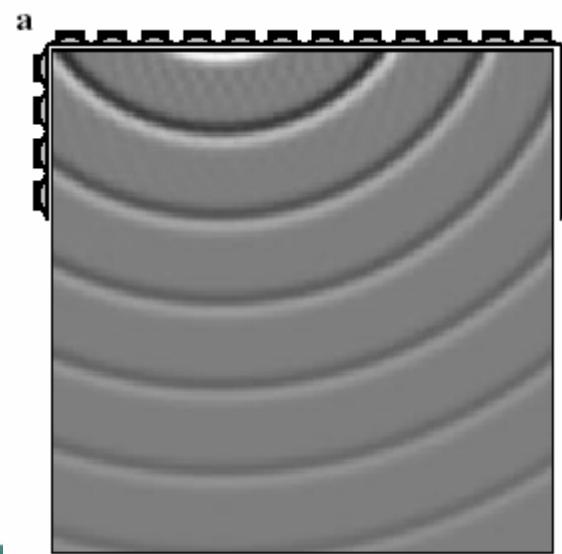
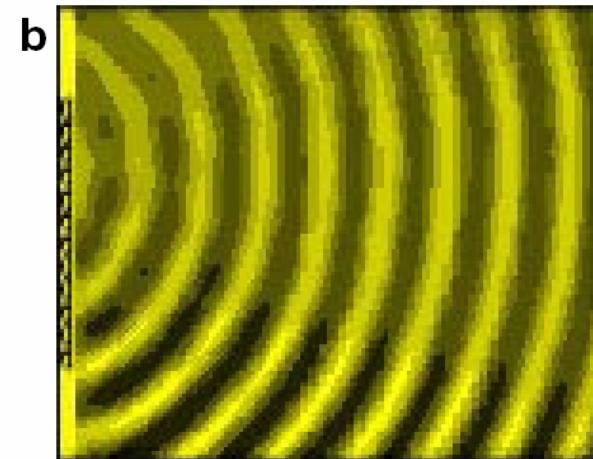
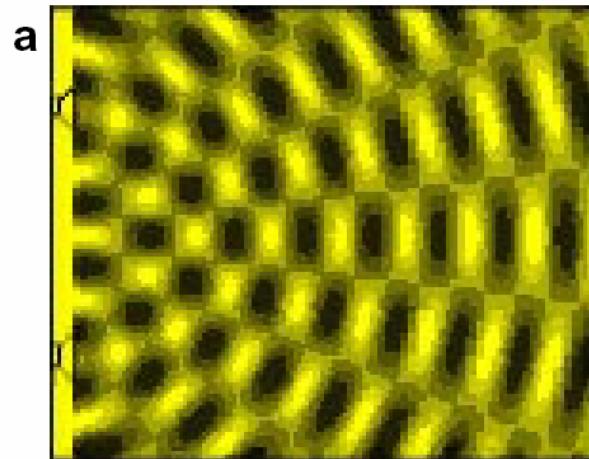
# *Wave Field Synthesis*



Montagem WFS frontal, na qual uma matriz de alto-falantes reproduz a onda original

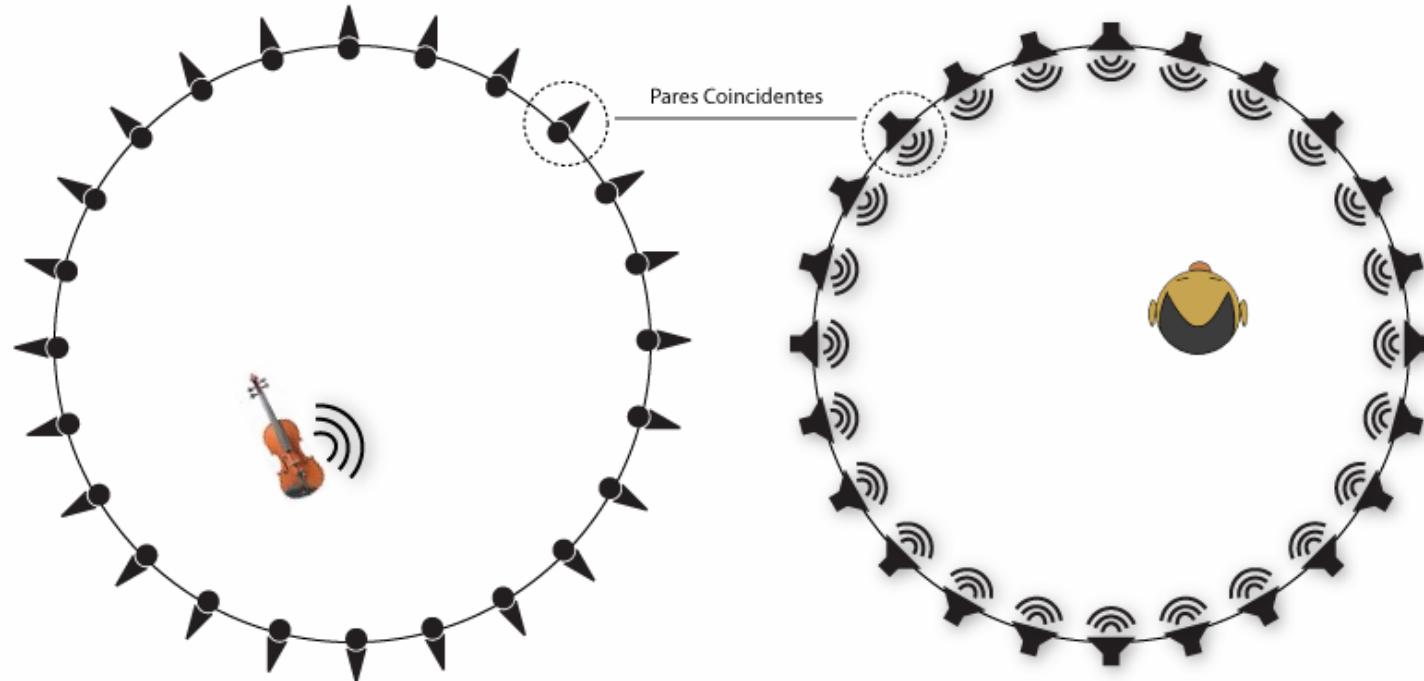


# Wave Field Synthesis





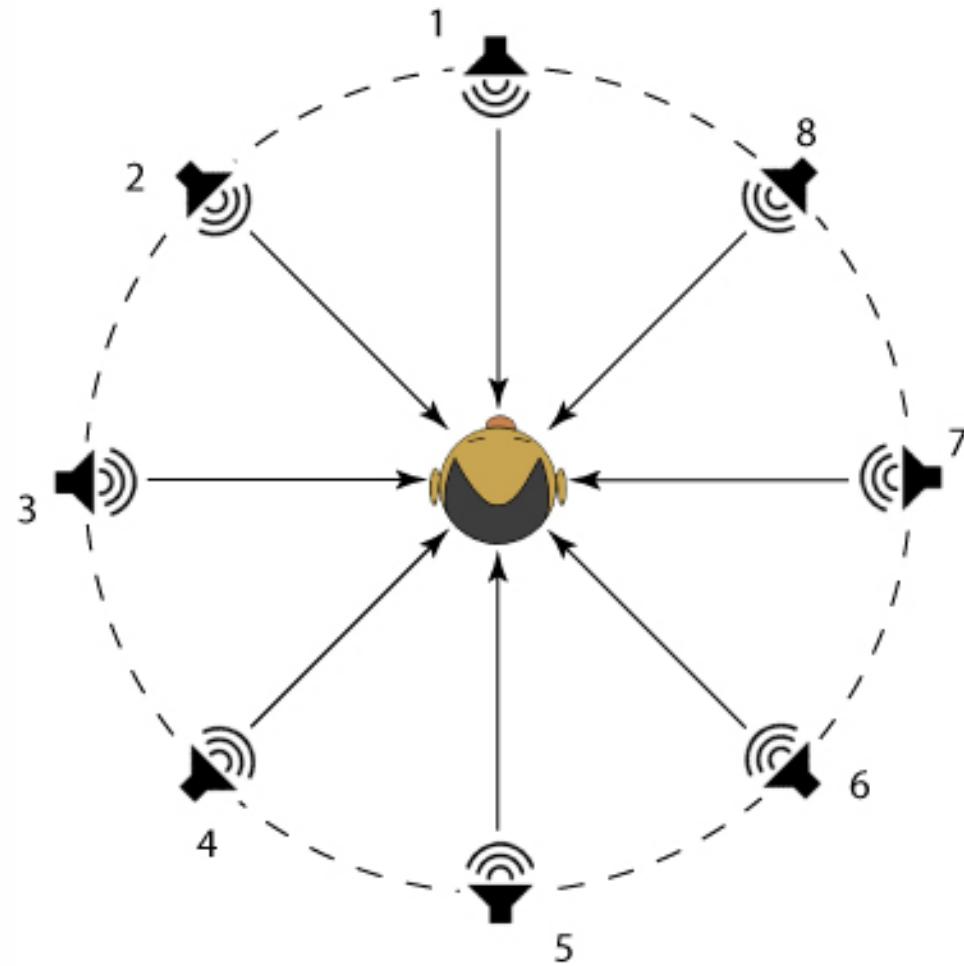
# Wave Field Synthesis



Montagem WFS circular para gravação e reprodução, com uma matriz densa de microfones e alto-falantes

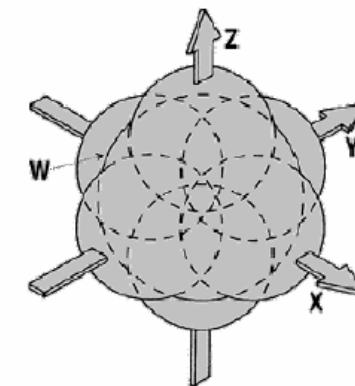


# Ambisonics



# Ambisonics

- Periphony: With-Height Sound Reproduction (Gerzon, 1973)
- 3D sound field recording and reproduction
- Wave front reconstruction (Huygens)
- Encoding independent from decoding
- Implementation flexibility
  - Define Ambisonics order
  - Define loudspeaker configuration





# Ambisonics

- Encoding

- Localization

$$W = \sqrt{2} \cdot S$$

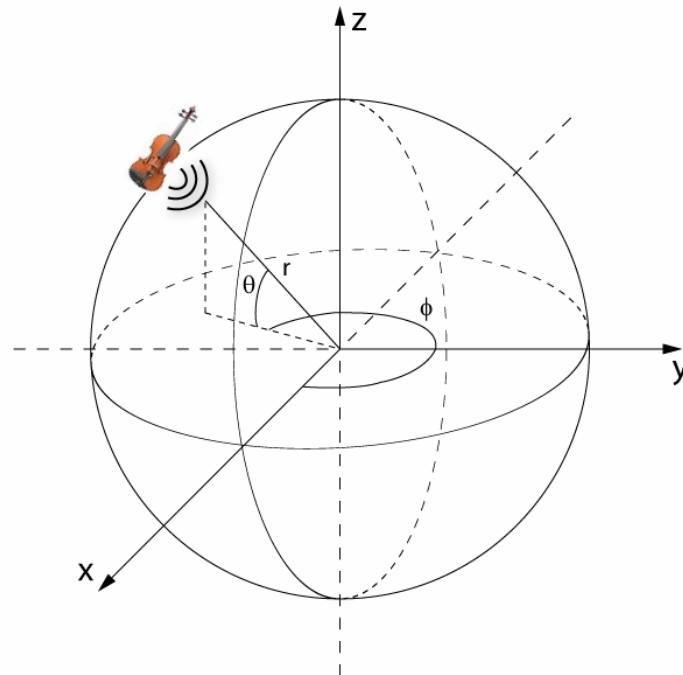
$$X = \cos(\phi) \cos(\theta) \cdot S$$

$$Y = \sin(\phi) \cos(\theta) \cdot S$$

$$Z = \sin(\theta) \cdot S$$

- Distance > intensity
  - Delays

- Permit further manipulation of recorded sound field

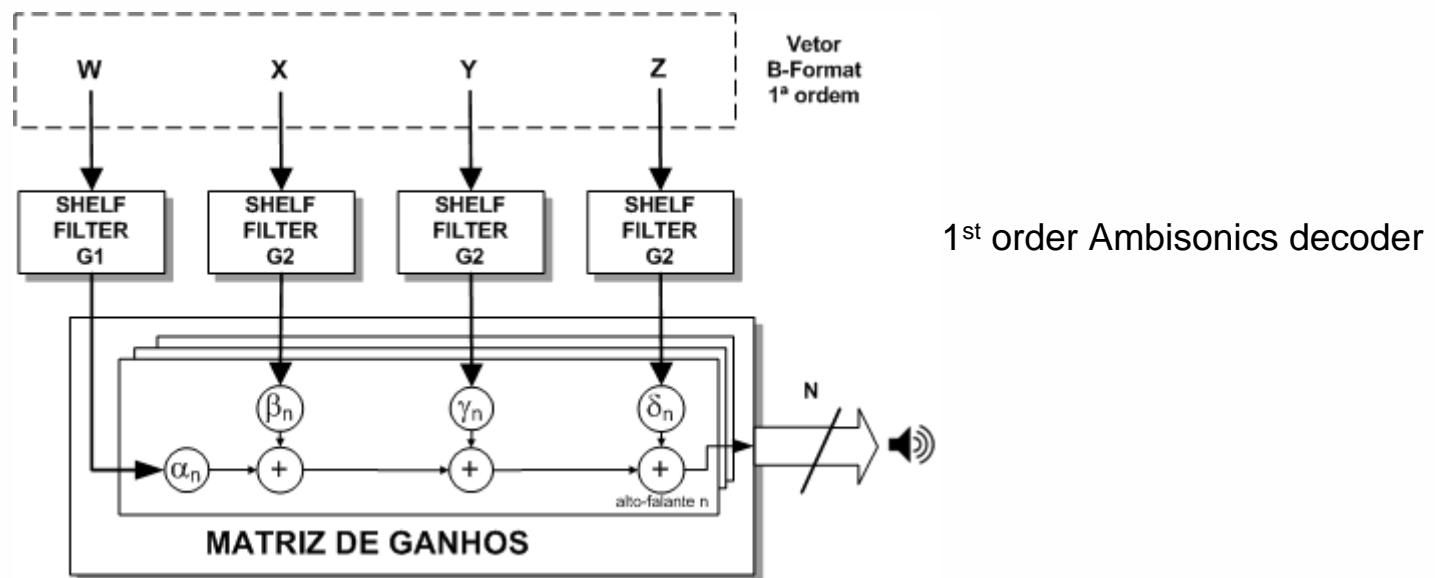


Mic Soundfield™



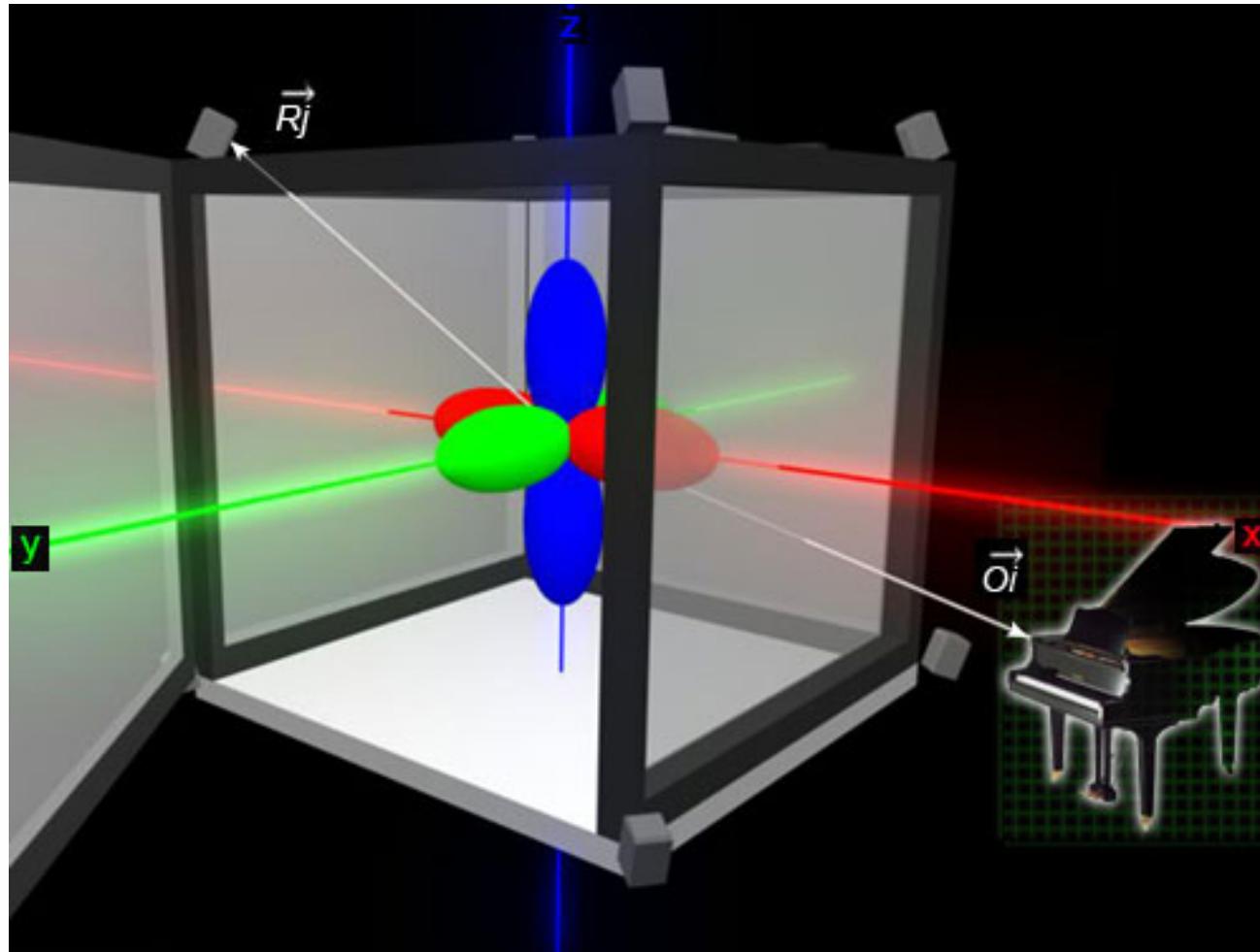
# Ambisonics

- Decoding
  - Gain matrix
    - Regular configurations → tables
    - Irregular configurations → require complex solutions
  - Psychoacoustics filters

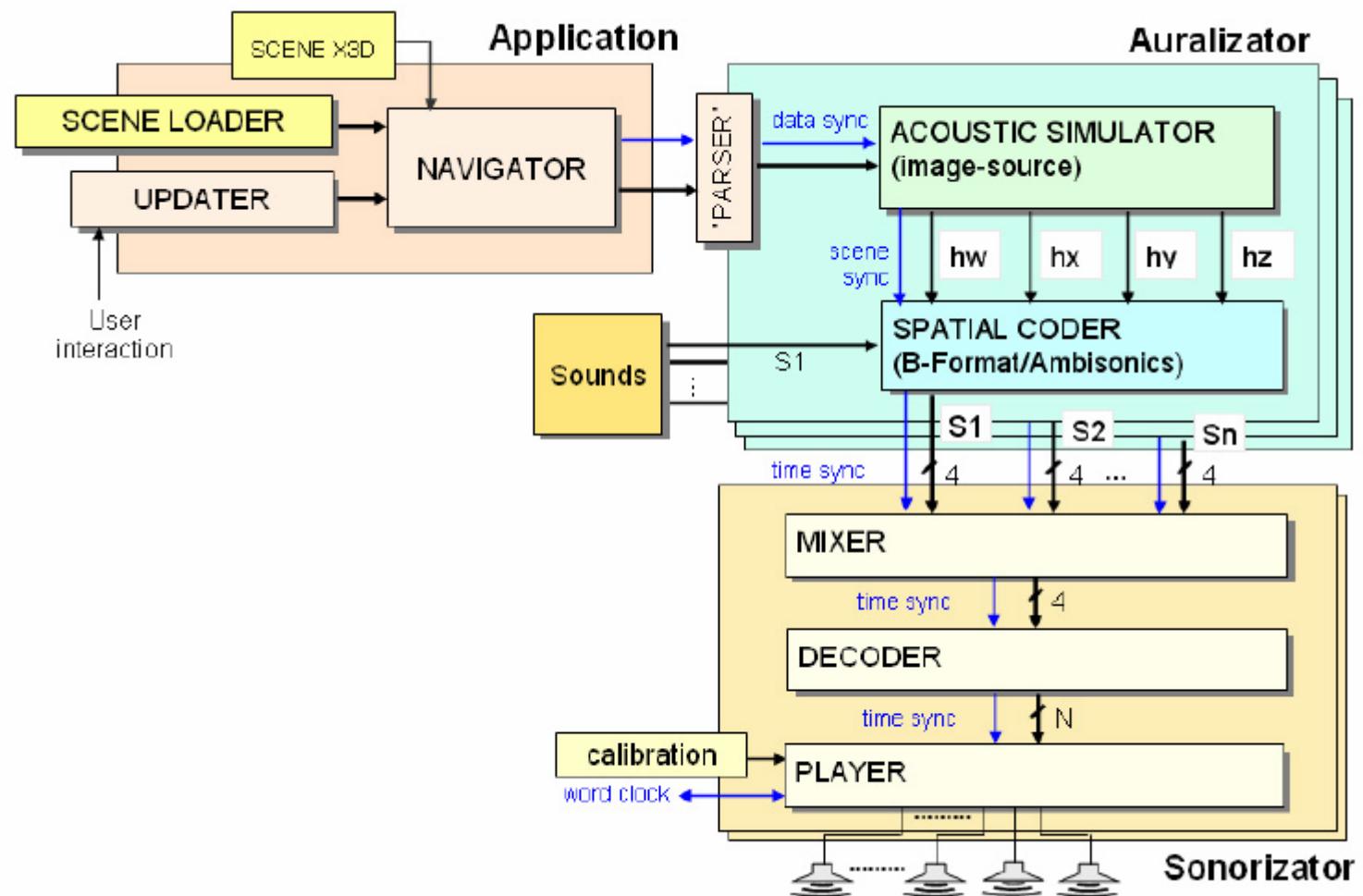




# Ambisonics



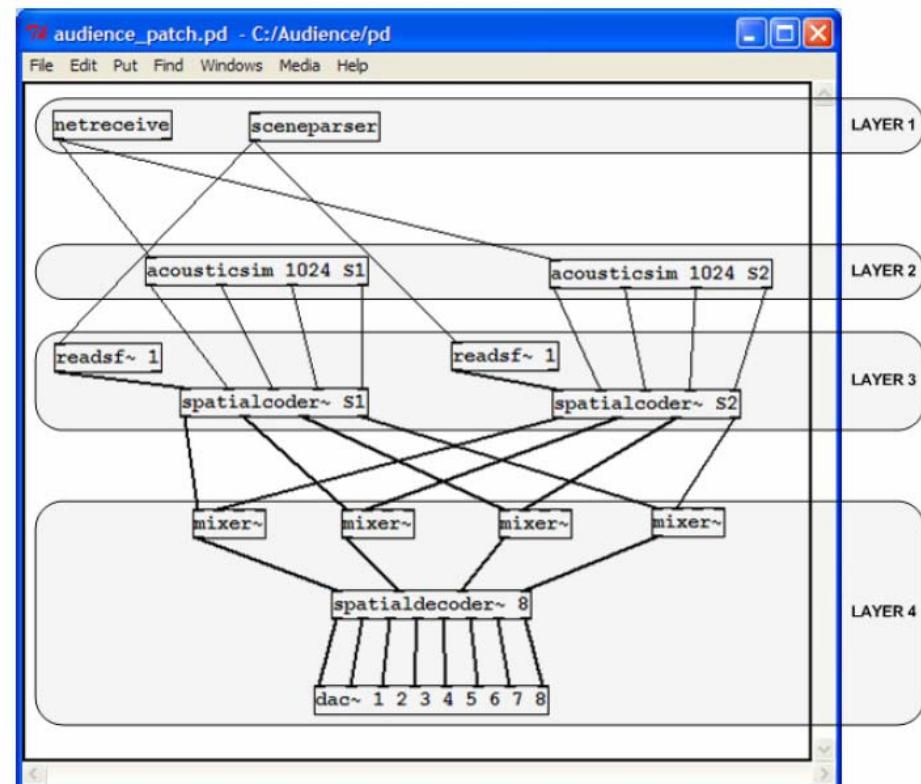
# Building an Auralizer





# Building an Auralizer

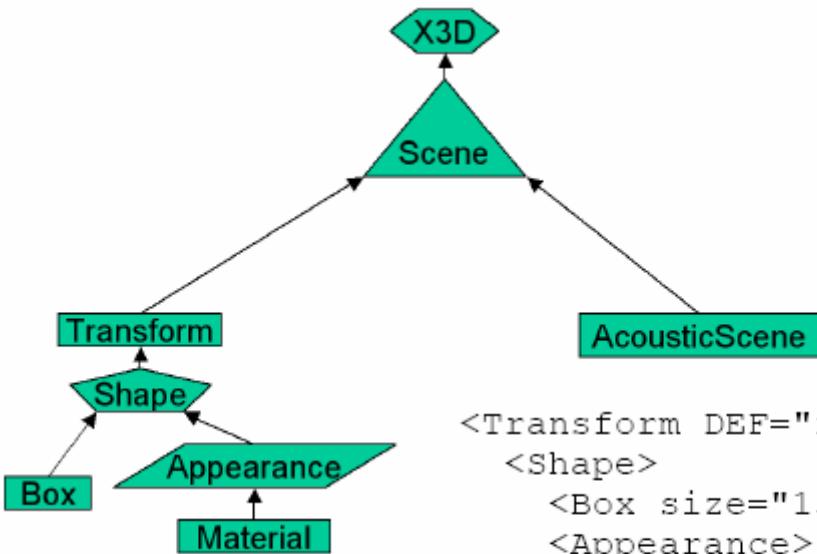
- Underline software system: Pd
  - real-time graphical programming environment for audio, music and graphical processing by Miller Puckette, following MAX/MSP
- AUDIENCE Pd Patch:
  - Layer-oriented components
  - Flexible command passing and audio routing



# Layer 1: Acoustic Scene

- Acoustic Scene Description:

- X3D audio nodes primitives
  - New nodes and attributes added for audio

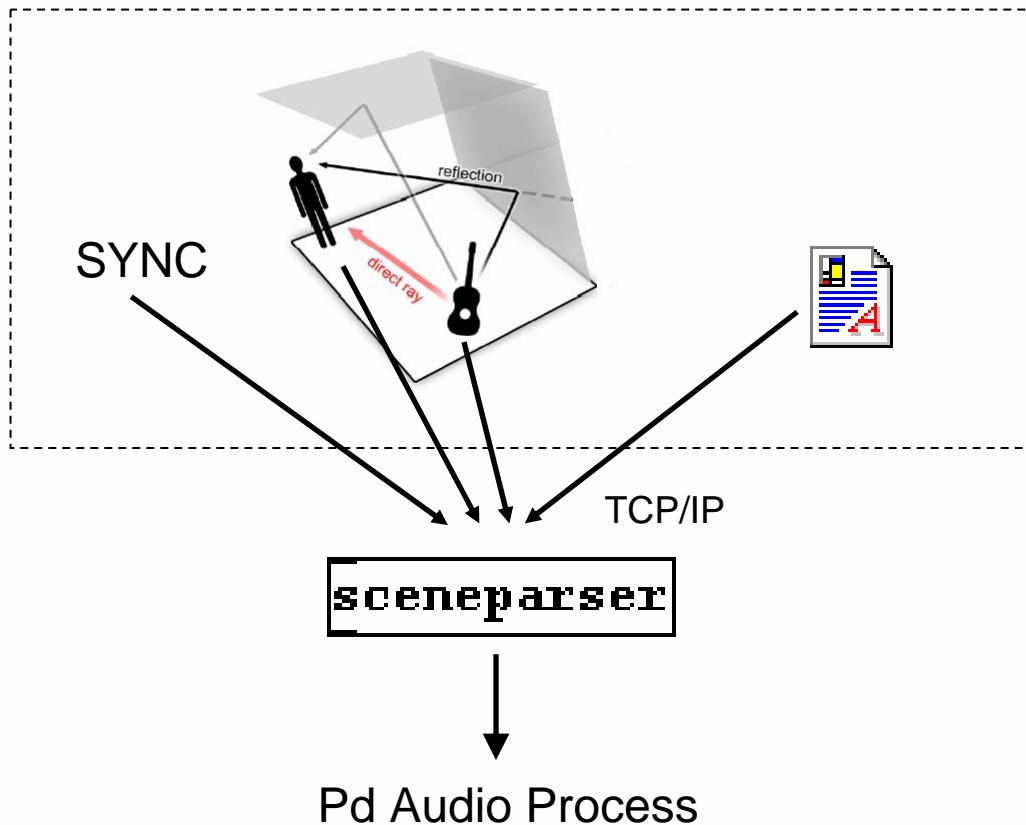


```
<Transform DEF="floor" center="7.5 0.05 10">
  <Shape>
    <Box size="15 0.1 20"/>
    <Appearance>
      <Material diffuseColor="1 1 1"/>
    </Appearance>
  </Shape>
  <Sound>
    <AcousticMaterial coefref=".8" freqref="1000"/>
  </Sound>
</Transform>
```



# Layer 1: Acoustic Scene

- Acoustic Scene Parsing



# Layer 1: Acoustic Scene

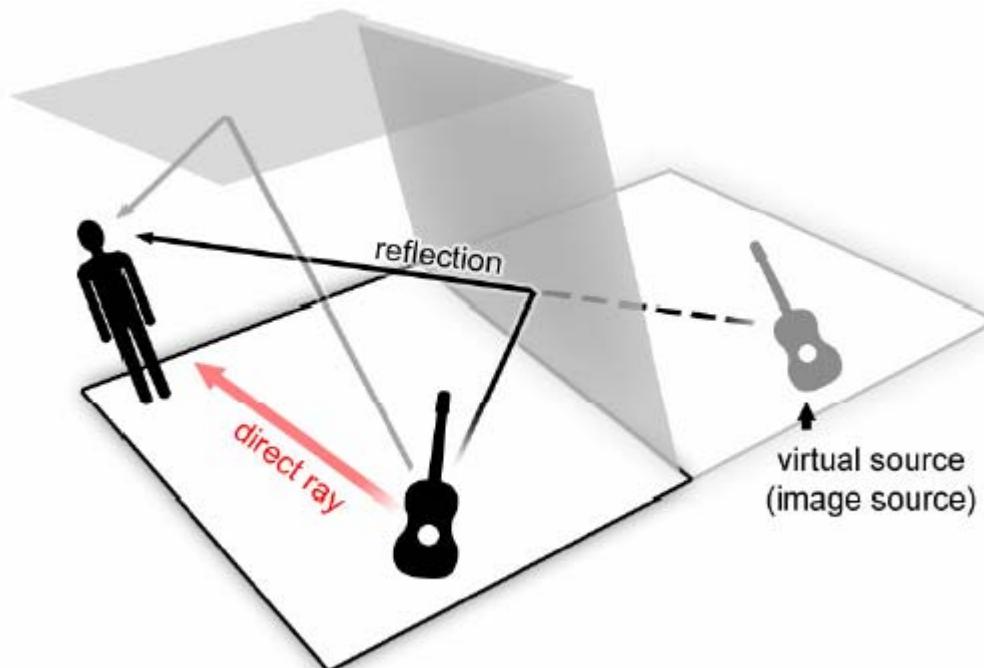
- Acoustic Scene Parsing
  - Component receives user localization, sound source localization, sound file, synchronization by TCP/IP from the application (example: virtual reality browser, 3D visual processing software, etc)
  - Output: user localization, sound source localization, environment parameters, sound file attributes
  - Processing: receives information and pass it to the layer 2 and 3 for 3D audio processing and coding





# Layer 2: Acoustic Render

- Acoustic Simulator
  - First implemented model: Allen's image-source technique for rectangular spaces [Allen, 1979]



# Layer 2: Acoustic Render

- Different techniques can derive a Pd layer-2 component and be combined for large bandwidth simulation (low and high frequencies)
- Next desired techniques to be prototyped in the auralizer include ray-based and wave-based methods:
  - Borish (1984) Arbitrary polyhedra virtual rooms
  - Radiosity methods
  - FEM (finite element methods)
  - BEM (boundary element methods)



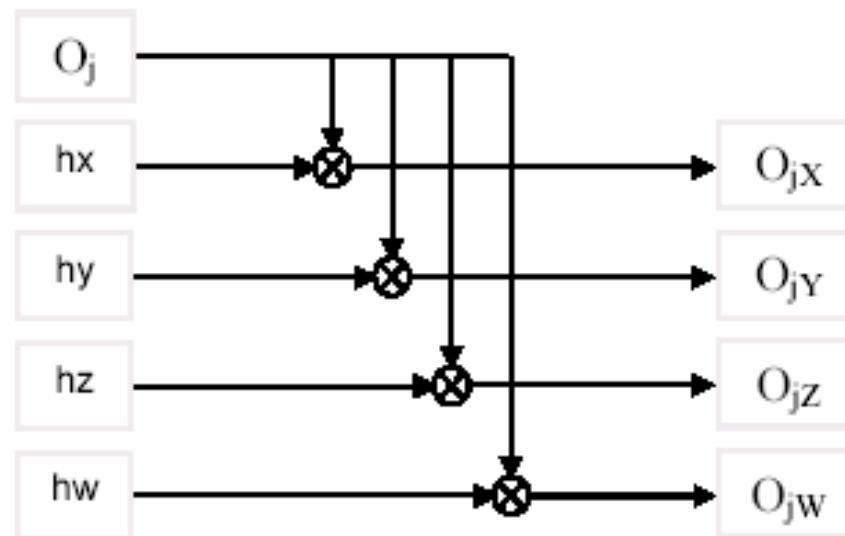
# Layer 2: Acoustic Render

- Acoustic Simulator component
  - Parameters: size of the impulse response
  - Inputs: room dimensions, sound source localization, listener localization, walls' absorption coefficients
  - Outputs: impulse responses (ex: W, X, Y and Z IRs), reflectograms, intermediary channel set processed
  - Processing: uses wave-based or ray-based acoustic renderers, such as Allen's image source technique for rectangular spaces
- New component: RenderingMatrix generator for 5.1 scene
  - Parameters: normalization index
  - Inputs: sound source localization, listener localization
  - Outputs: intermediary 5.1 channel set processed
  - Processing: uses VBAP concepts for 2D rendering onto 5.1 speakers



# Layer 3: Spatial Audio Encode

- Spatial Audio Coding
- For Ambisonics:
  - exports B-Format signals: X, Y, Z, W
  - Encoding process: convolution



# Layer 3: Spatial Audio Encode

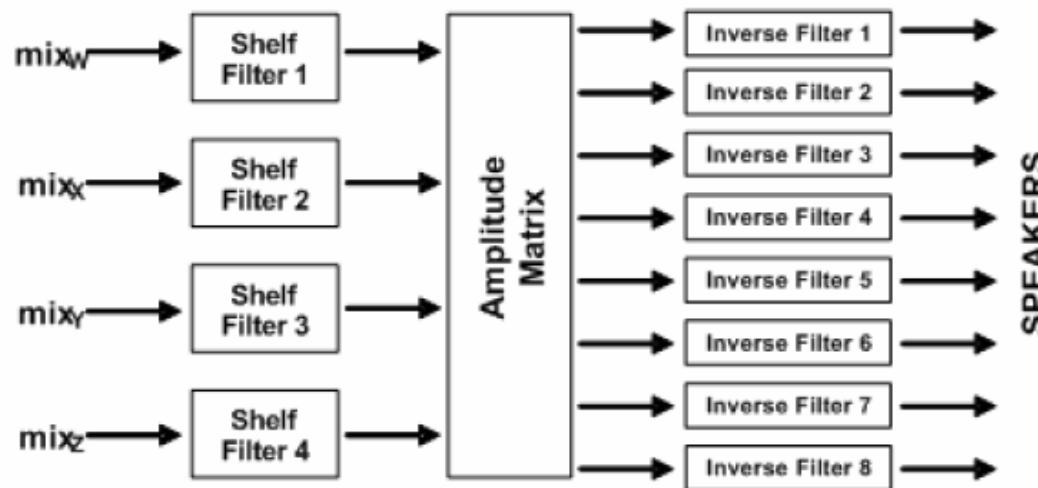
- Spatial Audio Coder components
  - Inputs: sounds in mono, B-Format impulse responses (W, X, Y, Z), sound source reflectograms, intermediary channel set processed, inter-channel correlation data
  - Outputs: B-Format sound, MPS sound, SAOC sound, AAC bitstreams, etc.
  - Processing: using the overlap-add convolution algorithm, encodes the mono sound in the B-Format using the impulse responses; uses channel correlation for efficient coding, etc.





# Layer 4: Decode & Reproduce

- Spatial Audio Decoder
  - Decodes to a number of speaker / configuration (cube, octagon etc)
    - Ex: Ambisonics 1st Order Decoder based on Richard Furse's calculations
  - Inverse filters to minimize the diffusion effects of the CAVE's projection screens



# Layer 4: Decode & Reproduce

- Spatial Audio Decoder component
  - Parameters: speaker configuration type
  - Input: sound in Ambisonics 1<sup>st</sup> Order B-Format, in MPS, in AAC, etc.
  - Output: sound decoded for n speakers
  - Processing: inverse of the auralization technique encoding, decompressing, de-reverberation, normalization



# Desenvolvimentos em curso

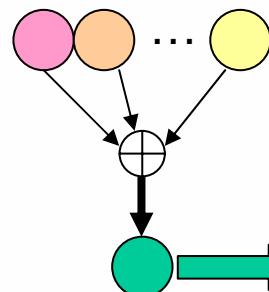
- Layer 1: interface 3D p/ produção de cena
- Layer 2: projeto de reverberadores
- Layer 3: MPS encoder, SAOC encoder, 5.1 encoder, projeto para WFS codec
- Layer 4: MPS, SAOC, 5.1 decoders
- Camadas auxiliares: I/O via RTA
- Documentação: *white-papers* (ex: “how-to-write OpenAUDIENCE objects”), FAQ, lista de blocos funcionais, lista de mensagens, helps



# SAOC streams

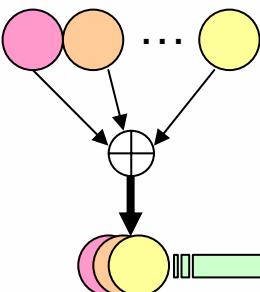


Apps  
scenario



**StreamType1:**  
efficient combination of multiple objects  
dwmx 2.0 or 1.0

App {SubSet 1}



**StreamType2:**  
efficient association of multiple objects  
bitstream

App {SubSet 2}



App {SuperSet}

# OpenAUDIENCE Software

- Plataforma: pd
- Desenvolvedores: acesso ao ambiente CVS
- Blocos auxiliares incluem conversores, formatadores de entrada e saída (ex: I/O multicanal) e patches agrupadores de funções
- Estrutura atual da distribuição
  - Bin (main layers executables and externals)
  - Doc
  - Patches
    - AUDIENCE (main patches components)
    - Projetos (specific project patches)
    - Demos
    - Tests
  - Src
  - Lib
  - Include



# Metodologias

- Desenvolvimento colaborativo
  - Sete perfis de colaboração
  - Equipe local e colaboradores remotos
  - Identificação de uma camada ou aplicação de interesse levando a especificação de um bloco funcional ou patch de aplicação
- Engenharia de software
  - Identificação camada alvo, especificação formal, identificação de aplicabilidade e casos de uso
  - especificação de entradas e saídas, adequação a requisitos da camada, estrutura de chamada/uso, documentação/help, alcance e limitações,



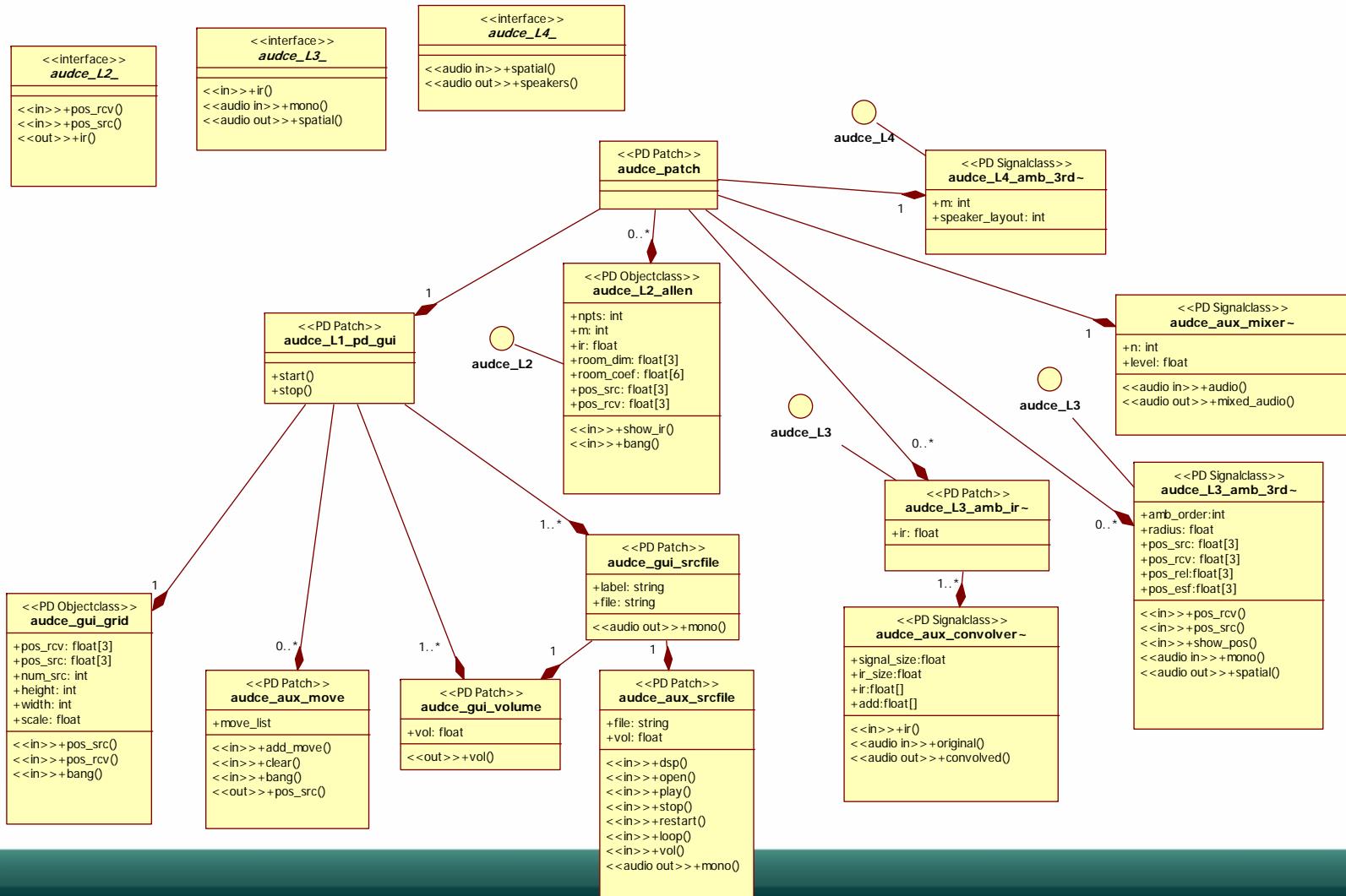
# Block design

- Functional block design considers:
  - Layer matching: functional requirements
  - Inter-block communication
    - Message passing
    - General form: attribute <new value>
  - Valid inter-layer signals
    - I/O design
    - Audio and Metadata data flows
  - Layer control
  - Software primitives
    - Class diagrams, methods, attributes, etc.
  - Naming convention
    - `audce_Layer_Function`





# AUDIENCE UML classes





# Como colaborar

- Perfis de colaboração

<i>Project developer</i>	equipe básica de pesquisadores e desenvolvedores do projeto, responsável pela consolidação das distribuições e gerenciamento do acesso
<i>Associate developer</i>	colaborador desenvolvedor associado; colaborador pontual, remoto, responsável pelo desenvolvimento de uma funcionalidade no sistema
<i>Doc writer</i>	colaborador encarregado de acompanhar a documentação do software e do sistema
<i>Support tech</i>	colaborador encarregado de dar suporte técnico no portal a desenvolvedores remotos
<i>Application developer</i>	colaborador responsável pelo desenvolvimento de uma aplicação utilizando o software
<i>Content producer</i>	colaborador responsável pela produção de conteúdo sonoro para aplicações e testes
<i>Portal support</i>	colaborador encarregado de manutenção e atualização do portal

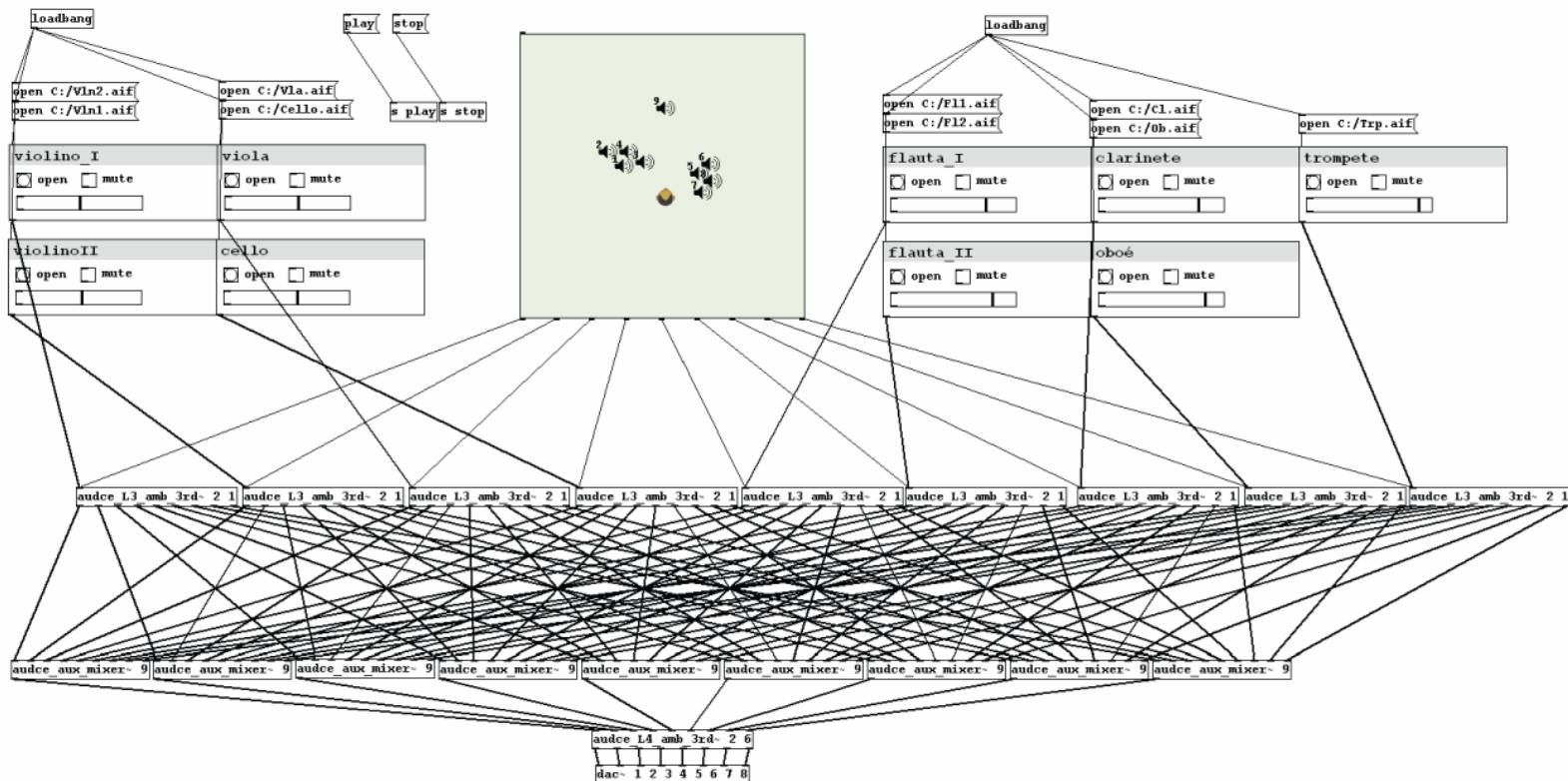


# **Exemplos de aplicações e uso**



# Music spatialization

- Virtual Stage: Charles Ives. “The unanswered question” (1906)
- 9 instruments in 3 clusters or free-field



# Facilities using AUDIENCE

- CAVERNA  
Digital at  
University of  
Sao Paulo
- NEAC  
(Audio  
Engineering  
and Coding  
Center) at  
University of  
Sao Paulo



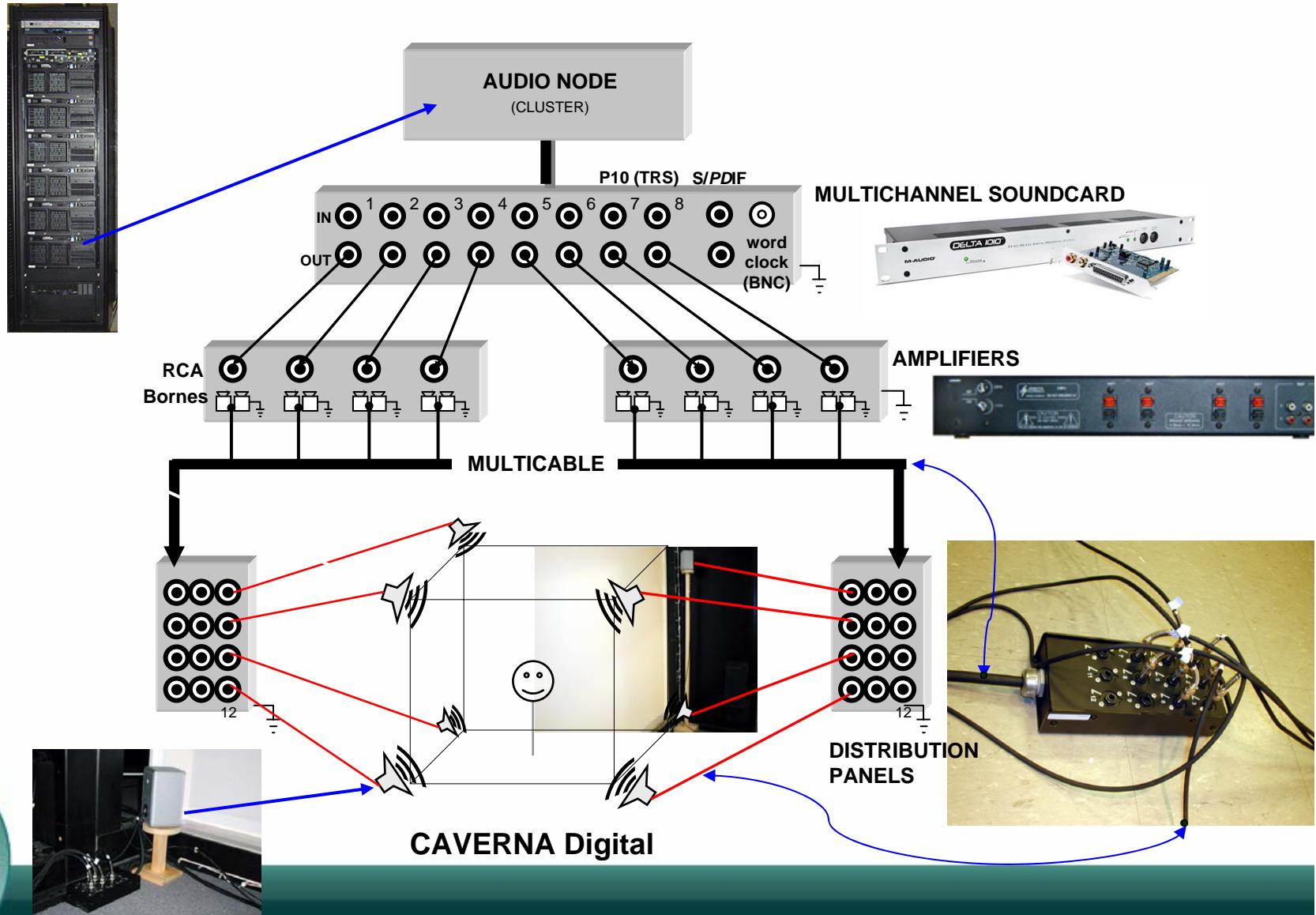
# CAVE Multichannel Infrastructure

- Audio-dedicated node in the cluster
- 8 hi-fi speakers, in cubic array
- High quality and low noise multichannel amplifiers
- Hardware patch bay and multicable distribution
- Strategic speakers positioning to cope with visual projection



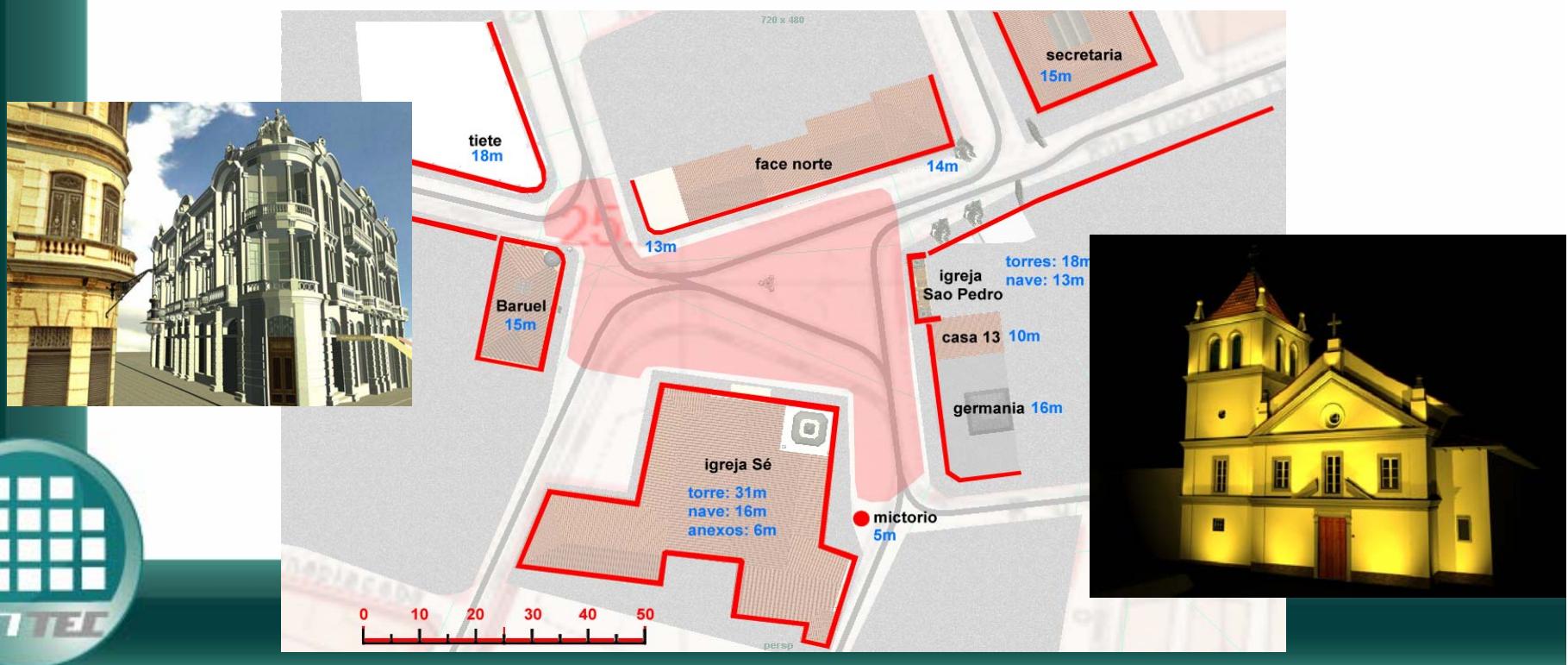


# Audio Infrastructure



# São Paulo Downtown 1913

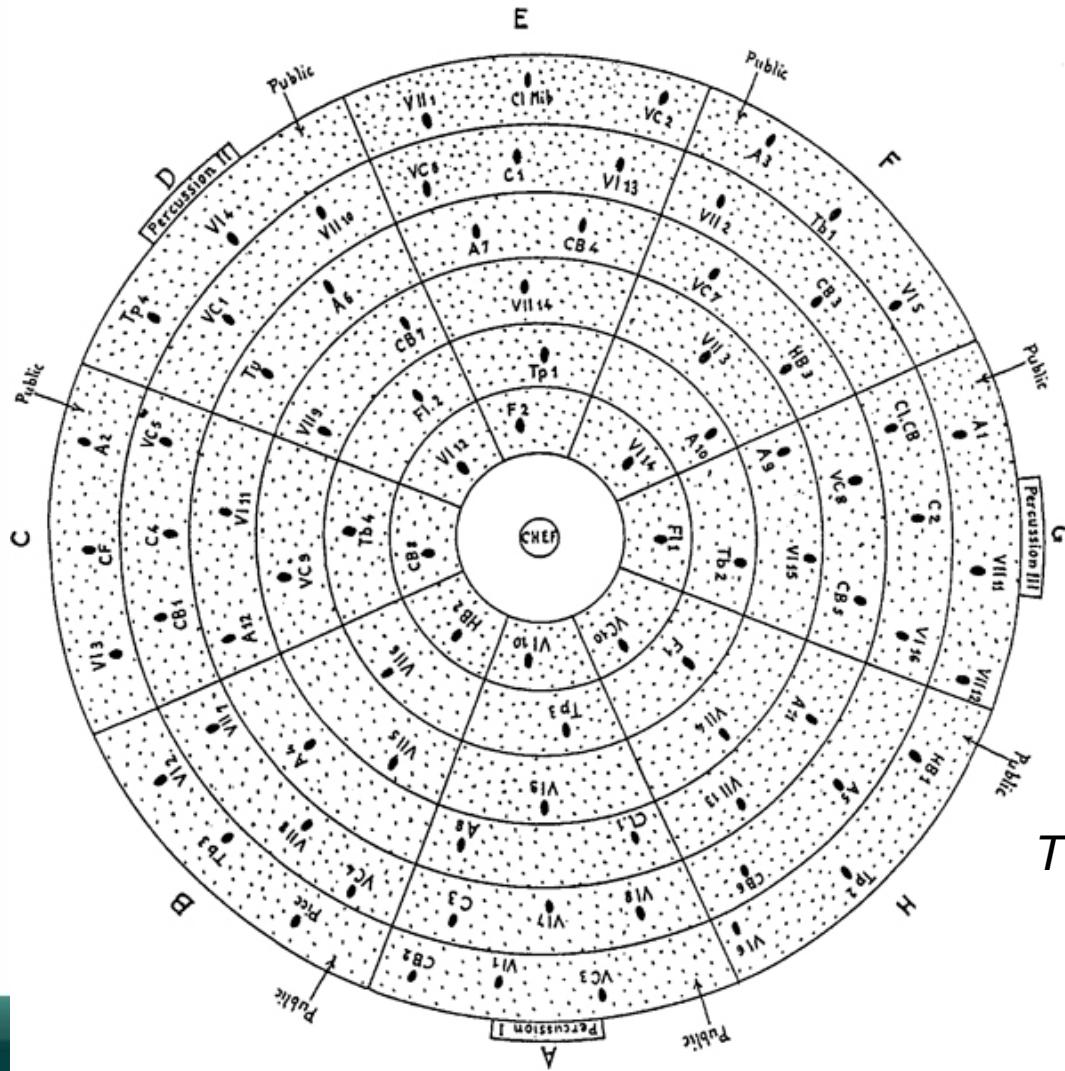
- Virtual 3D city
- Sounds: cathedral, wind spots, people concentrations, birds in trees, background music following user
- Proximity loudness pre-calibrated for increased realism
- Partnership with São Paulo Historical Institutes





# A desired future experiment

DISPOSITION DE L'ORCHESTRE  
ET DU PUBLIC



Terrektorth, I. Xenakis  
(1965-66)

# Next research targets

- Wave Field Synthesis codecs for OpenAUDIENCE
- Loudspeakers clusters (hardware and software)
- Transport mechanisms for high channel density
  - Audio networks and Wireless solutions
- MPEG top-down applications combining
  - FTV (FreeView Point TV)
  - MAF (Multimedia Application Formats)
    - Portable applications Formats
  - Lossless codecs
  - Reconfigurable Audio Codecs
  - SMR (Symbolic Music Representation)
  - MPEG-21 (Digital item)
  - MPEG-7 Audio descriptors



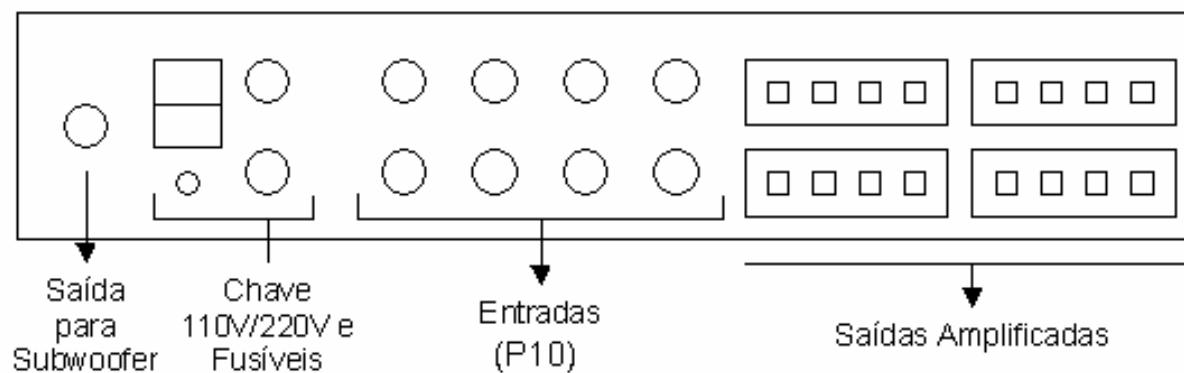
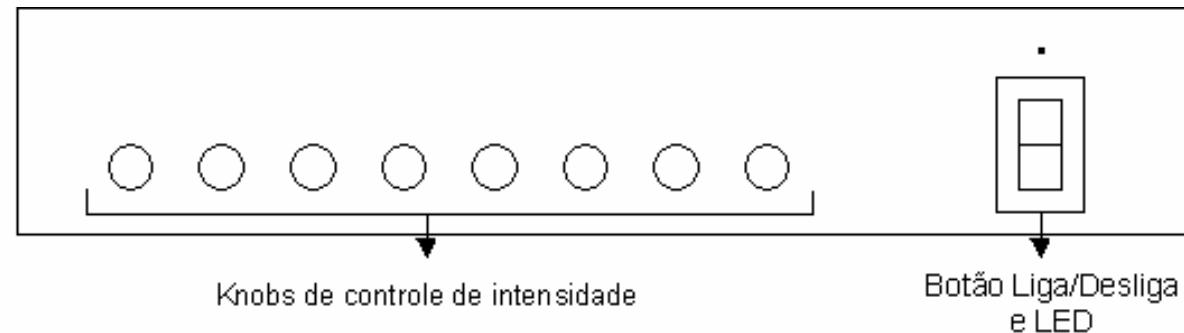
# Other R&D areas and activities

- other r&d lines and activities includes
  - Support other centers in audio related technologies design and implantation of systems
  - Audio electronics design
    - Joint development of Multichannel Hw & Sw
    - Multichannel amplifiers prototyping



# Multichannel Amplifiers Design

- Design and prototyping of multichannel electronic amplifiers



# Multichannel Amplifiers Design

- Novelties in conectorization
  - Input P10
  - Output “bornes” Non existent in market!



# Multichannel Amplifiers Design

- Assembled prototype, 30W/channel, 8 channel
- For 7.1 and octophonic loudspeakers setups
- Partnership with national industries (Sankya Eletrônica)





# Obrigado



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