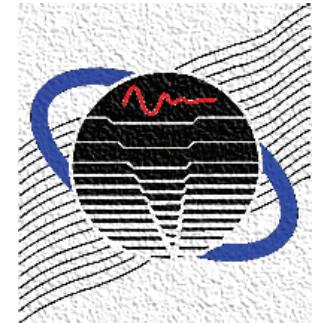


# Measurement of Bulk Materials

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D. W. Herrin, Ph.D., P.E.  
University of Kentucky  
Department of Mechanical Engineering

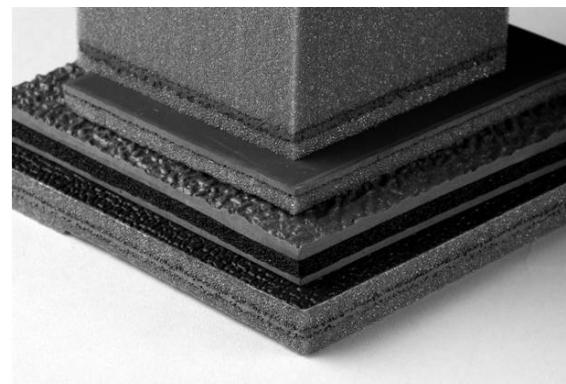


# Motivation

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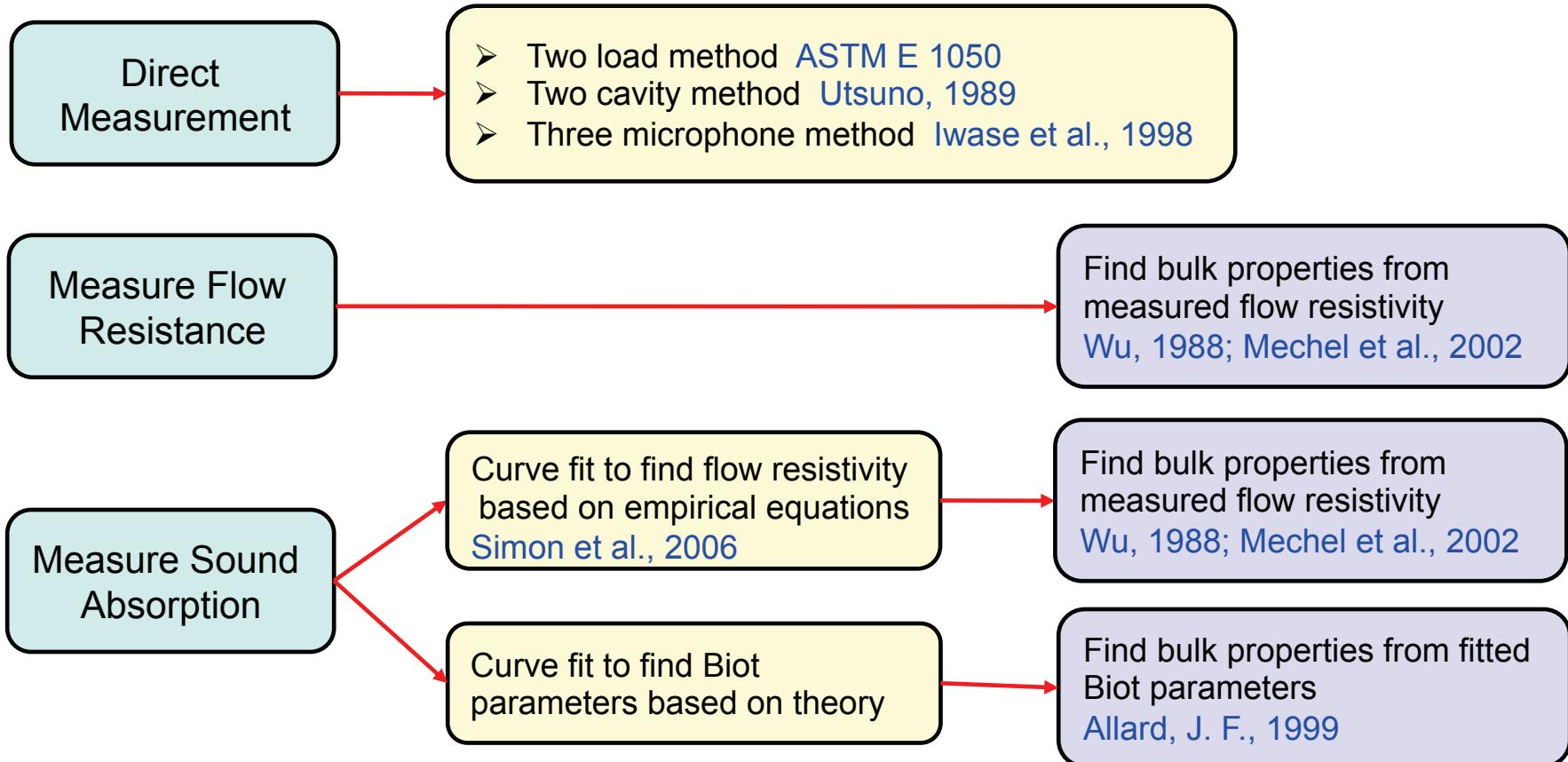
## Measurement of Bulk Properties

- Determining the bulk properties
  - ✓ Complex wave number and characteristic impedance
  - ✓ Complex speed of sound and density
- Bulk properties are used
  - ✓ For designing layered absorbers
  - ✓ In FEM and BEM models



# Overview of Approaches

## Measurement of Bulk Properties



# Overview of Approaches

## Measurement of Bulk Properties

Direct Measurement

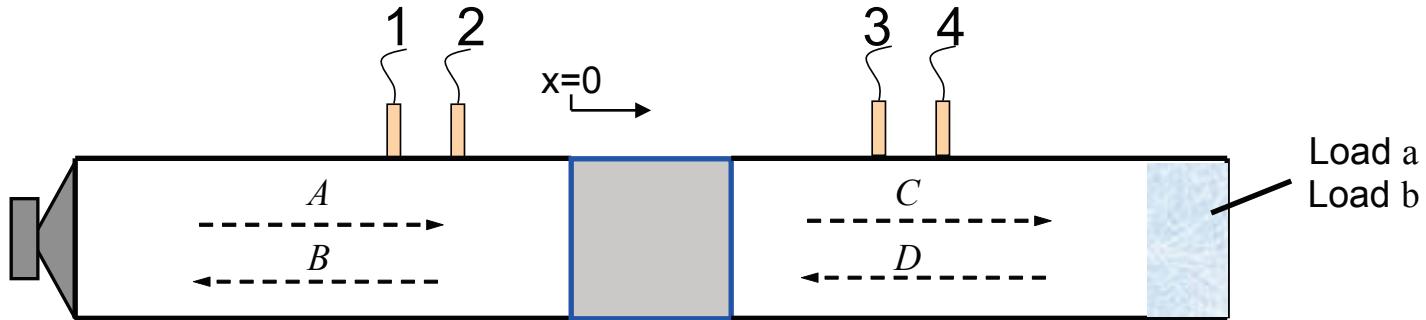
- Two load method [ASTM E 1050](#)
- Two cavity method [Utsuno, 1989](#)
- Three microphone method [Iwase et al., 1998](#)

Measure Flow Resistance

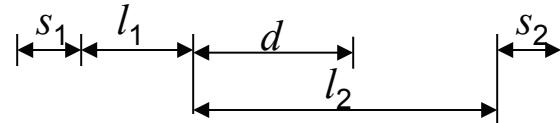
Find bulk properties from measured flow resistivity  
[Wu, 1988; Mechel et al., 2002](#)

# Two-load Method

## Measurement of Bulk Properties



For each load:



$$A = j \frac{H_{1,ref} e^{-jkl_1} - H_{2,ref} e^{-jk(l_1+s_1)}}{2 \sin ks_1}$$

$$C = j \frac{H_{3,ref} e^{jk(l_2+s_2)} - H_{4,ref} e^{jkl_2}}{2 \sin ks_2}$$

$$B = j \frac{H_{2,ref} e^{jk(l_1+s_1)} - H_{1,ref} e^{jkl_1}}{2 \sin ks_1}$$

$$D = j \frac{H_{4,ref} e^{-jkl_2} - H_{3,ref} e^{-jk(l_2+s_2)}}{2 \sin ks_2}$$

# Transmission Loss Measurement

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## Measurement of Bulk Properties

Pressures and particle velocities at two ends of the sample:

$$\begin{aligned} p_0 &= A + B & p_d &= Ce^{-jkd} + De^{jkd} \\ u_0 &= (A - B)/\rho c & u_d &= (Ce^{-jkd} - De^{jkd})/\rho c \end{aligned}$$

Four-pole matrix

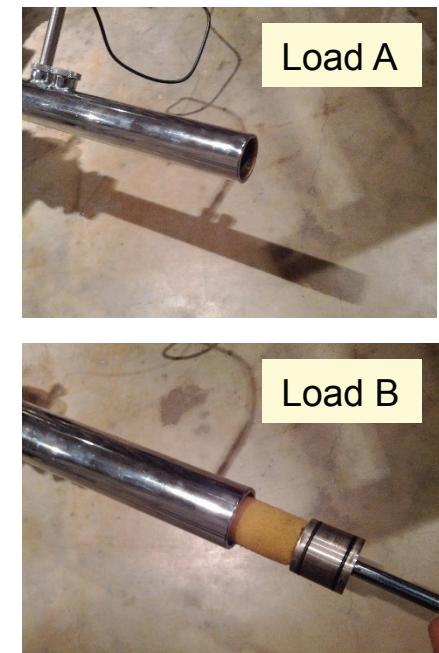
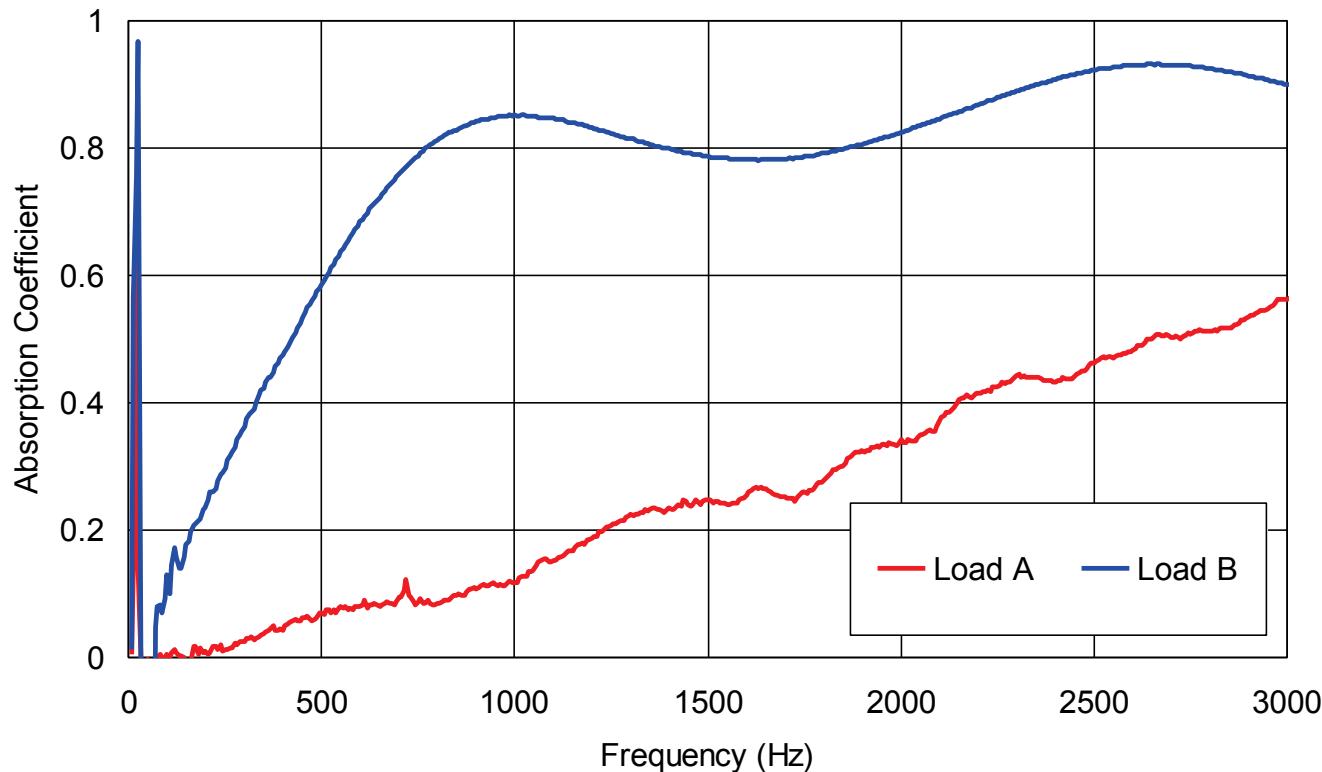
$$T = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{p_{0a}u_{db} - p_{0b}u_{da}}{p_{da}u_{db} - p_{db}u_{da}} & \frac{p_{0b}p_{da} - p_{0a}p_{db}}{p_{da}u_{db} - p_{db}u_{da}} \\ \frac{u_{0a}u_{db} - u_{0b}u_{da}}{p_{da}u_{db} - p_{db}u_{da}} & \frac{p_{da}u_{0b} - p_{db}u_{0a}}{p_{da}u_{db} - p_{db}u_{da}} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$TL = 20 \log_{10} \left| \frac{1}{2} \left( T_{11} + \frac{T_{12}}{\rho c} + \rho c T_{21} + T_{22} \right) \right|$$

# Load a and Load b

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## Measurement of Bulk Properties

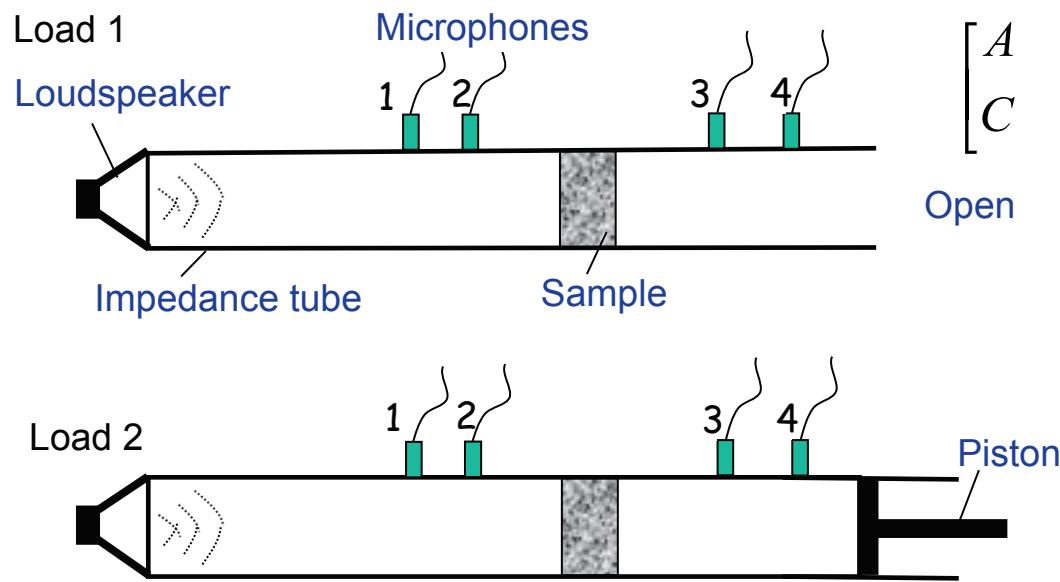


Load A: Open tube. Load B: Close the tube with 4" absorbing material.

# Two Load Method

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## Measurement of Bulk Properties



$$\begin{bmatrix} A & B \\ C & D \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \cos(k_c d) & jz_c \sin(k_c d) \\ j \sin(k_c d)/z_c & \cos(k_c d) \end{bmatrix}$$

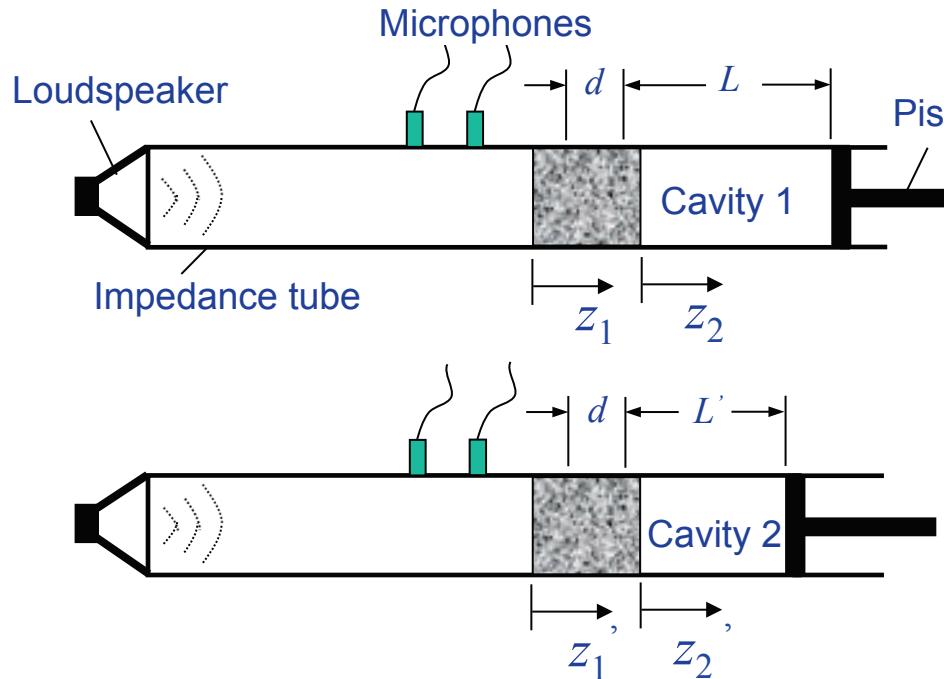


$$z_c = \sqrt{B/C}$$

$$k_c = \arctan\left(\frac{B}{jAz_c}\right)/d$$

# Two Cavity Method

## Measurement of Bulk Properties



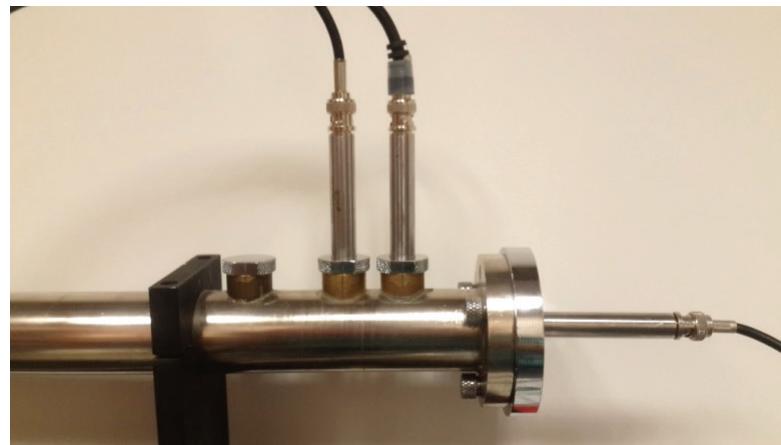
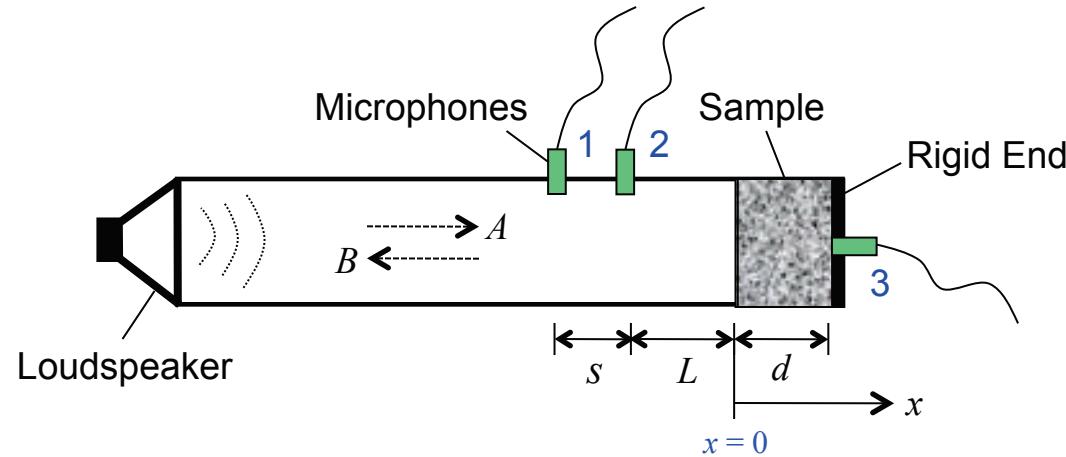
$$z_c = \pm \sqrt{\frac{z_1 z_1' (z_2 - z_2') - z_2 z_2' (z_1 - z_1')}{(z_2 - z_2') - (z_1 - z_1')}}$$

$$k_c = \left( \frac{1}{2jd} \right) \ln \left( \frac{(z_1 + z_c)(z_2 - z_c)}{(z_1 - z_c)(z_2 + z_c)} \right)$$

# Three Microphone Method

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## Measurement of Bulk Properties



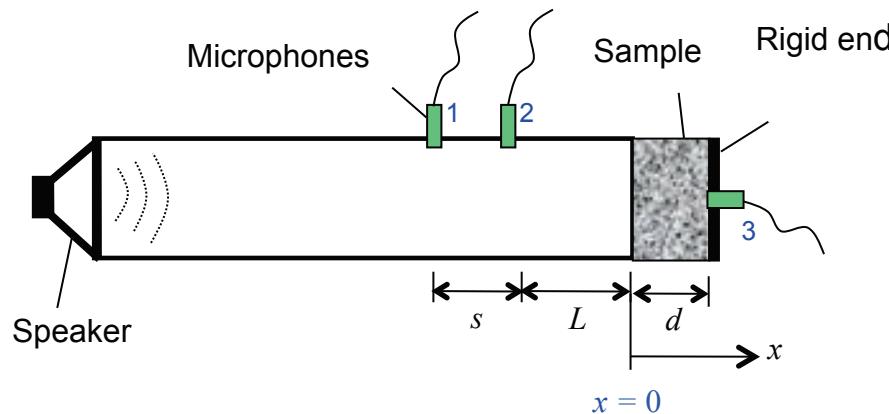
# Three Microphone Method

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## Measurement of Bulk Properties

Reflection coefficient:

$$R = \frac{e^{jks} - H_{12}}{H_{12} - e^{-jks}} e^{2jkl}$$



# Three Microphone Method

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## Measurement of Bulk Properties

The complex wave number of the sample is:

$$k_c = \frac{1}{d} \cos^{-1} \frac{1+R}{e^{jkl} + Re^{-jkl}} H_{23}$$

The characteristic impedance of the sample is:

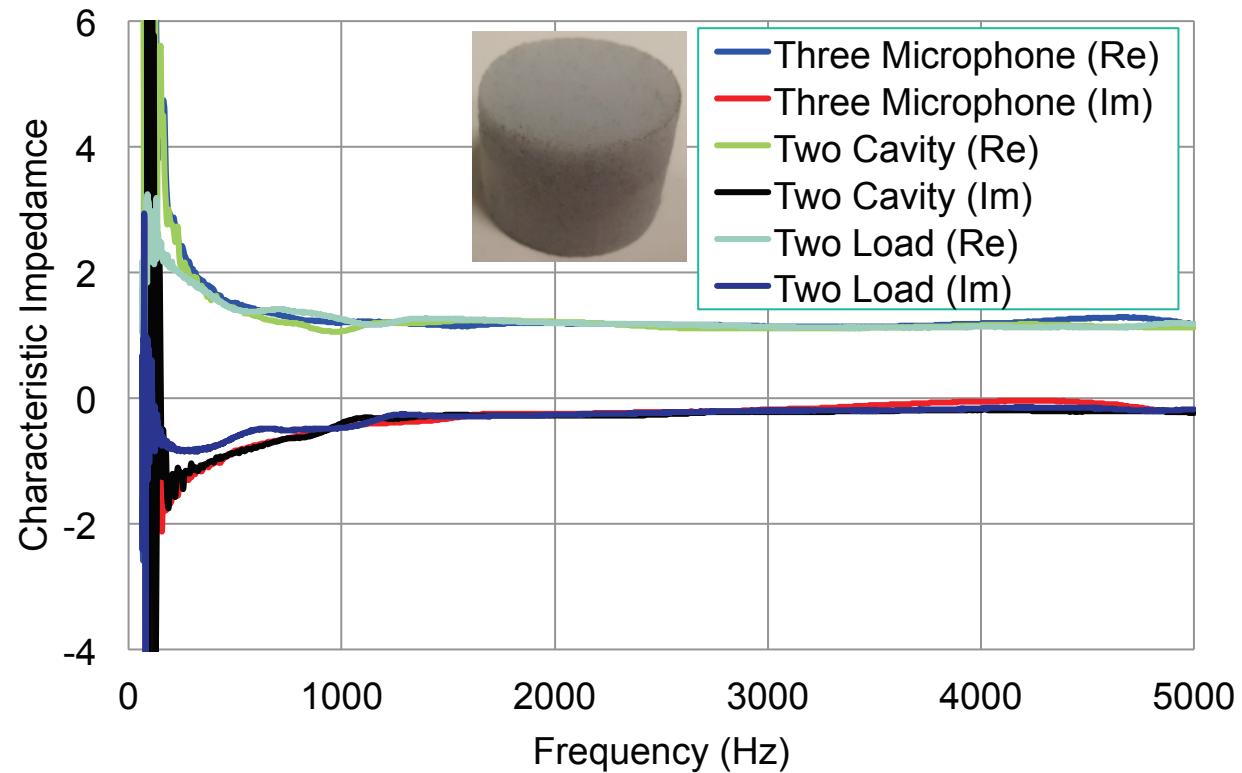
$$z_c = jz_0 \frac{1+R}{1-R} \tan(k_c d)$$

# Melamine Characteristic Impedance

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## Measurement of Bulk Properties

1 inch Melamine Foam

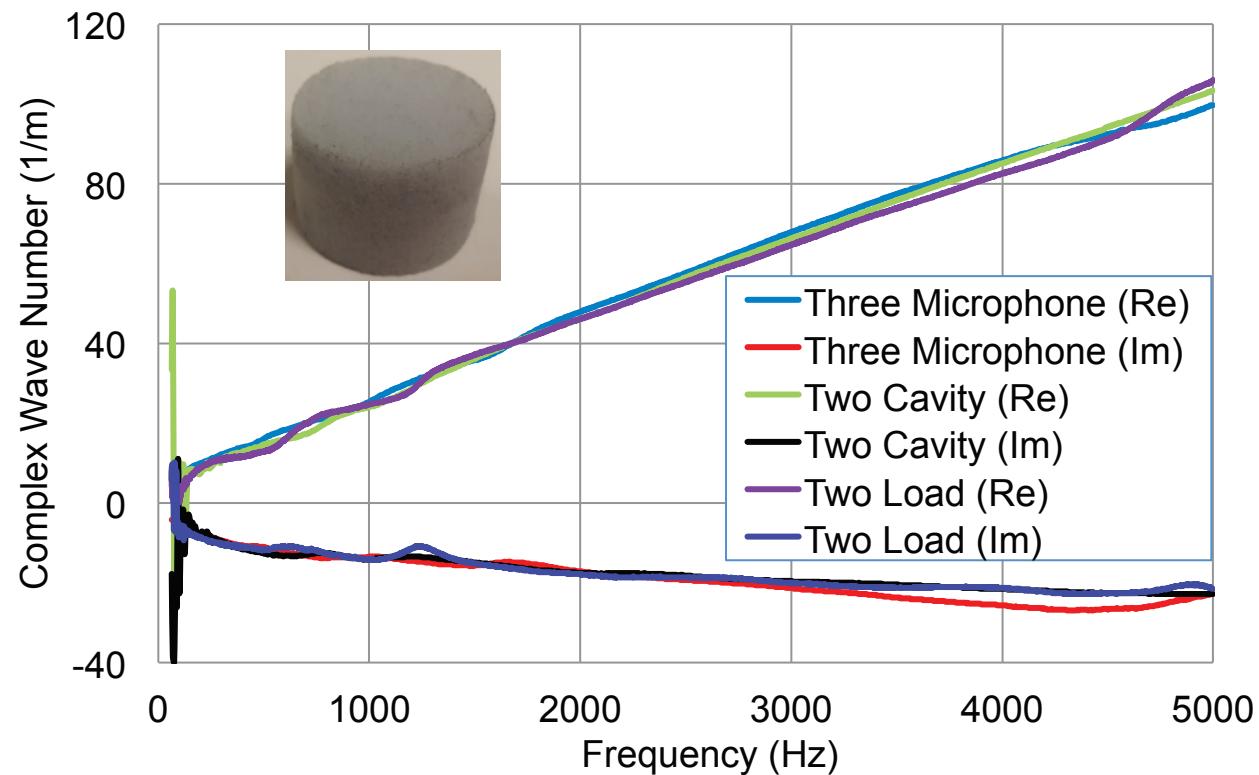


# Melamine Complex Wave Number

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## Measurement of Bulk Properties

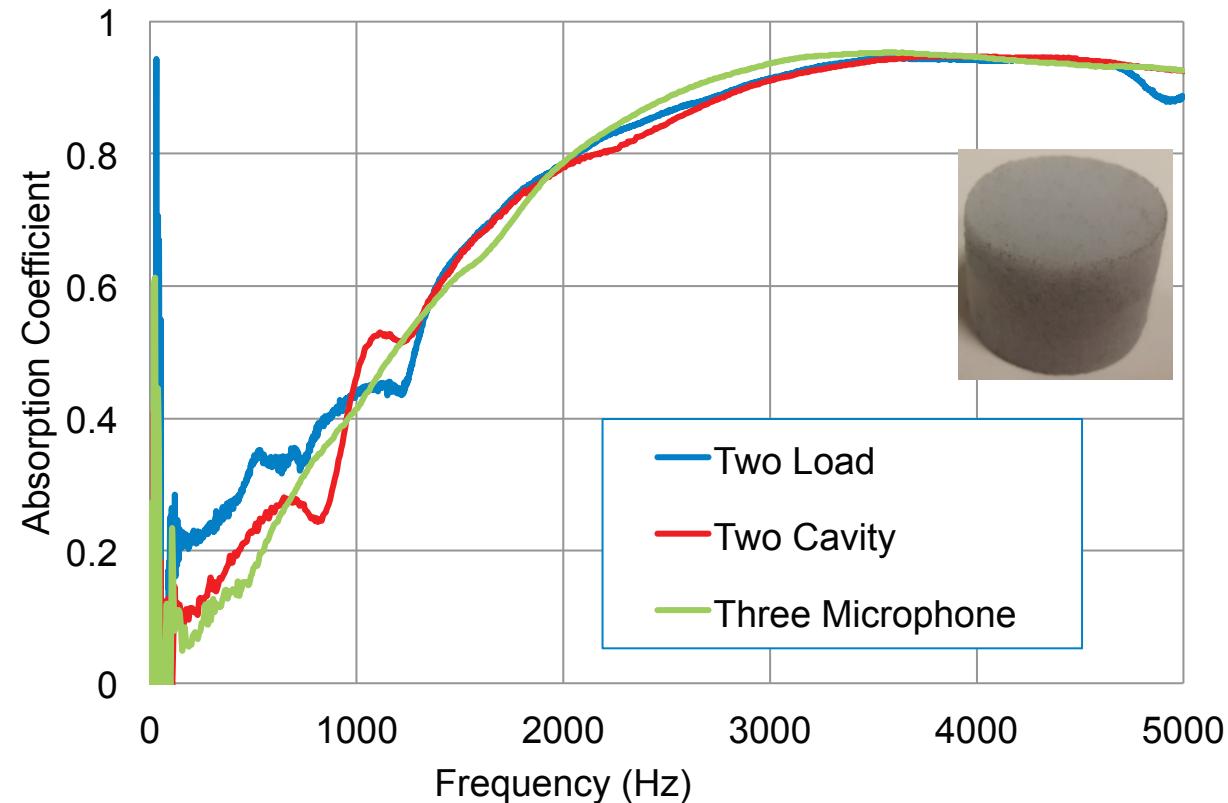
1 inch Melamine Foam



# Melamine Sound Absorption Coefficient

## Measurement of Bulk Properties

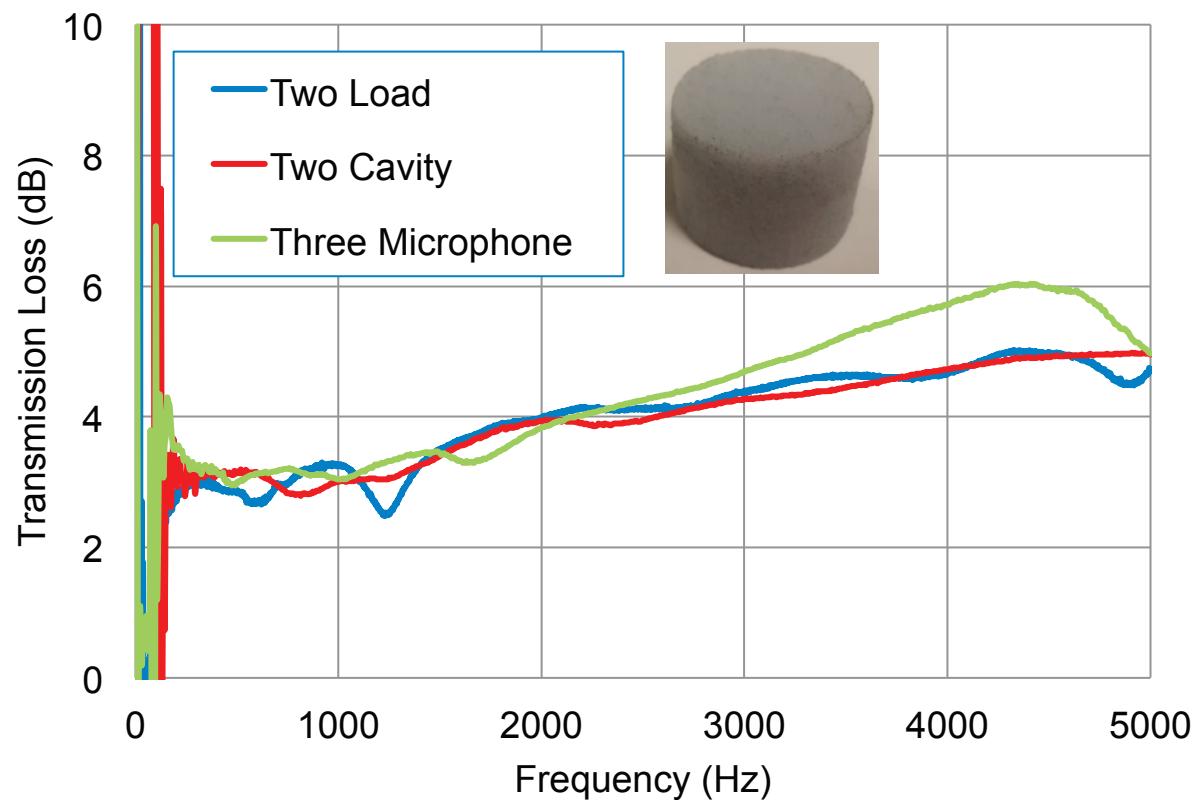
1 inch Melamine Foam



# Melamine Transmission Loss

## Measurement of Bulk Properties

1 inch Melamine Foam

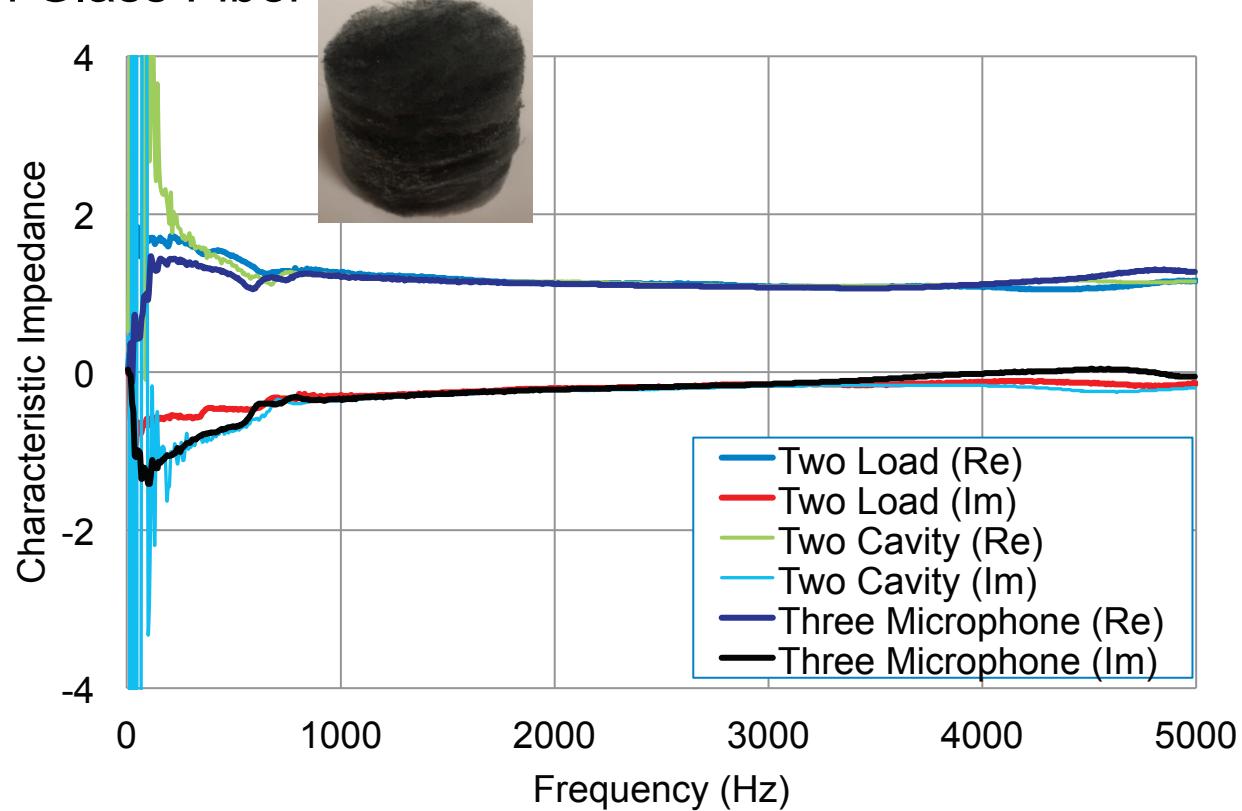


# Fiber Characteristic Impedance

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## Measurement of Bulk Properties

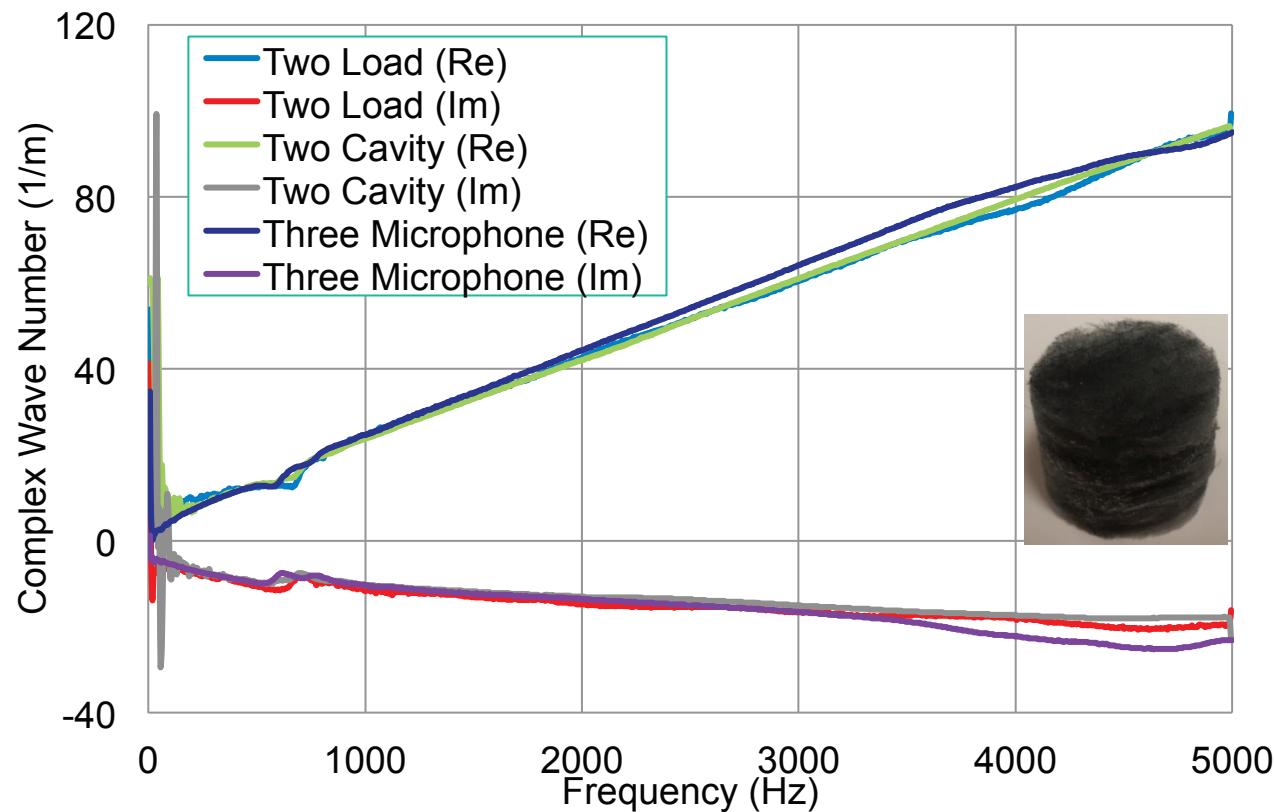
1 inch Glass Fiber



# Fiber Complex Wave Number

## Measurement of Bulk Properties

1 inch Glass Fiber

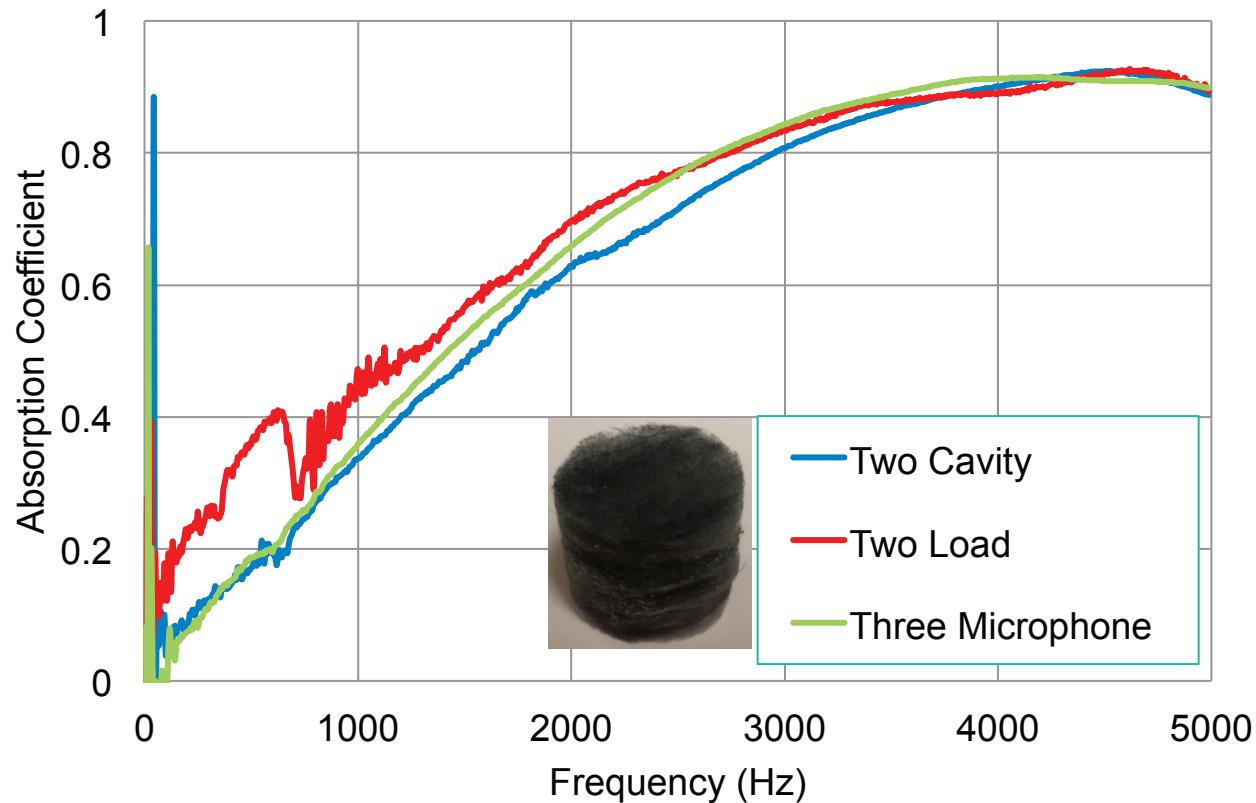


# Fiber Sound Absorption Coefficient

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## Measurement of Bulk Properties

1 inch Glass Fiber

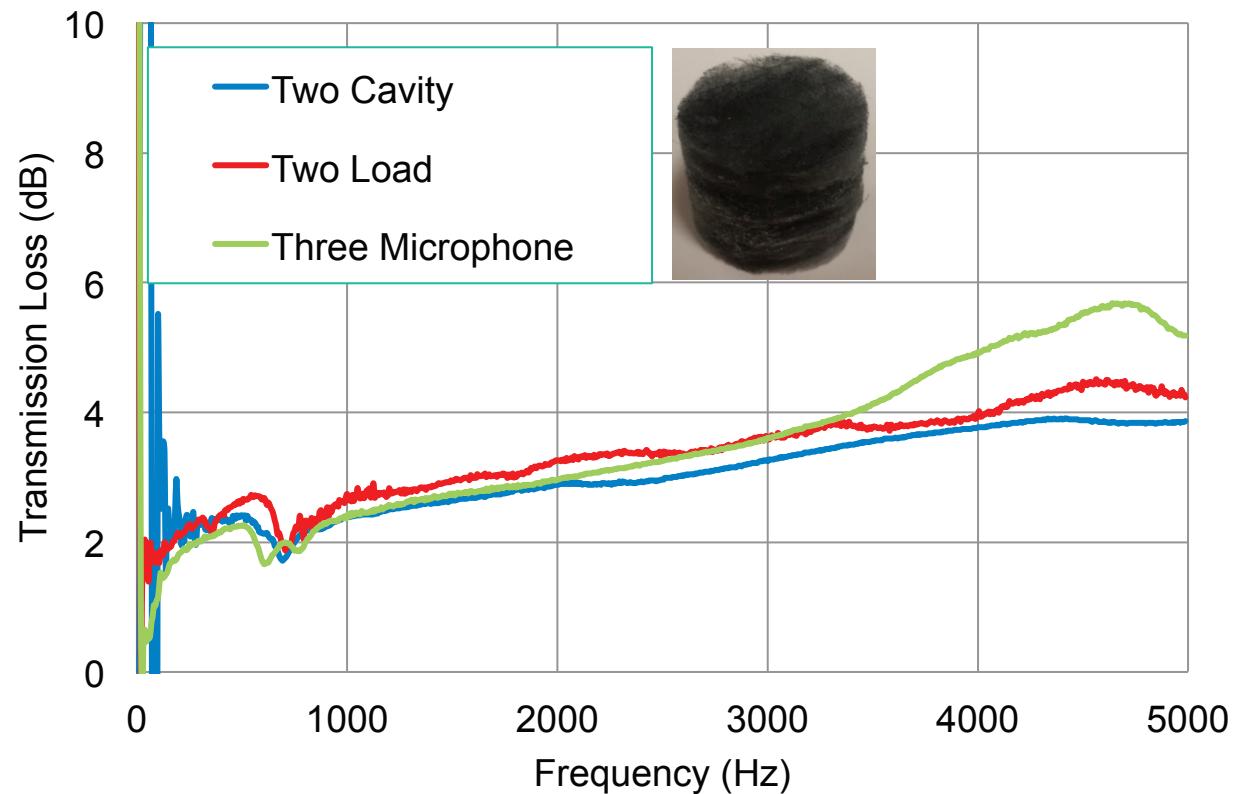


# Fiber Transmission Loss

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## Measurement of Bulk Properties

1 inch Glass Fiber



# Comparison

## Measurement of Bulk Properties

	Two Load	Two Cavity	Three Microphone
No. of Loads	2	2	1
No. of Calibrations	3	1	2
Smoothness of Curve	Good	Good	Excellent

# Overview of Approaches

## Measurement of Bulk Properties

Direct Measurement

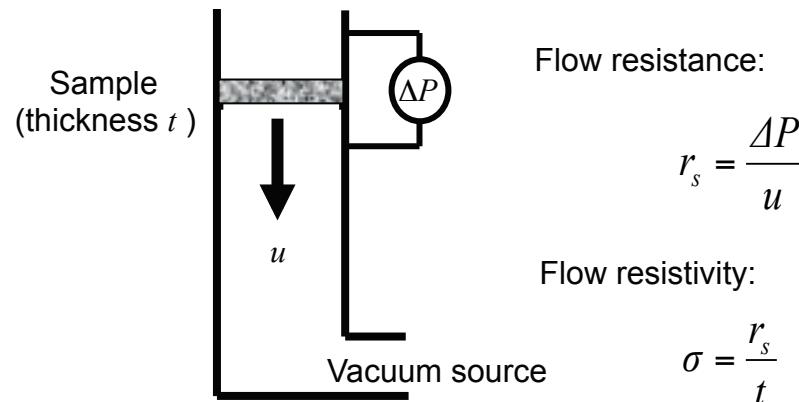
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- Two cavity method [Utsuno, 1989](#)
- Three microphone method [Iwase et.al., 1998](#)

Measure Flow Resistance

Find bulk properties from measured flow resistivity  
[Wu, 1988; Mechel et al., 2002](#)

# Measure Flow Resistance

## Measurement of Bulk Properties



Measure  
Flow Resistivity Using  
ASTM C522

Plug into Empirical Models  
Wu (1988) or Mechel et al. (2002)

# Summary

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## Measurement of Bulk Properties

- Compared the various methods for determining the bulk properties of sound absorbers.
- Curve fitting approaches are adequate for common sound absorbing materials.