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Subject: Measuring loudspeaker performance

Posted by [Wayne Parham](#) on Mon, 18 Feb 2002 00:45:44 GMT

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You might check out the shareware measurement system "Speaker Workshop" at Audua.com. It is a gated MLS system, so you can gate out early reflections when doing indoor measurements. This is called pseudo-anechoic, because while the room still causes reflections, the measurement system gets its samples prior to the first arrival. Therefore, no reflections are present in the gathered dataset. The thing is, it can only work down to the frequency range where boundaries are more than a wavelength distant. This prevents you from accurately measuring the bass. You'll have to go outside for that. On the other hand, you may want to measure the sound distribution in your room. This will not require gating. You can do that with your RTA or with gating turned off in Speaker Workshop. You'll need to make several measurements in the room, forming a grid of listening positions. Put the microphone in the first grid position and take a measurement, then move on to the next spot and so on until all grid points have been done. Then you will be able to see response at each of these points, and you will then know the energy distribution in your room at all frequencies.