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Subject: Acoustic reflection from the edge of the horn-mouth

Posted by [spears\\_tears](#) on Tue, 21 Jan 2003 09:02:57 GMT

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Hello, im new to speaker and horn design, found this interesting, i quote from the soul of sound library;'Acoustic reflection from the edge of the horn-mouth. When a sound wave moves across a sharp boundary, it diffracts and re-radiates in all directions, like a separate driver located at the point of the reflection. The reflected wave from the horn-mouth then bounces back into the throat, which typically has a hard phase plug or a driver with a stiff cone. After it strikes that, it reflects right back outward again ... this succession of reflections is called a series reflection, and it is far more audible than the small ripples in the frequency response might indicate. The best solution is to eliminate the mouth reflection entirely. This has already been done with the Tractrix horn profile, invented by P.G.A.H. Voight in the late Twenties! The Tractrix still has a sharp edge at the horn mouth, but the horn wall has already curved through 90 degrees before the sound hits the boundary. The reflected sound then has the difficult task of curving back through that 90 degree curve before it can strike the phase plug. Therefore ... no standing wave, only one modest reflection, and very little of the "horn sound" if the compression driver is correctly designed.' This next passage in particular.....'(Note: there are rectangular horns on the market that are Tractrix-profile in only one dimension; since the reflection is still an unresolved problem on two of the mouth edges, most of the benefit of the Tractrix profile is lost.)'Humm im looking at Theatre series 4 Pis, they are a rectangular design, only 2 sides have the tractix horn profile. Naturally reading this uneased me. Any help on this subject espically on the design of the actual horn for the compression drivers would be much apreciated. Thank you, Spears.