Subject: Moderate levels of listening and distortion
Posted by Lizah on Wed, 20 Apr 2016 15:45:41 GMT
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Why is it that at more moderate levels of listening, devices always seem to sound distorted? Is there an actual scientific reason behind this, or is it something more simple like the audio signal?

Subject: Re: Moderate levels of listening and distortion
Posted by Wayne Parham on Wed, 20 Apr 2016 15:57:57 GMT
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There are a lot of reasons for distortion, so it is a topic that merits more in-depth discussion than just a generality. But I'll give a brief generality anyway:

Low level distortion is usually caused by things like noise, conversion errors in a digital system or zero-crossing in poorly designed amplifier somewhere in the signal chain. High level distortion is usually caused by overdriving something past its limits, usually voltage or current in an amplifier or mechanical limits in a speaker.