

Special Issue on “Noise measurement”

Preface

Roberto Pompoli

Engineering Department, University of Ferrara, Via G. Saragat,1 – 44100 Ferrara, Italy

Yoichi Ando

Graduate School of Science and Technology, Kobe University, Rokkodai, Nada, Kobe 657-8501, Japan

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During the 17th ICA, held in Rome 3–8 September 2001, a structured session on “Objective and Subjective Evaluation of Environmental Noise: new criteria” was organised by the Authors. This special issue publishes selected papers presented during this session.

All the papers dealt with a new criteria proposed by Yoichi Ando for the evaluation and identification of environmental noise: the first paper describes theoretical background of the method based on the model of auditory-brain system developed for concert hall acoustics (Concert Hall Acoustics, Springer Verlag, Heidelberg, 1985; Architectural Acoustics, blending sound sources, sound field and listeners, AIP Press/Springer-Verlag, New York, 1998). The other papers deal with application of the method in some interesting and practical cases. From these results come to evidence that the new parameters extracted from the auto-correlation and from the inter-aural cross-correlation functions seem to be promising and powerful tools for an objective and subjective evaluation and identification of environmental noise. We are confident that this new and original criteria may be the beginning of further investigation which may lead to important findings in this very special field.