PROBLEM N°9
SCREAMING BALLOON

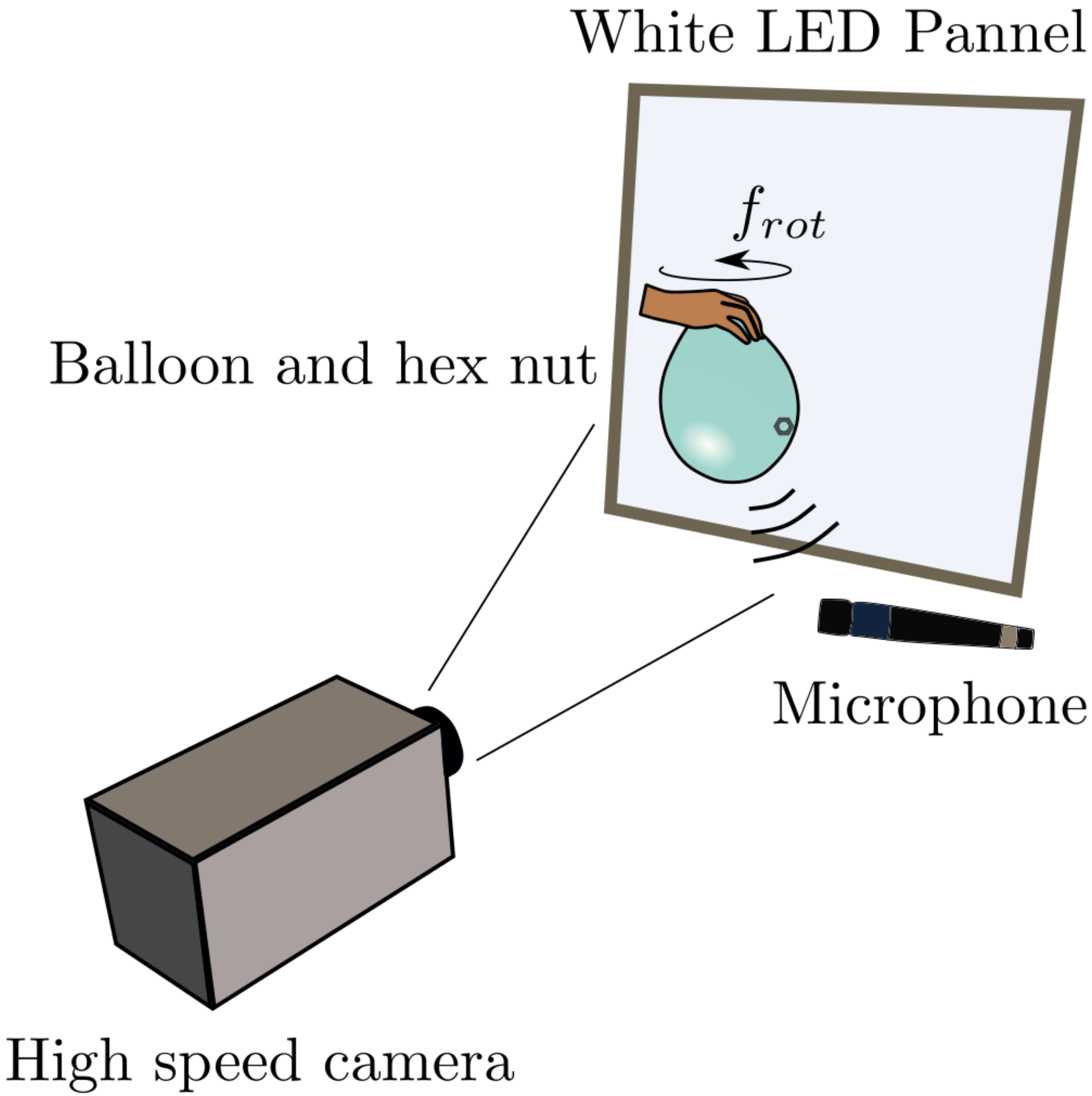
Team Ecole polytechnique

Problem

A **sound** is produced when a **hex nut** is made to **rotate in a balloon.**

How do the **characteristics of the sound** depend on the **parameters of the system** ?

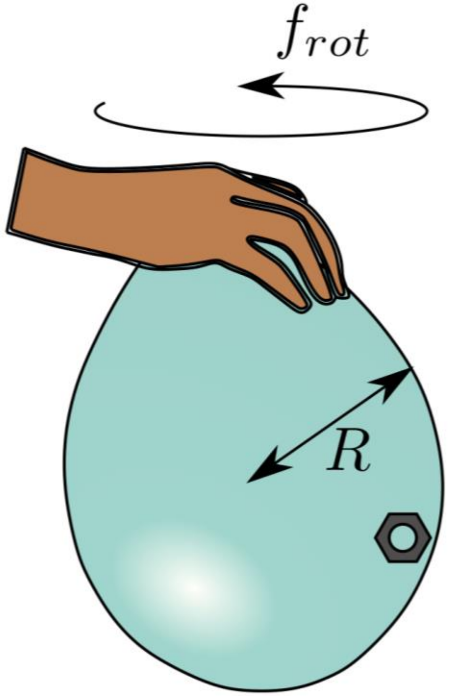
Experimental setup



Frequency range

Influence of gravity:

$$mg < m(2\pi f_{rot})^2 R \Rightarrow f_{rot} > 1.6\ Hz$$

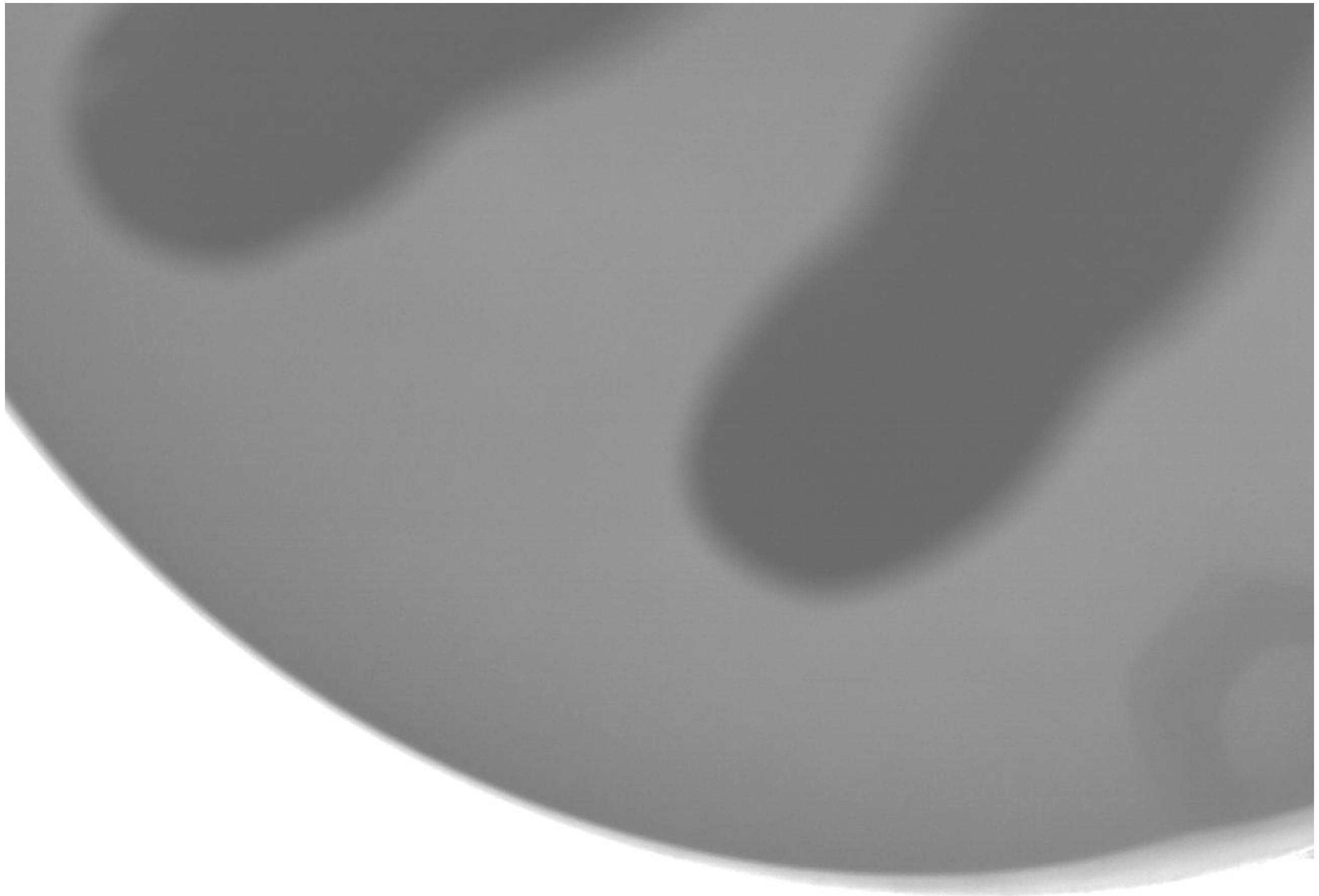


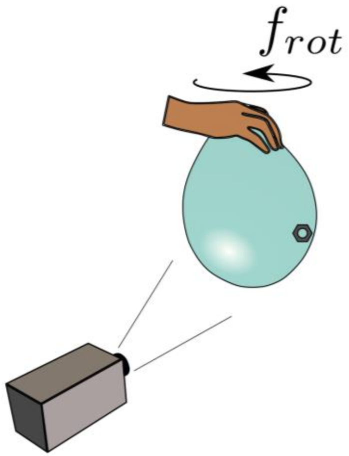
Influence of Doppler effect:

$$\frac{2\pi R f_{rot}}{c} < 0.1 \Rightarrow f_{rot} < 54\ Hz$$

Effective range: $3\ Hz < f_{rot} < 10\ Hz$

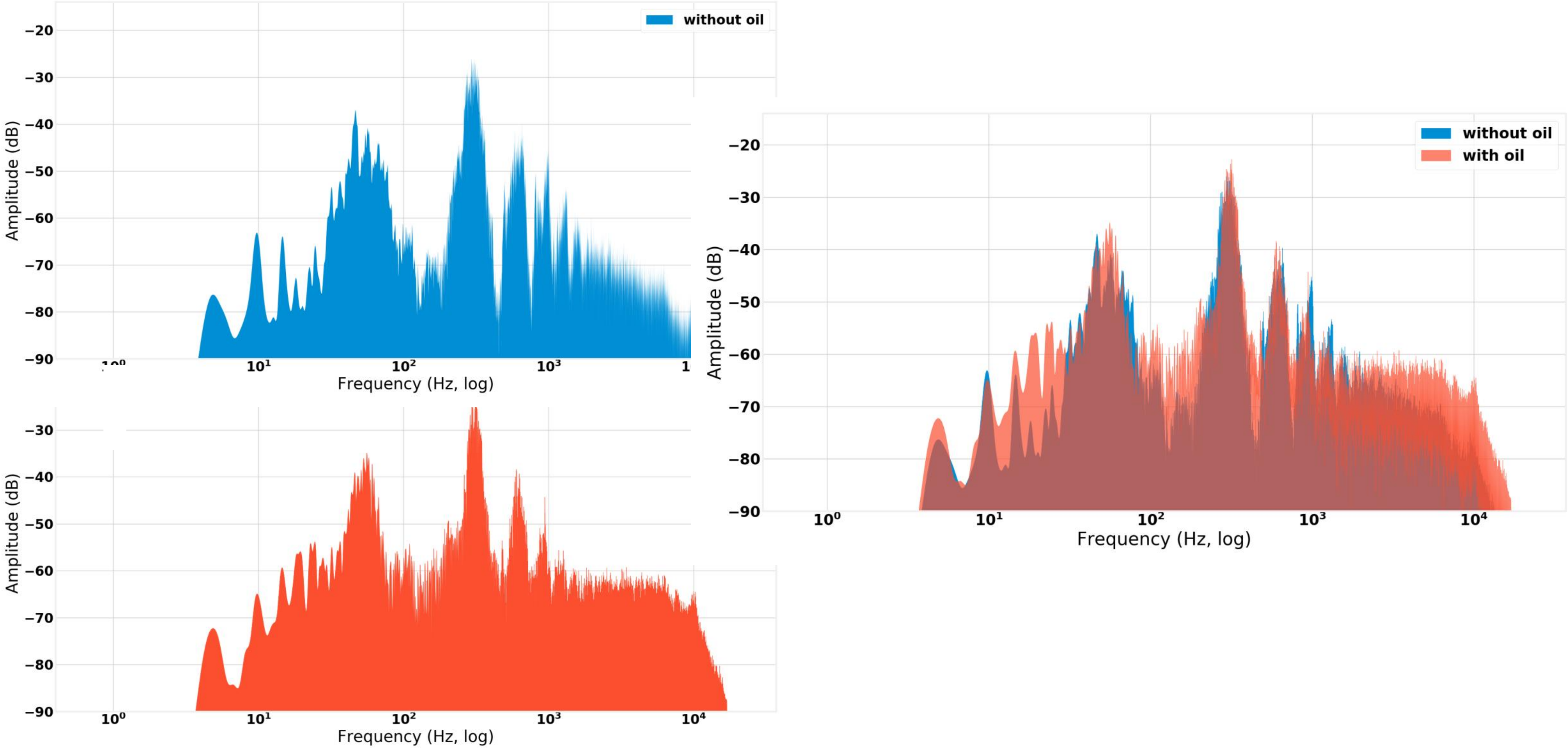
How does the hex move ?





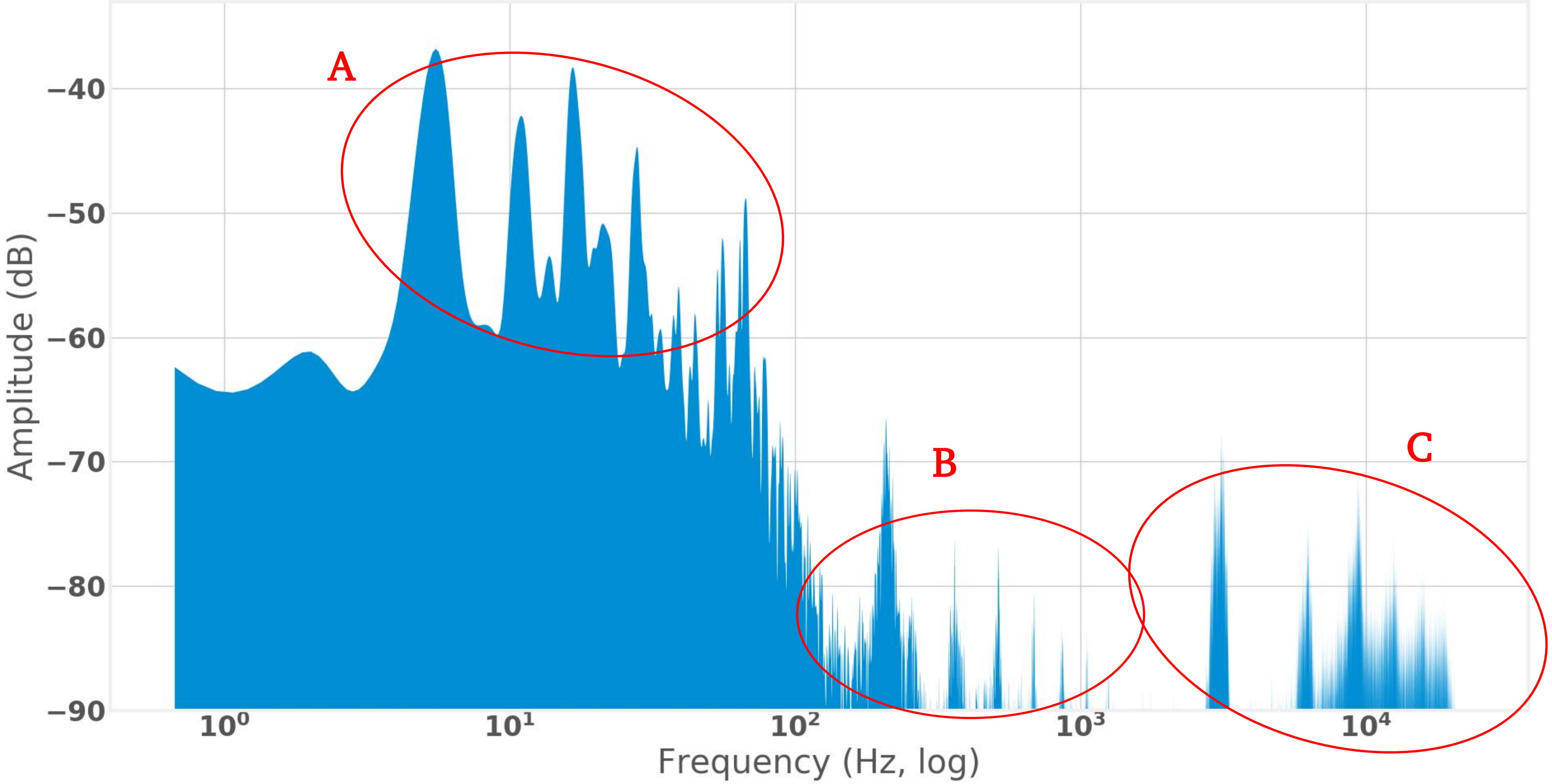
The hex **does not slide**

Influence of friction



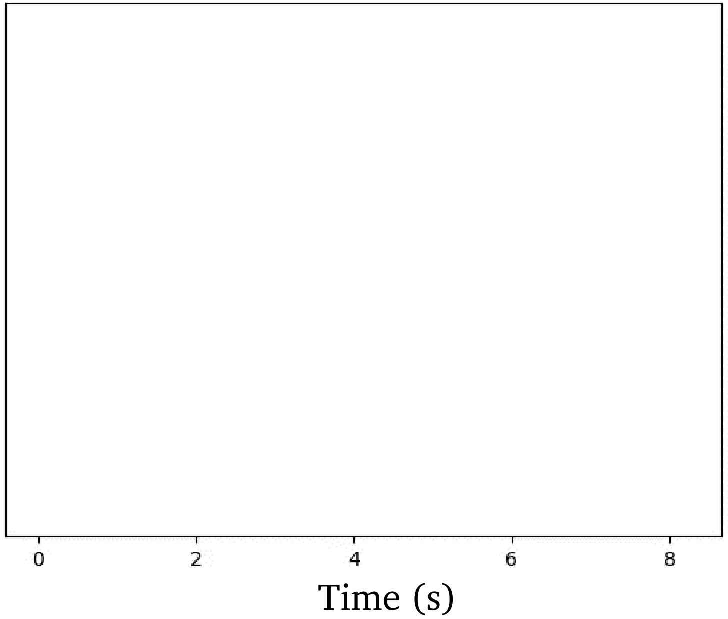
Fourier transform

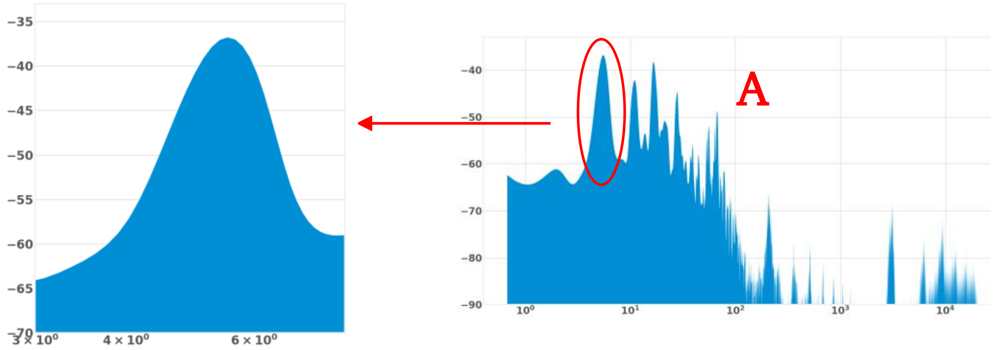
Typical Fourier transform



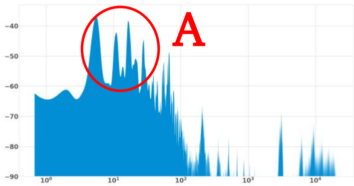
Experiment A

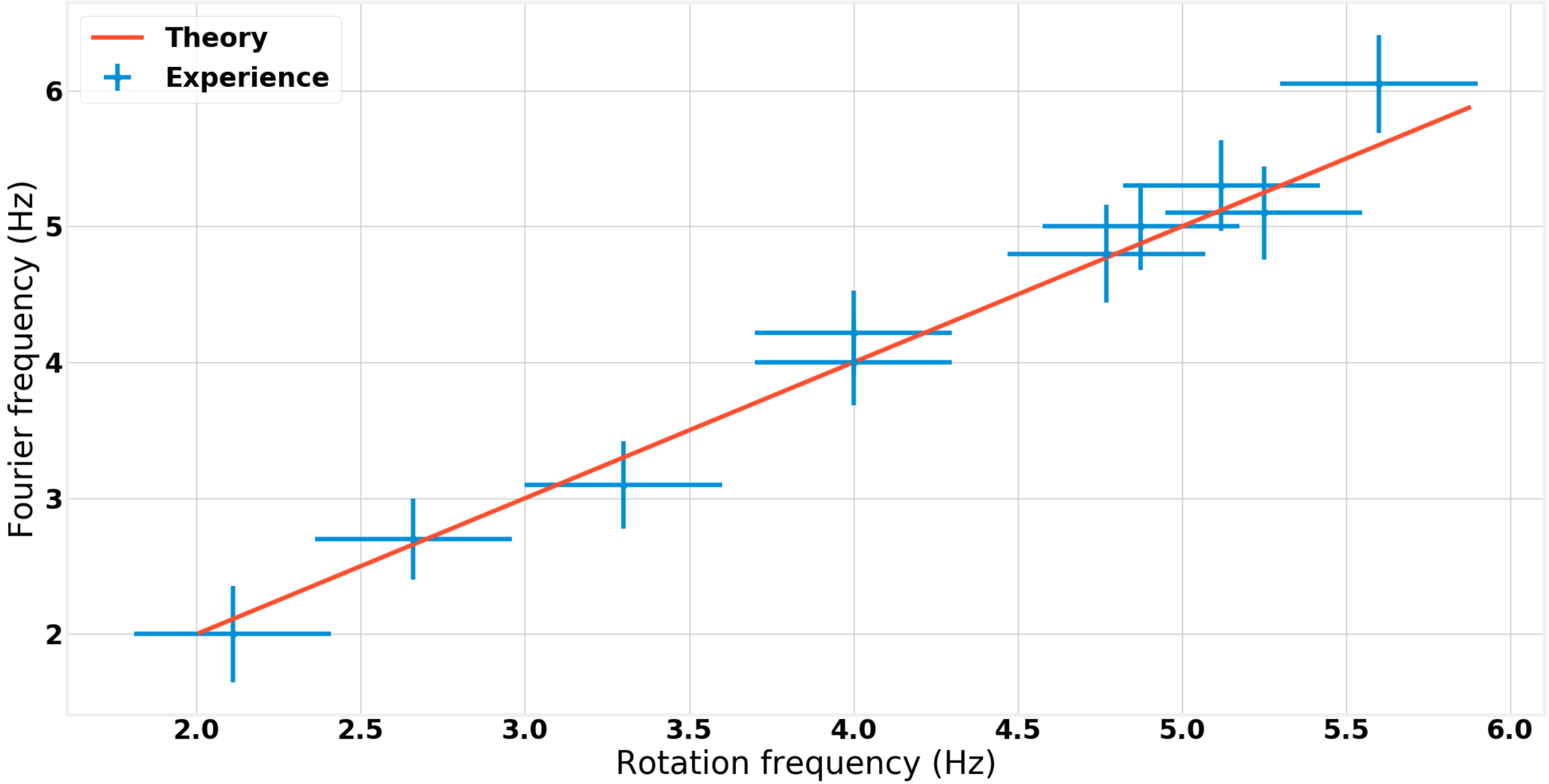
How does the macroscopic rotation speed influence the sound ?





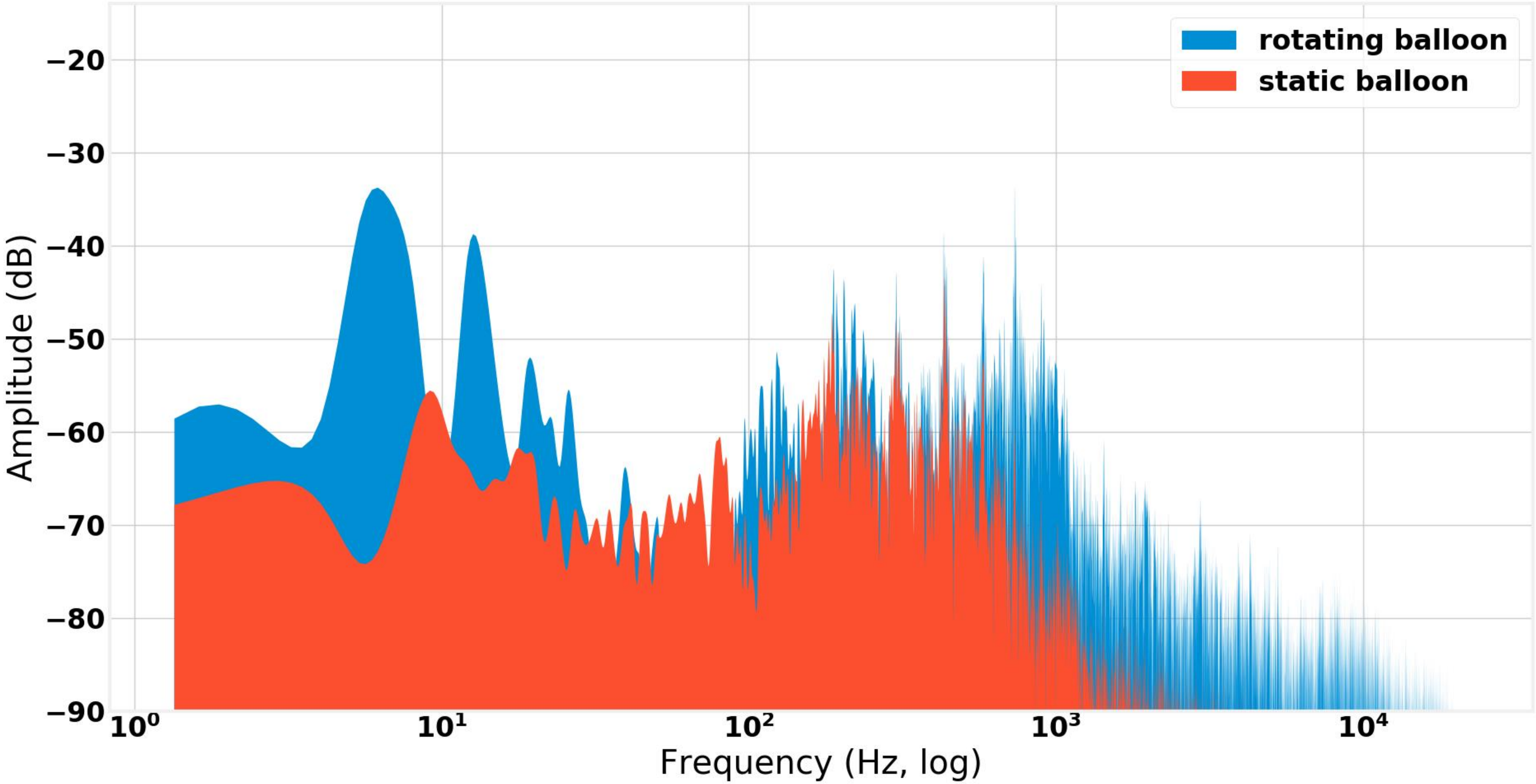
Experiment A



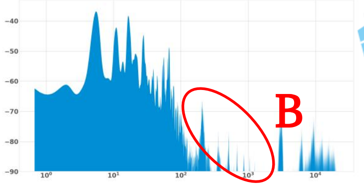


The harmonics of zone A are explained by the macroscopic rotation of the balloon

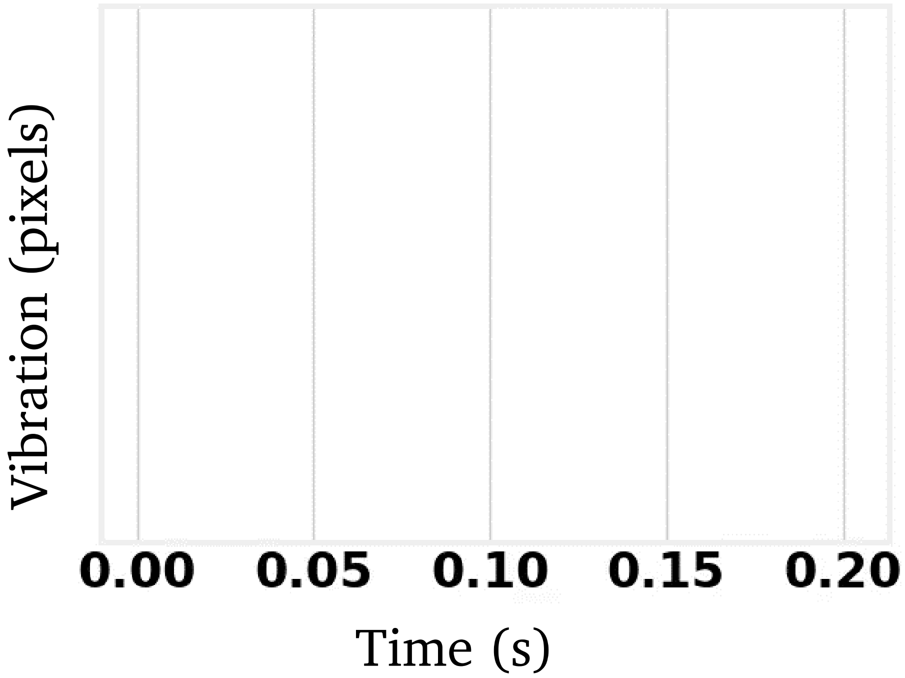
Low frequencies: w/o rotation



Experiment B



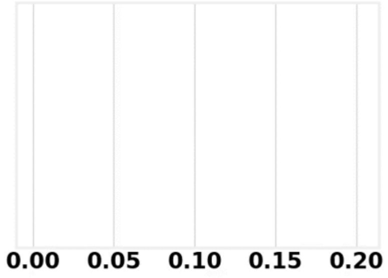
Does the membrane of the balloon oscillate ?



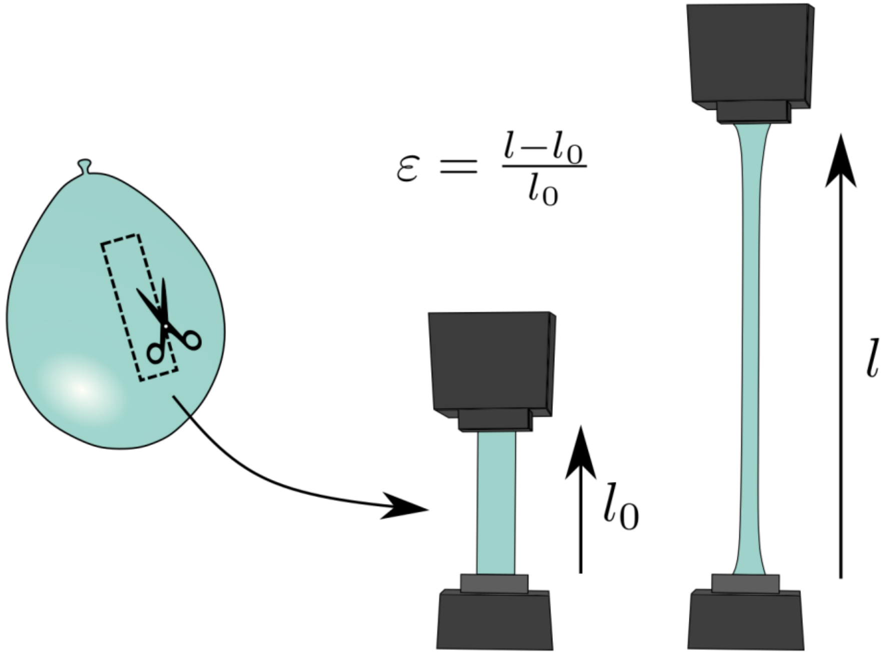
Results :

$150Hz \leq f_{measured} \leq$ 250Hz

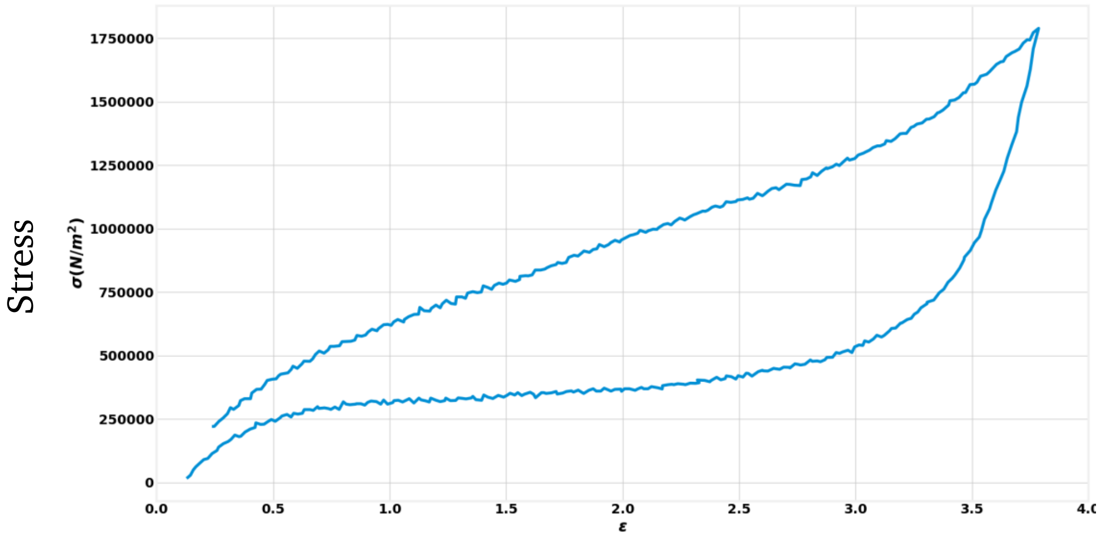
Elasticity is a key factor



Elasticity of the balloon



Deformation graph



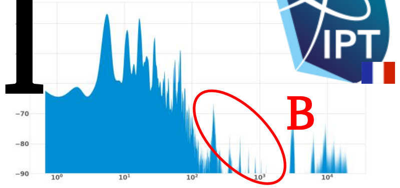
Normalized deformation

Results :

Elastic parameters

- Poissons coefficient: $0.4 \leq \nu \leq 0.5$
- Youngs modulus: $1\ MPa \leq \mathrm{E} \leq 3\ MPa$

Zone B – Theorical model

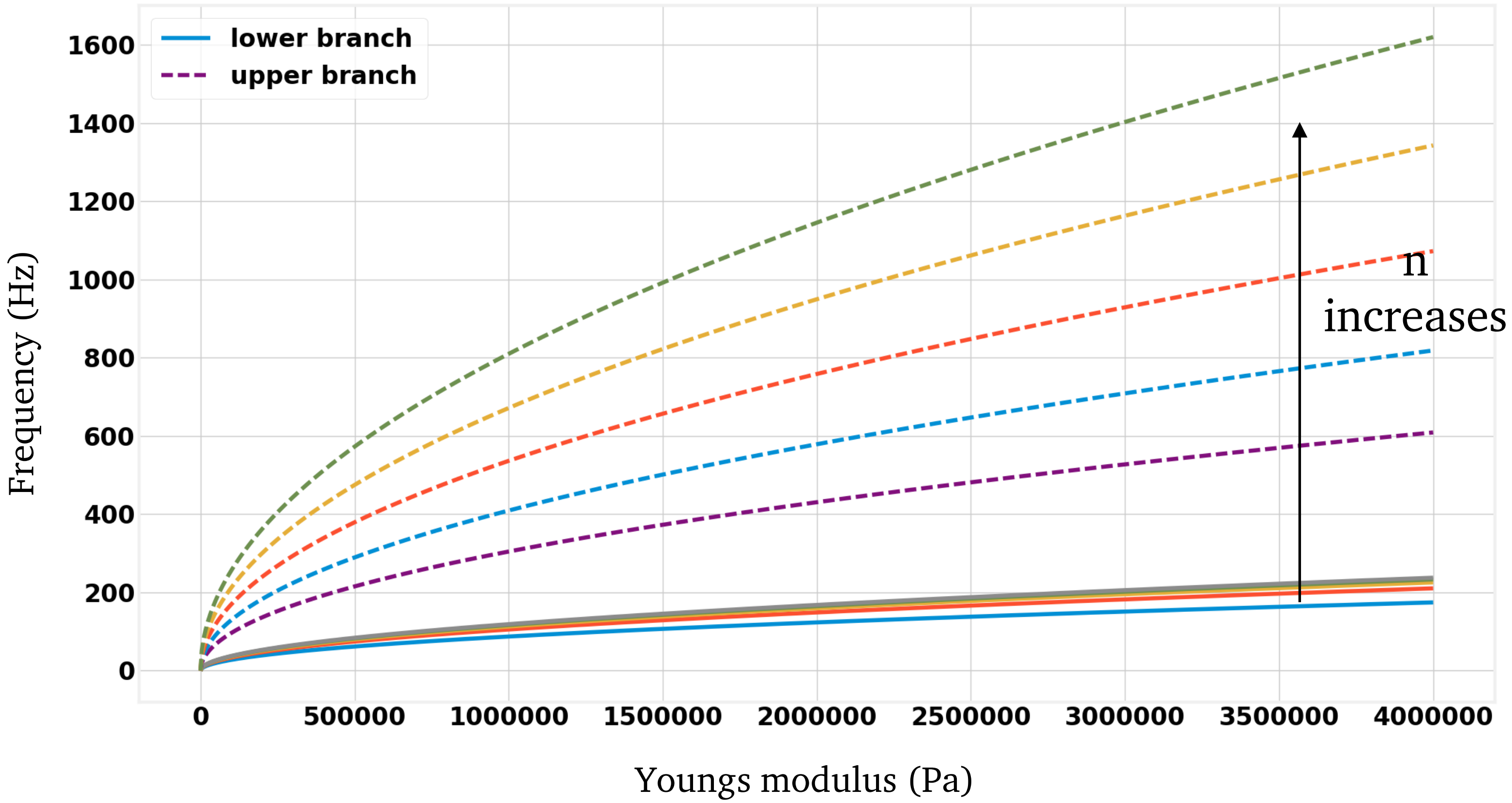


Vibration frequencies of an elastic spherical shell:

$$\boxed{f_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{A}} . C_n(\nu)}$$

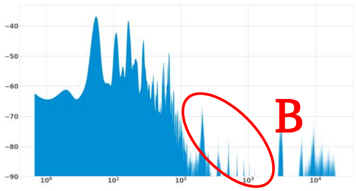
$$A = \frac{1-\nu^2}{E}\rho R^2$$

- ν: Poissons coefficient
- E: Youngs modulus
- ρ: density of rubber
- R: radius of balloon

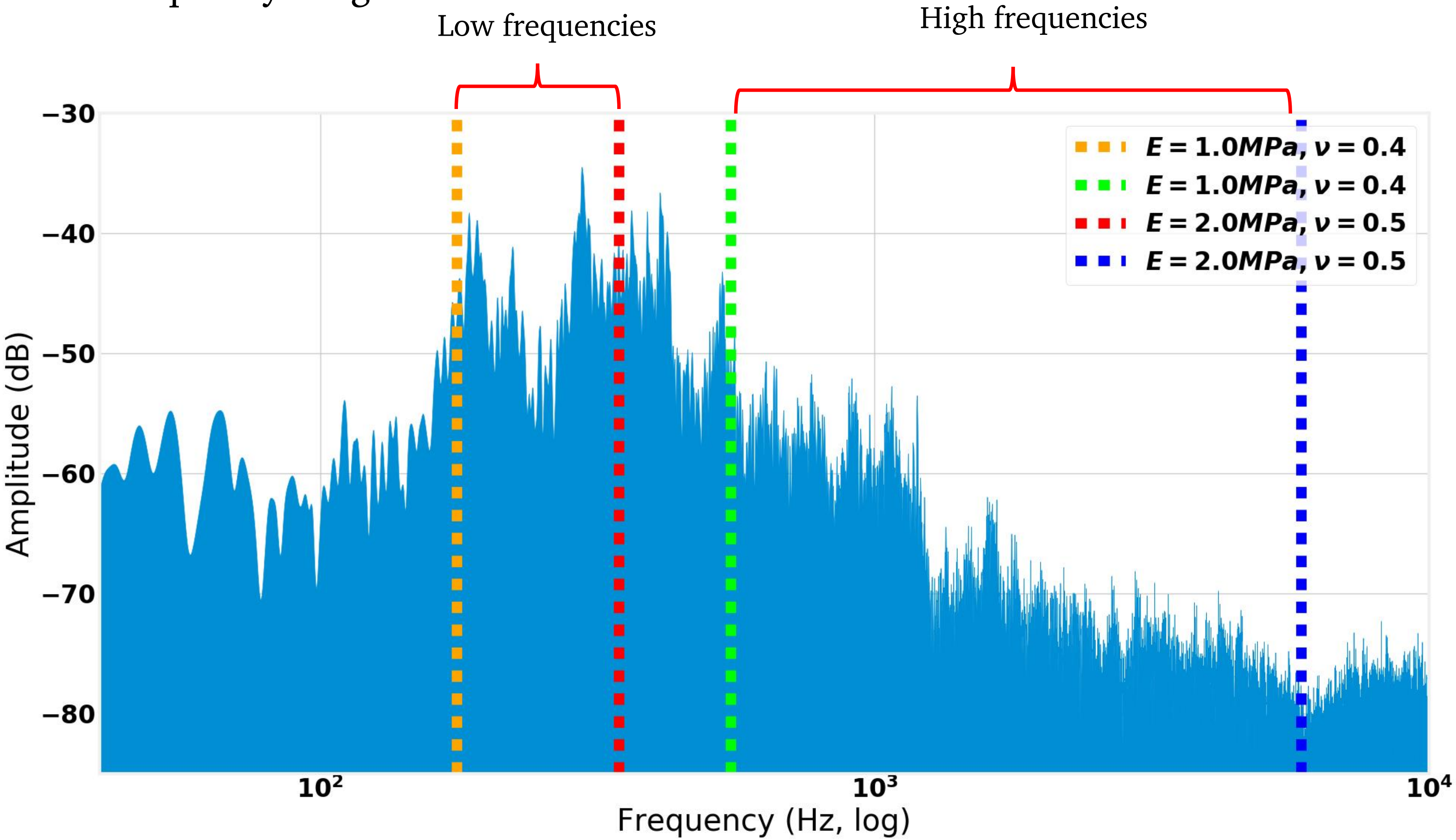


Source: Wilfred E. Baker. Axisymmetric modes of vibration of thin spherical shell. The Journal of the Acoustical Society of America, 33(12): 1749-1758, 1961.

Zone B

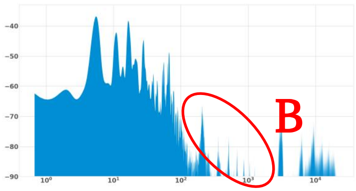


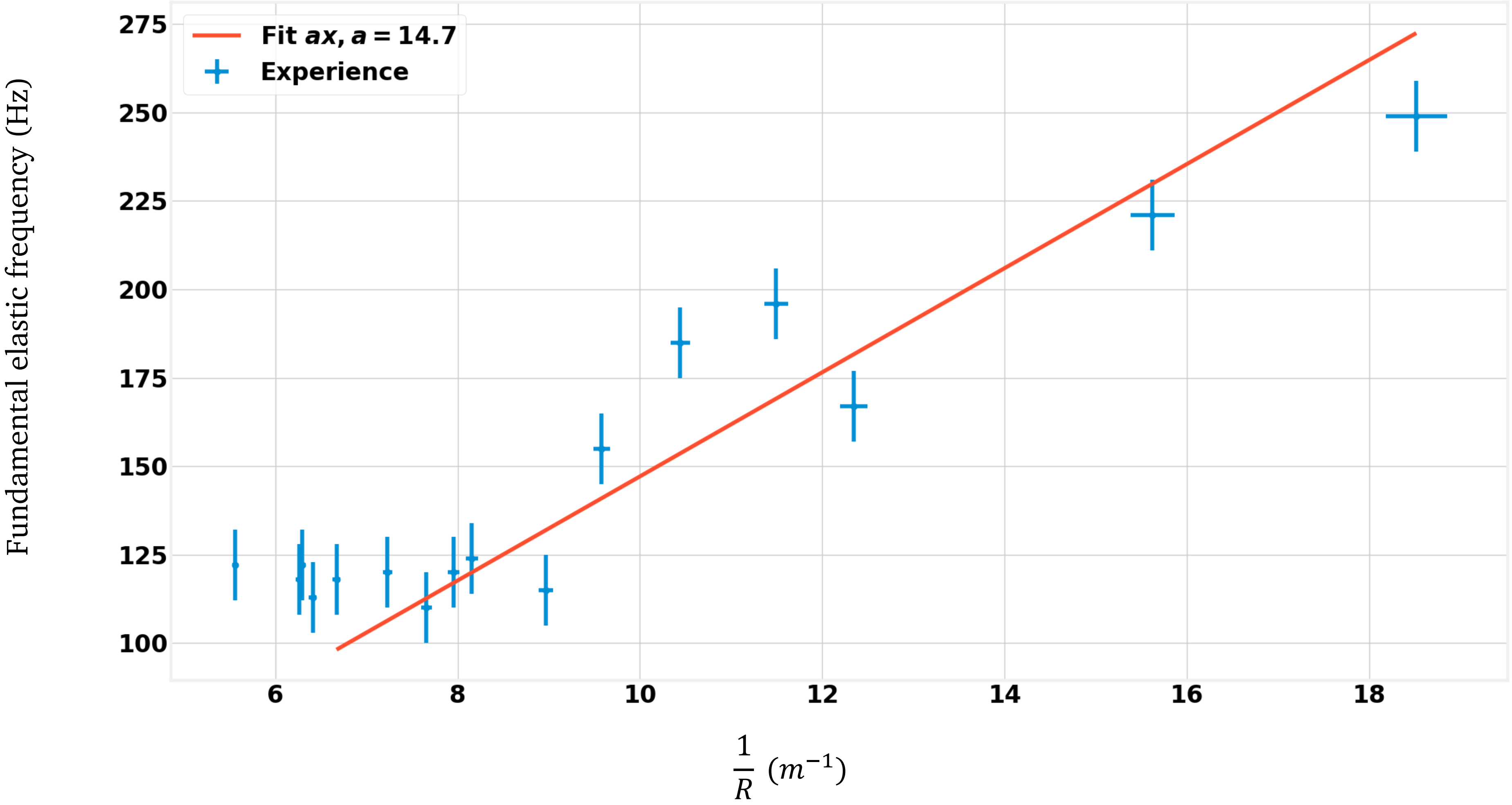
Predicted frequency ranges for n=1 to 15:



The theory is coherent with the experiments

Zone B

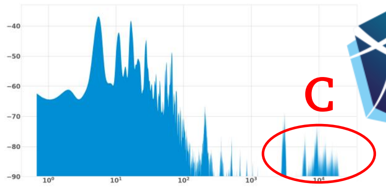




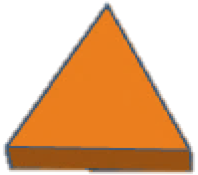
Theory

$$f_0 \propto \frac{1}{R}$$

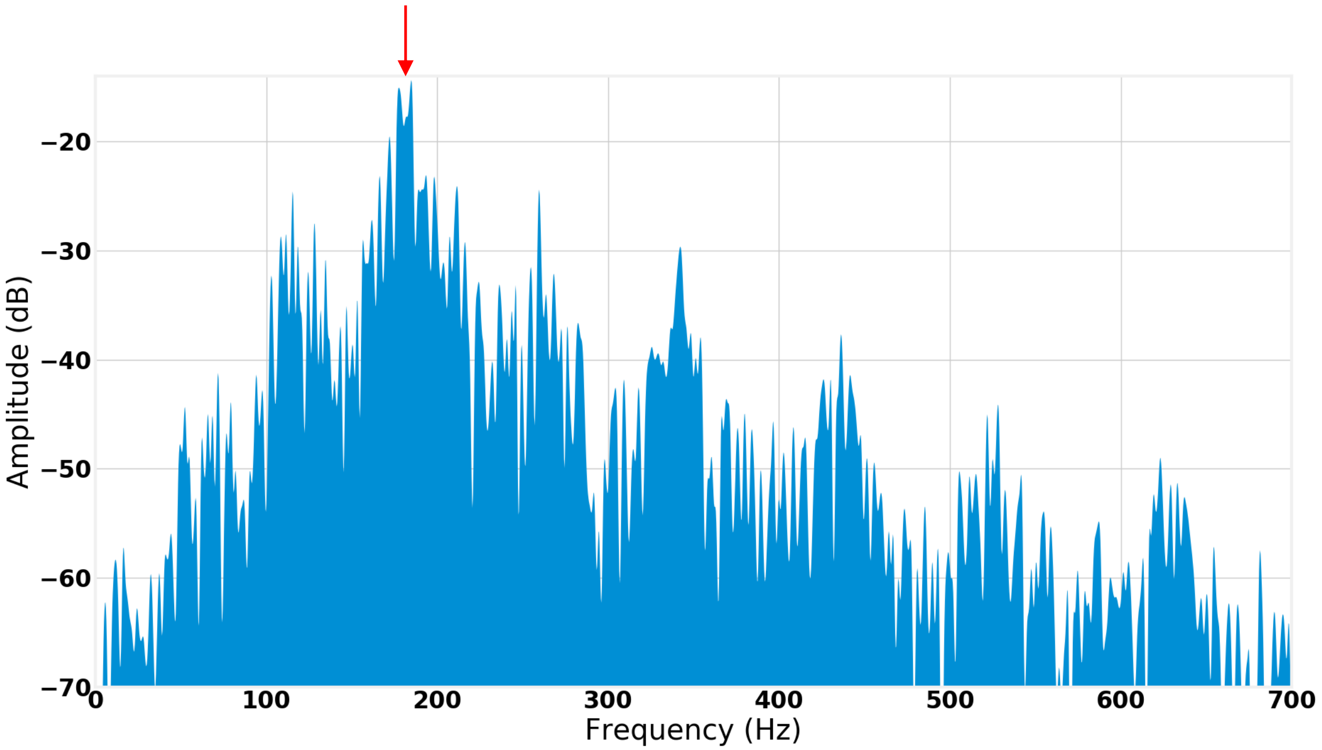
Experiment C



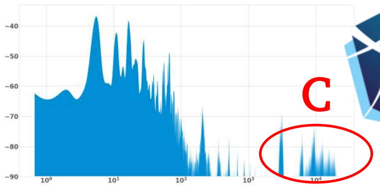
How does the sound of the balloon vary with the size of the hex nuts edge ?



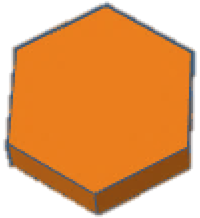
Hex nut with 3 sides



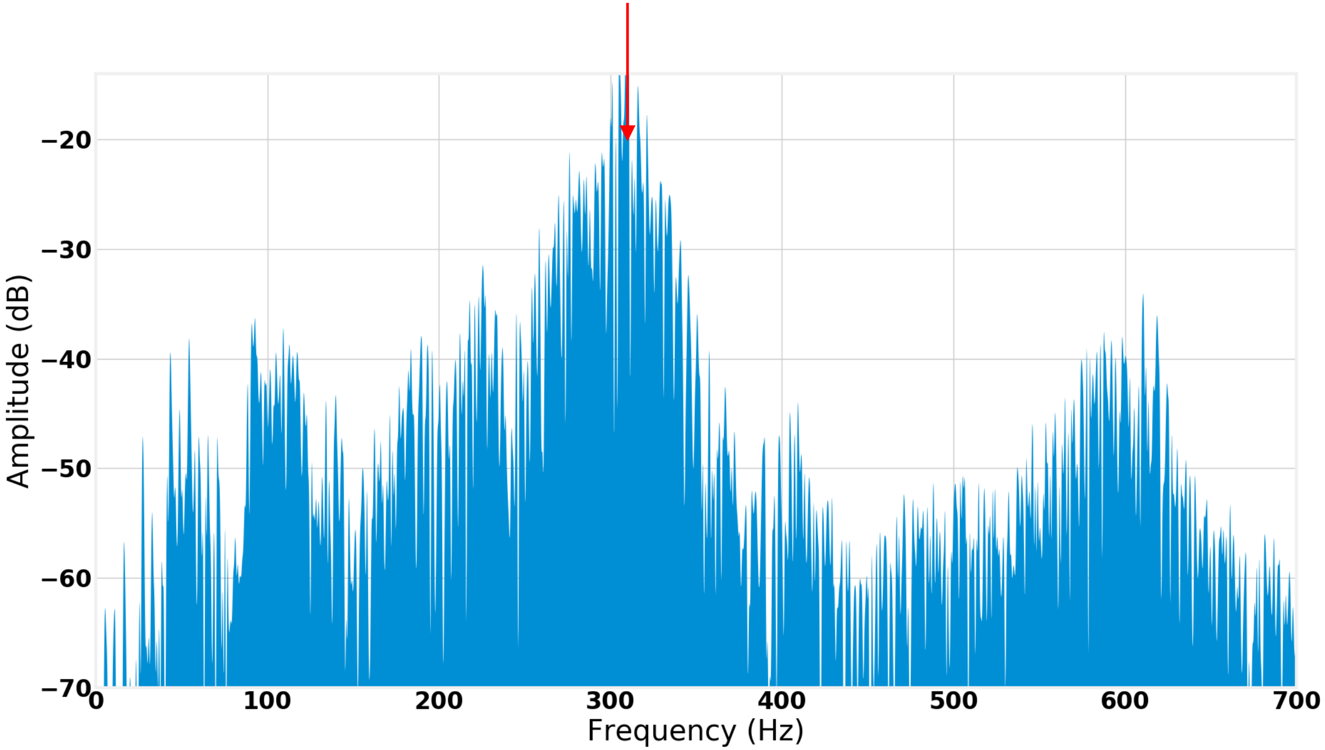
Experiment C



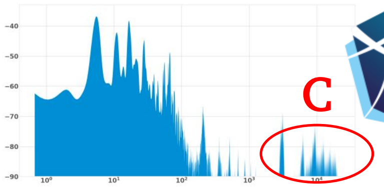
How does the sound of the balloon vary with the size of the hexs edge ?



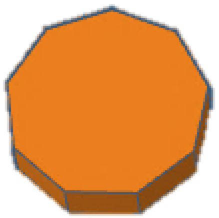
Hex nut with 6 sides



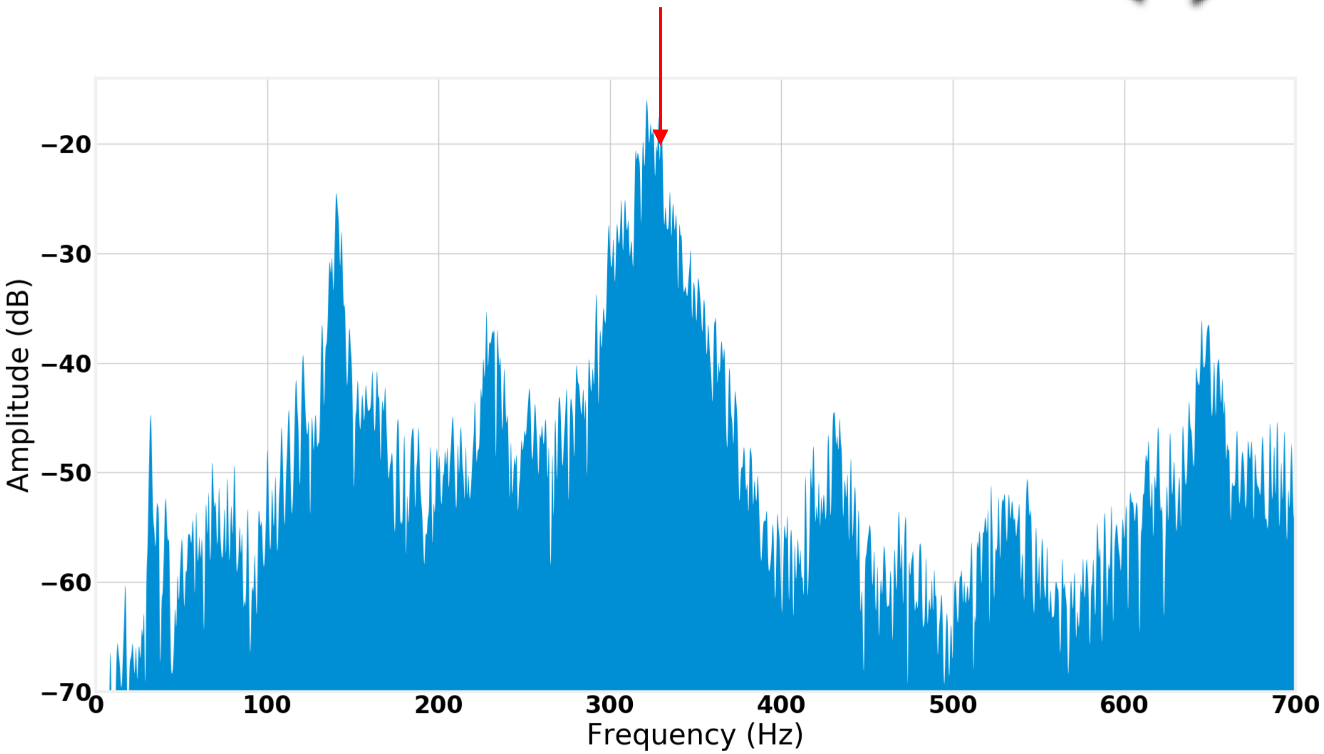
Experiment C



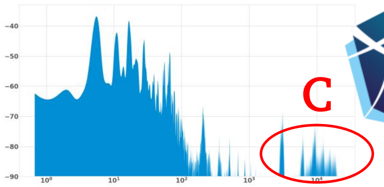
How does the sound of the balloon vary with the size of the hexs edge ?



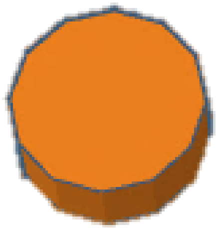
Hex nut with 9 sides



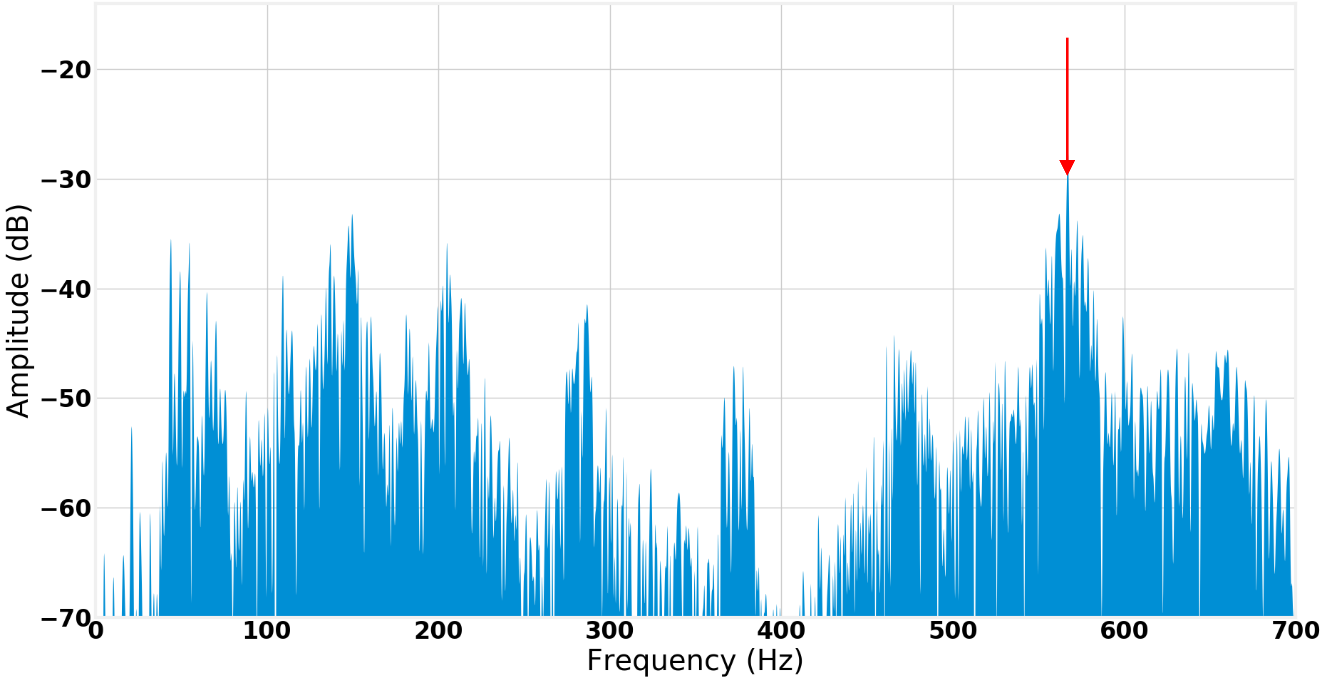
Experiment C



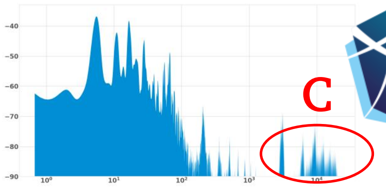
How does the sound of the balloon vary with the size of the hexs edge ?

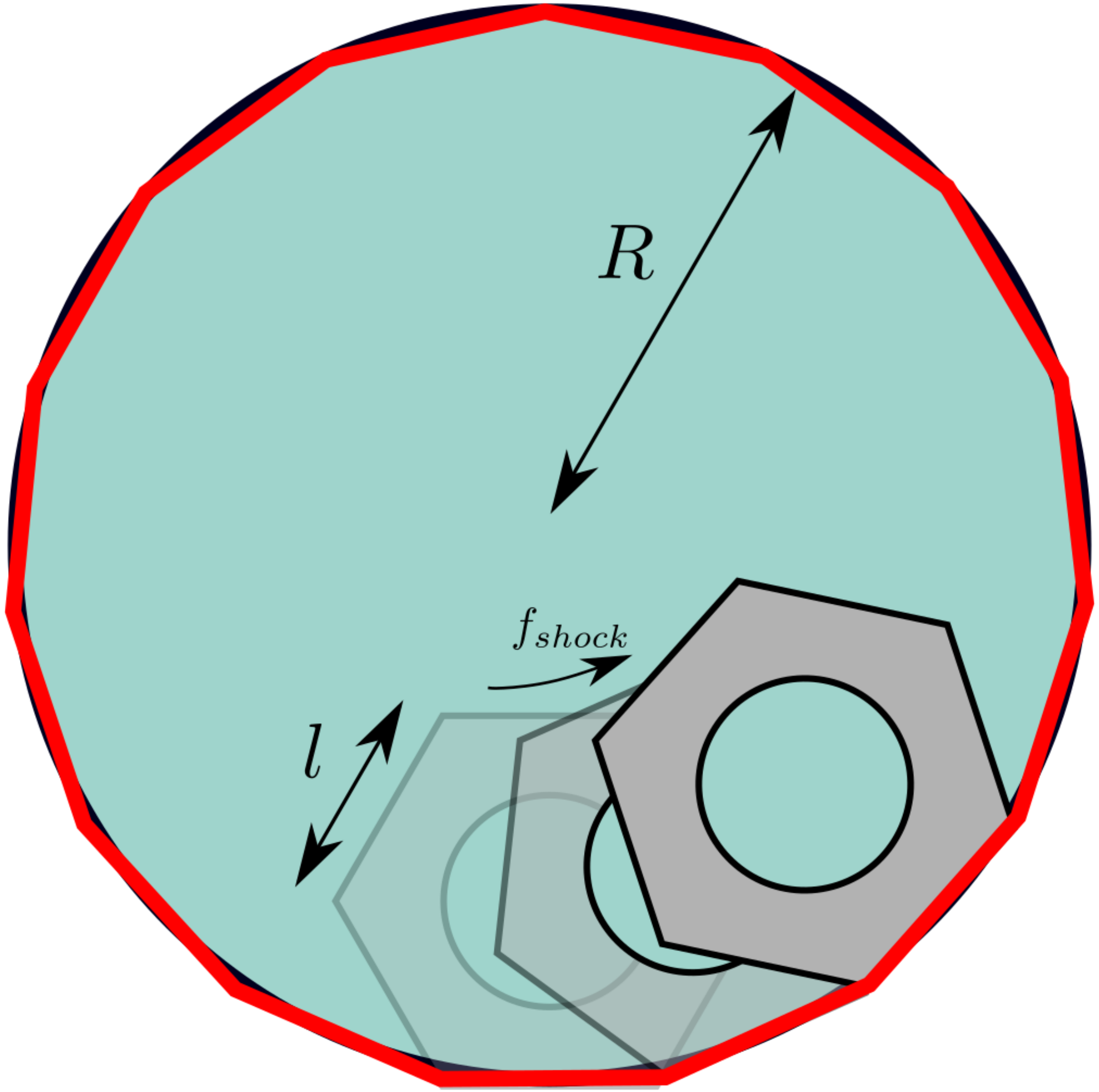


Hex nut with 12 sides



Zone C - Theory





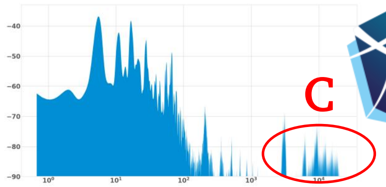
Number of hits per rotation :

$$N = \frac{2\pi R}{l}$$

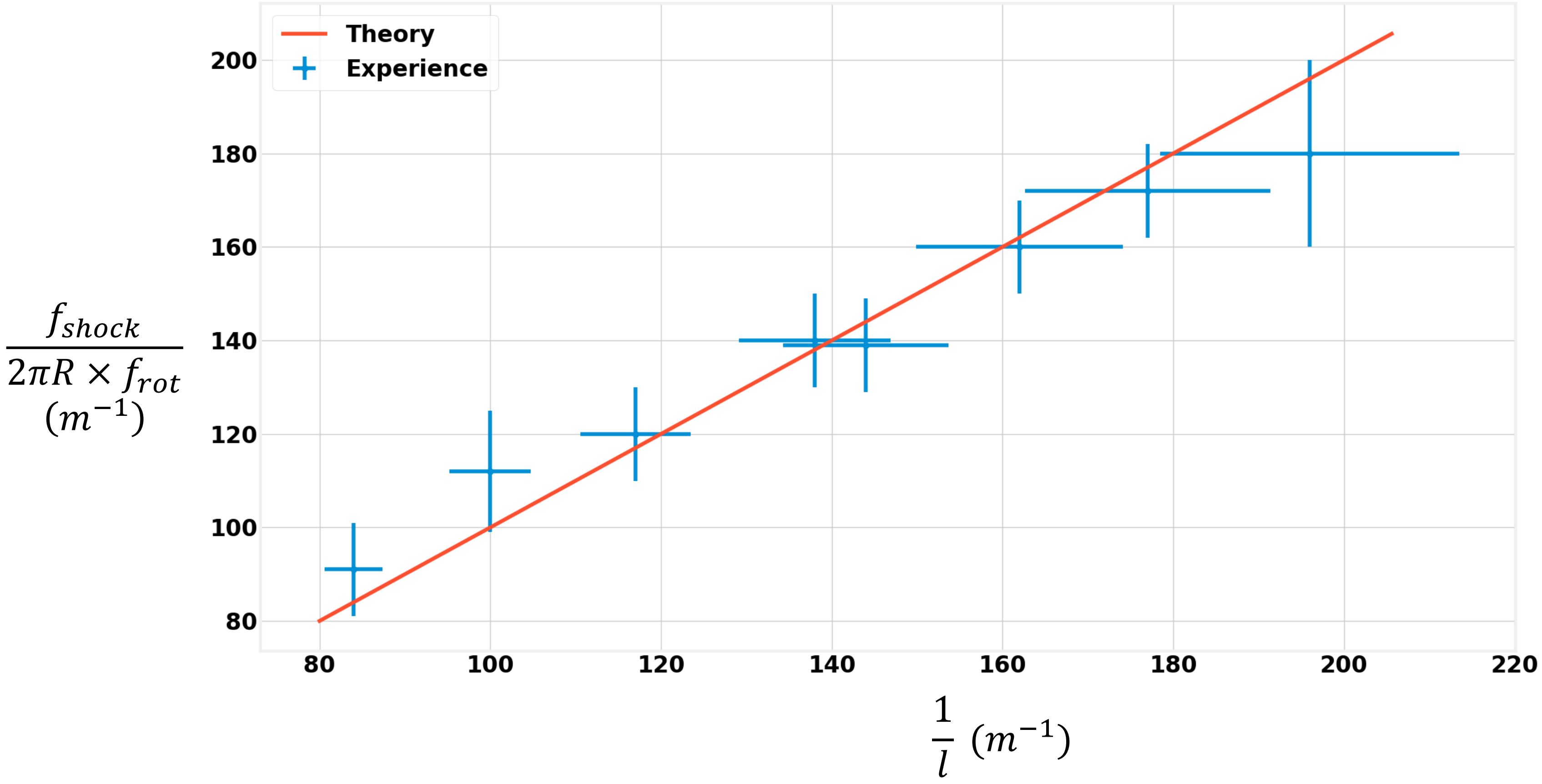
Number of rotation per second : f_{rot}

$$\boxed{f_{shock} = \frac{2\pi R}{l} f_{rot}}$$

Zone C - Results



Sound frequencies for different hex nuts lengths



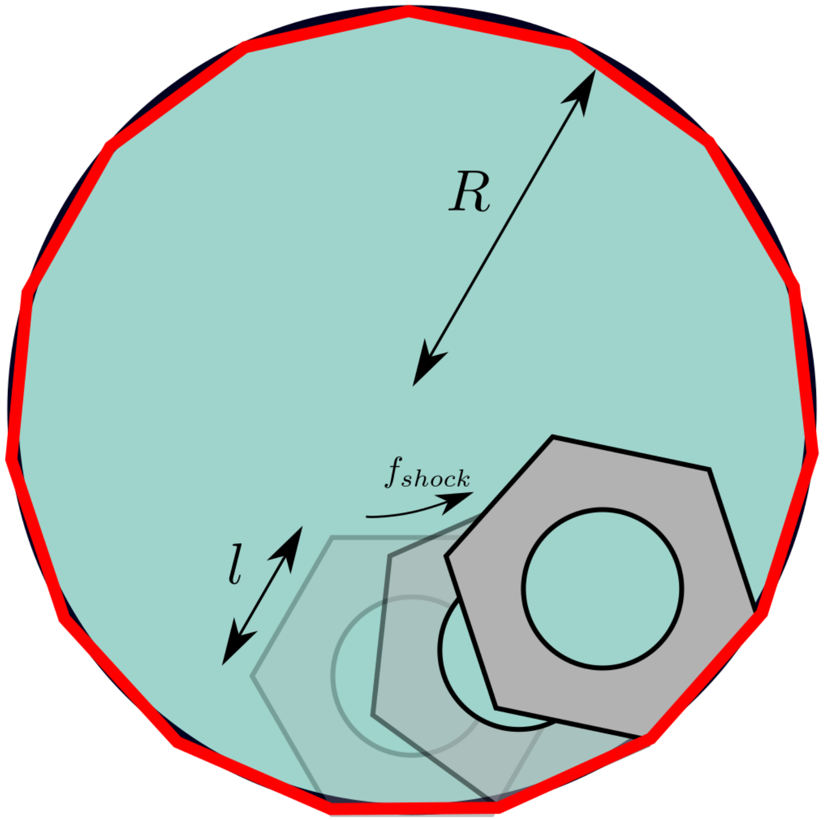
$$\boxed{\frac{f_{shock}}{2\pi R \times f_{rot}} = \frac{1}{l}}$$

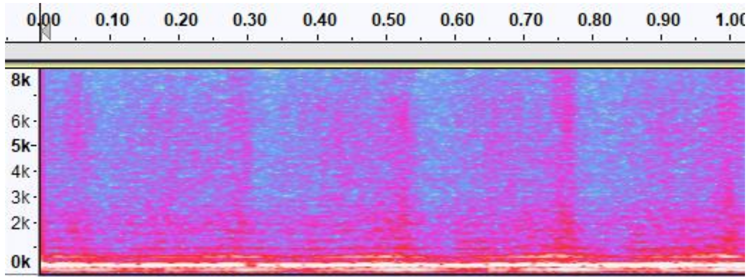
The theory matches the experiments

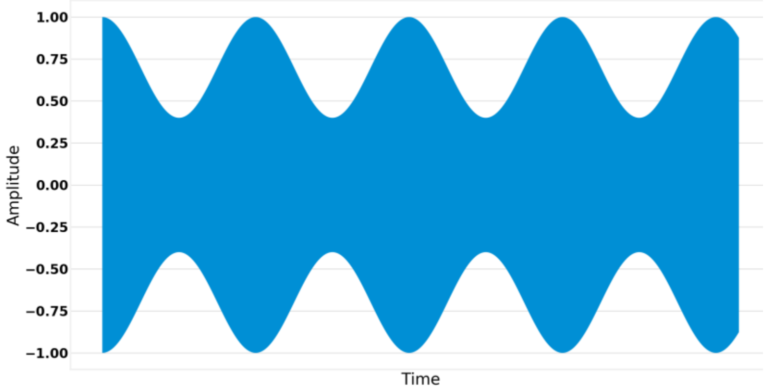
Amplitude

Influence of the rotation

The amplitude is modulated by the varying distance between the ear and the hex nut.

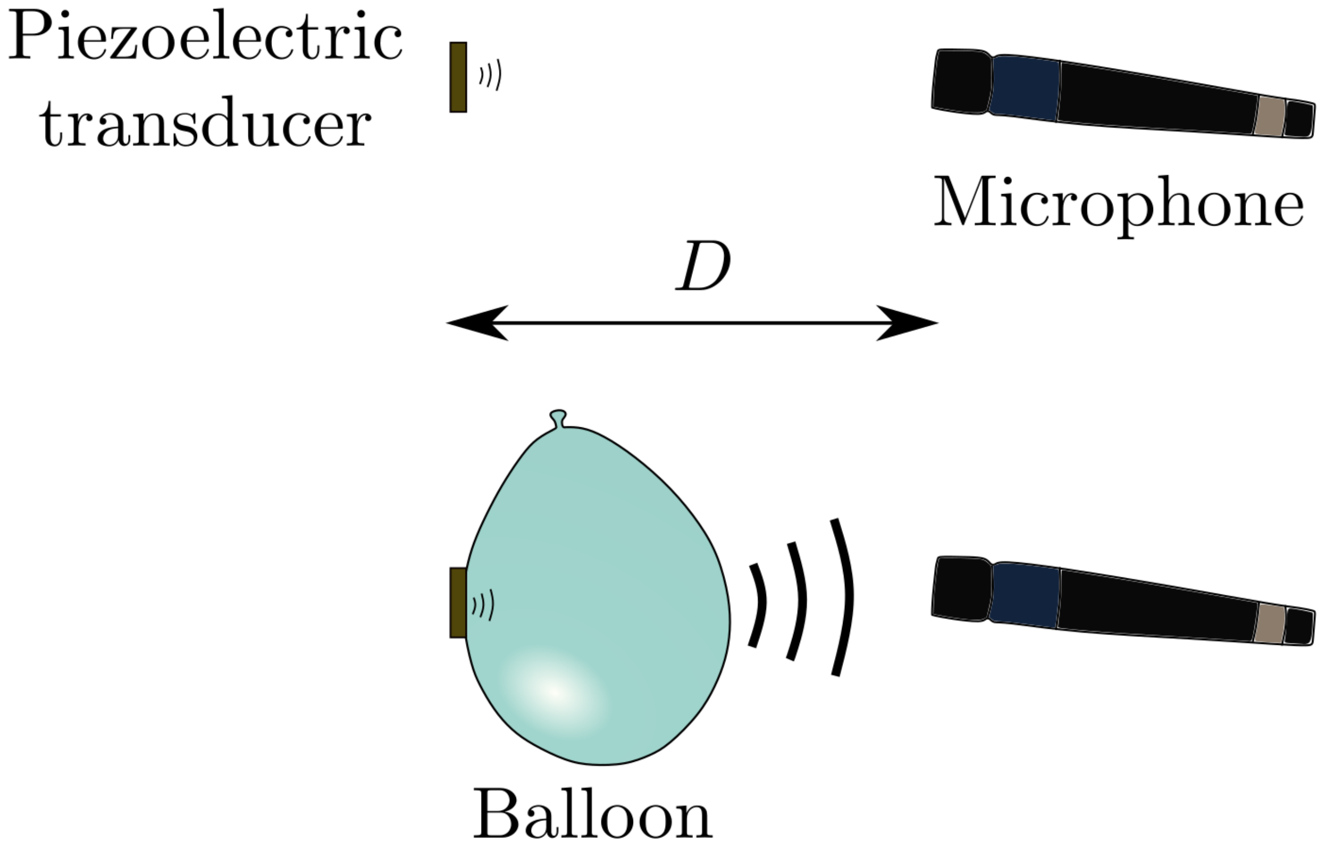






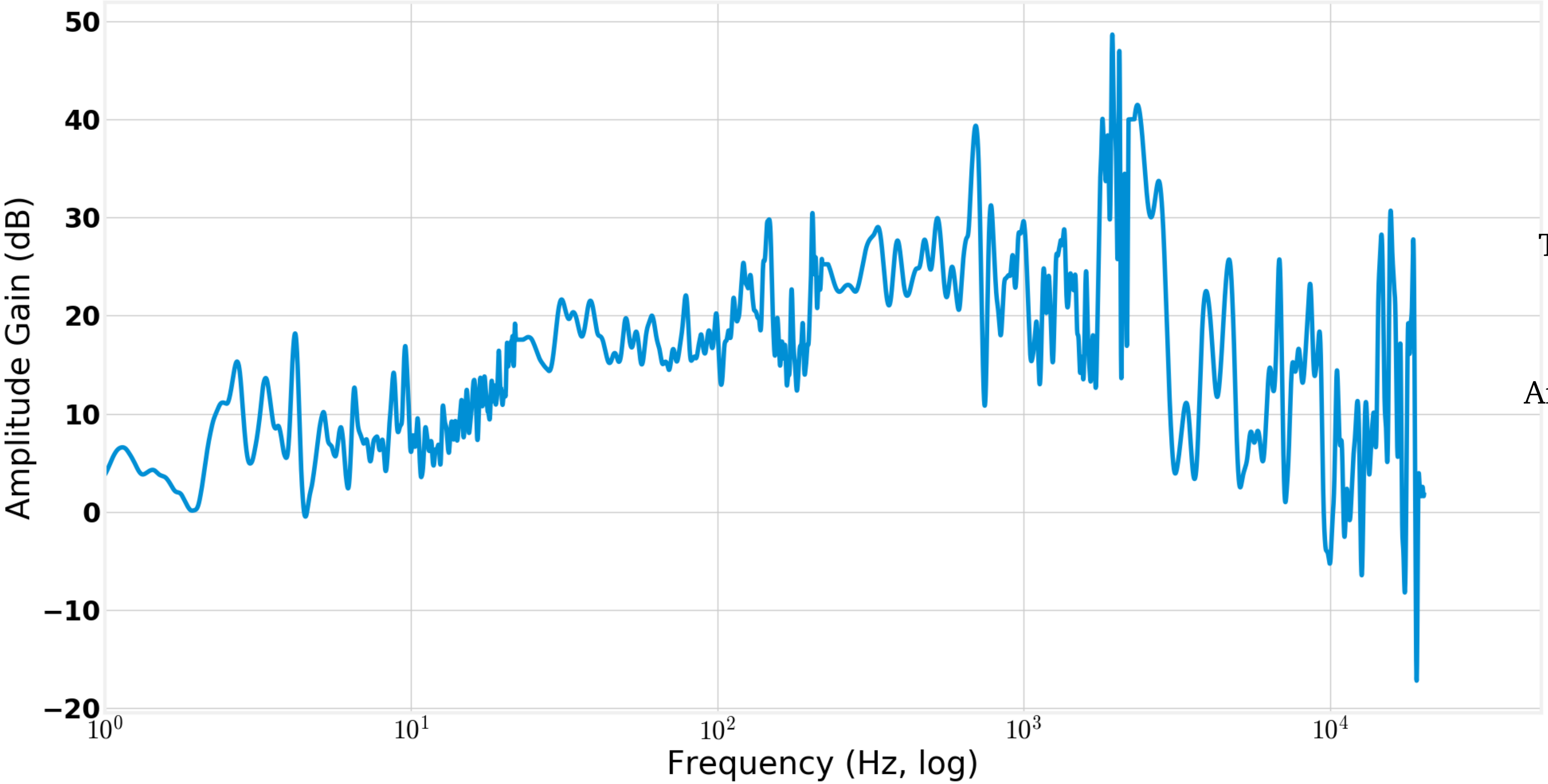
Amplitude

Amplification – Experimental setup



Amplitude

Influence of the sound box



Amplitude gain in function of the frequency

The balloon acts as a sound box

Amplification over audible range≈ 20dB

Conclusion

How do the **characteristics of the sound** depend on the **parameters of the system** ?

Important parameters

3 frequential contributions :

- Movement the balloon

$$f_{sound} = f_{rot}$$

f_{rot}

- **Oscillation** of membrane

$$f_{sound} = f_{resonance}$$

E, ν, R, ρ

- **Shock** (no sliding) of the hex of the membrane

$$f_{sound} = f_{shock} \propto \frac{f_{rot}}{l}$$

f_{rot}, l, R

2 amplitude contributions :

- Movement the hex nut in the balloon

$$f_{amplitude} = f_{rot}$$

f_{rot}, D

- Sound box-like amplification of sound

$$A \approx 20dB$$

R, E, ν, ρ

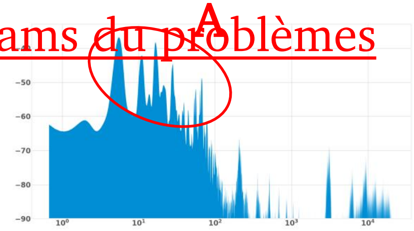
Conclusion

How do the **characteristics of the sound** depend on the **parameters of the system** ?

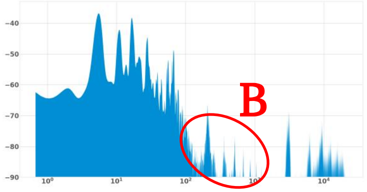
MAJ
Vire les phrases
Mets en avant les params du problèmes

3 frequential contributions :

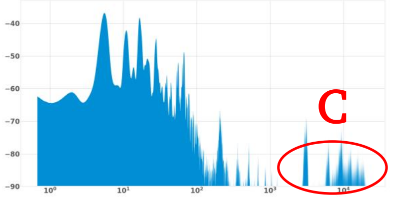
- Movement the balloon
  ⇒ Function of **balloon's rotation speed & geometry** $f_{sound} = f_{rot}$
- **Oscillation** of membrane
  ⇒ Function of the **balloon's geometry** and the rubber's **elastic properties** $f_{sound} = f_{resonance}$
- **Shock** (no sliding) of the hex of the membrane
  ⇒ Function of the hex nuts **sides length** and the **balloons geometry** $f_{sound} = f_{shock} \propto \frac{f_{rot}}{l}$



Low frequency



Medium frequency



Med-High frequency, varying

2 amplitude contributions :

- Movement the hex nut in the balloon
  ⇒ Function of **balloon's rotation speed & geometry** $f_{amplitude} = f_{rot}$
- Sound box-like amplification of sound
  ⇒ Function of the **balloon's geometry** and the rubber's **elastic properties** $A \approx 20dB$