

One-Family House Acoustics

Introduction

The study of acoustics over several floors in a building can give essential information for industrial settings with machinery but also for dwellings. Especially, the noise level caused by constant sources is a valuable quantity to evaluate whether an environment is acoustically comfortable or not. Problems with such a large geometry scale are best modeled with the acoustic diffusion equation, which makes use of the high-frequency limit to assume a perfectly diffuse sound field (see Ref. 1 and Ref. 2).

This tutorial model shows the basic steps and principles used when setting up a model using the *Acoustic Diffusion Equation* physics interface. In the model, the acoustics of a one-family house is investigated. The model setup includes studies for steady state, eigenvalue, and transient analyses. This allows to derive the sound pressure level distribution and reverberation times in the different rooms. The sound pressure level radiated outside the house is also determined with a manual coupling to the *Ray Acoustics* physics interface.

Model Definition

In this model the acoustics of a generic one-family house is analyzed over broadband frequency. It is a two-story house consisting of 10 rooms, as depicted in Figure 1. The rooms are coupled with each other either by defining the transmission loss of the partition between them or by forcing continuity in the sound field. Two types of partitions are defined in this model, namely light and heavy, with transmission losses of 5 dB and 10 dB respectively. Wall boundary conditions are entered as absorption coefficients, with values assumed to be realistic for the materials in the model (Ref. 3). The acoustic mean free path in each room is also calculated with a simple equation based on the room volume and surface area from Ref. 4. For complex geometries, however, the mean free path should be measured or estimated from a separate detailed model. A monopole point source is located in the living room at the coordinates (x_s , y_s , z_s) and radiates with a power P_s . These are parameters found under **Global Definitions>Parameters 1 - Source**.

Three studies with the *Acoustic Diffusion Equation* physics interface are performed to assess the acoustic conditions inside the house. The first one is a stationary study, returning sound field properties caused by constant emission from the source. The second study investigates the eigenvalues in the problem to analyze the modal behavior of the model. The last study looks into the transient decay of sound when the constant source is turned off. Following these, a fourth study investigates the sound field outside the house thanks

to the *Ray Acoustics* physics interface. The outdoor area on one side of the house adjacent to the living room is considered.



Figure 1: Geometry of the one-family house.

The coupling between the *Acoustic Diffusion Equation* and the *Ray Acoustics* interfaces is done manually. Sound is assumed to be radiated uniformly from the two windows closest to the source. The sound power incident on each window is then calculated from the stationary study and used as input to the Release from Boundary feature in *Ray Acoustics*. Transmission loss through the windows is also applied to obtain the correct total power radiated.

Results and Discussion

The sound pressure level (SPL) caused by a constant source is depicted in Figure 2 on slices and in Figure 3 on the boundaries of the model. It is naturally seen that the highest SPL is found in the rooms closest to the source, especially the living room and the staircase which were coupled together with a continuous sound field. The decrease in SPL as rooms get further from the source is due both to transmission loss through partitions and to absorption within rooms.

Multislice: Sound pressure level (dB)



Figure 2: SPL on horizontal slices of the model. Surface: Sound pressure level (dB)



Figure 3: SPL on the boundaries of the model.

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The energy distribution in the house can also be studied by means of sound energy density as plotted in Figure 4. The linear scale of this quantity makes it more suited to analyze the direct surroundings of the source, as opposed to the logarithmic scale of the SPL. Due to its location close to a corner, the radiation pattern appears as if the source was broader than a single monopole point.

J/m³ ×10⁻⁵ 16 14 12 4 10 3 8 6 1 4 -2 2 0 2 4 m

Multislice: Sound energy density (J/m³)

Figure 4: Sound energy density in the house with a constant source.

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In addition to energy distribution, the local energy flux through the house is represented in Figure 5. The location of the point source is naturally seen as the origin of the energy flux, and the propagation to adjacent rooms and up the staircase is clearly visible. While this result could easily be anticipated given the simplicity of the study case, such an analysis can give valuable information in a more complex setting.



Figure 5: Energy flux through the house caused by a point source.

The reverberation times T_{60} shown in Figure 6 were obtained from Eyring–Norris formula

$$T_{60} = \frac{55.3V}{cA + 4m_2 V} \tag{1}$$

with V the volume of the given room, c the speed of sound, A the absorption area of the room, and m_a the air absorption constant. The study was carried out for broadband frequency, resulting in one value for each room. The reverberation times found lie between





Volume: Reverberation time (Eyring-Norris) (s)

Figure 6: Eyring-Norris reverberation times of the rooms.

The eigenvalue study allows to investigate the modes in the building. For example, the third sound energy density mode is displayed in Figure 7. It shows that two adjacent rooms on the first floor are excited together at the eigenvalue $\lambda = 23.45$ rad/s. The eigenvalues describe the exponential decays of the modes, they are therefore directly linked to the reverberation times of the rooms or groups of coupled rooms through the formula $T_{60} = 55.3/4\lambda$. The relation between the first ten eigenvalues and reverberation times is

given in Table 1. Use the table in combination with the figure to identify the reverberation times of the different spaces.



Figure 7: Sound energy density mode at $\lambda = 23.45$ rad/s.

Eigenvalues (rad/s)	Reverberation times (s)	
21.66	0.638	
22.89	0.604	
23.45	0.589	
26.95	0.513	
28.35	0.487	
31.85	0.434	
32.75	0.422	
35.91	0.385	
36.58	0.378	
46.59	0.297	

TABLE I: FIRST TEN EIGENVALUES WITH THEIR ASSOCIATED REVERBERATION TIMES.

The transient behavior of the house can be investigated by modeling the constant source being turned off. With this technique, the normalized SPL in a room becomes a measure



of the sound energy decay, as represented in Figure 8. The decay curves appear as straight lines due to the underlying assumption of a perfectly diffuse sound field.

Figure 8: Energy decay curves from three different rooms.

The rays emitted from the two radiating windows are depicted in Figure 9 after 3 ms. This type of plot can be helpful to visually inspect radiation and reflection patterns. In the present case, the hemisphere radiated into appears to be sufficiently sampled. Moreover, the total source power of each window was calculated from the incident power on their inner surface. It is then logical to find that the window closest to the source emits the largest power. The analysis of reflections is, however, limited. The outdoor area next to the

house was modeled as a domain bounded by air and without any obstacle. Therefore, only few reflections at most can happen before a ray disappears into an air boundary.



Figure 9: Ray location and power after 3 ms.

The SPL on the ground surface resulting from the window radiation is shown in Figure 10. The SPL on the inner boundaries of the house is also represented for comparison. With the lack of reflections from obstacles, the highest SPL is found in front

of the house at 87 dB. The effect of the transmission loss through the windows is also clearly seen from the large drop between the interior and the exterior of the living room.



Figure 10: SPL on the house boundaries and on the ground surface outside the house.

Notes About the COMSOL Implementation

The studies in this tutorial were performed for broadband frequency. Nevertheless, the *Acoustic Diffusion Equation* interface allows to set up models in octave bands, 1/3 octave bands, as well as custom bands defined by the user.

The stationary solution computed first was later used as input to a time dependent study and to a ray tracing study. This process is done under Values of Dependent Variables>Values of variables not solved for in the study steps by selecting Settings>User controlled, Method> Solution, and Study>Study I - Stationary. Remember to disable all sources in the time dependent study step by enabling the Modify physics tree and variables for study step option, and to disable the *Acoustic Diffusion Equation* interface in the ray tracing study step.

The Release from Boundary feature requires two numbers to determine the emission of rays. The **Number of rays per release** controls the number of points created to discretize the radiating surface. Rays are released from every of these points. Then, the **Number of rays** in wave vector space dictates the number of rays released by each point. As a consequence,

the total number of rays in the feature is the product of these two numbers. For a detailed guide on how to set up the *Ray Acoustics* physics interface in the context of room acoustics see the Small Concert Hall Acoustics model, also included in the Acoustics Module Application Library.

References

1. R. Schroeder, "New method of measuring reverberation time," J. Acoust. Soc. Am., vol. 37, pp. 409–412, 1965.

2. V. Valeau, J. Picaut, and M. Hodgson, "On the use of a diffusion equation for room acoustic prediction," *J. Acoust. Soc. Am.*, vol. 119, p. 1504, 2006.

3. T.J. Cox and P. D'Antonio, *Acoustic Absorbers and Diffusers: Theory, design and application*, 2nd ed., Taylor and Francis, 2009.

4. J. Pujolle, "Les différentes définitions du libre parcours moyen du son dans une salle," *Revue d'Acoustique*, vol. 36, pp. 44–50, 1976 (in French).

Application Library path: Acoustics_Module/Building_and_Room_Acoustics/ one_family_house

Modeling Instructions

This section contains the modeling instructions for the One-Family House model. They are followed by the Geometry Modeling Instructions section.

From the File menu, choose New.

NEW

In the New window, click 🙆 Model Wizard.

MODEL WIZARD

- I In the Model Wizard window, click 间 3D.
- 2 In the Select Physics tree, select Acoustics>Geometrical Acoustics> Acoustic Diffusion Equation (ade).
- 3 Click Add.
- 4 Click 🔿 Study.

5 In the Select Study tree, select General Studies>Stationary.

6 Click M Done.

The geometry is set up by importing a geometry sequence. The sequence imports the onefamily house geometry, including parameters for source location and power, and sets up several selections. The predefined selections simplify the rest of the model setup.

GEOMETRY I

- I In the Geometry toolbar, click Insert Sequence and choose Insert Sequence.
- 2 Browse to the model's Application Libraries folder and double-click the file one_family_house_geom_sequence.mph.



- 3 In the Geometry toolbar, click 🟢 Build All.
- 4 Click the 🖂 Wireframe Rendering button in the Graphics toolbar.

GLOBAL DEFINITIONS

Import the model parameters from text files. The parameters include the source location and power, as well as boundary conditions for the surfaces and partitions.

Parameters 1 - Source

The parameters for the source location were defined in the geometry-sequence file. Add a parameter for the source power.

- I In the Model Builder window, under Global Definitions click Parameters I.
- 2 In the Settings window for Parameters, type Parameters 1 Source in the Label text field.
- 3 Locate the Parameters section. In the table, enter the following settings:

Name	Expression	Value	Description
P_s	0.1[W]	0.1 W	Source power

Parameters 2 - Indoor Boundaries

- I In the Home toolbar, click Pi Parameters and choose Add>Parameters.
- 2 In the Settings window for Parameters, type Parameters 2 Indoor Boundaries in the Label text field.
- 3 Locate the Parameters section. Click 📂 Load from File.
- 4 Browse to the model's Application Libraries folder and double-click the file one_family_house_parameters_indoor.txt.

ADD MATERIAL

- I In the Home toolbar, click 🙀 Add Material to open the Add Material window.
- 2 Go to the Add Material window.
- 3 In the tree, select Built-in>Air.
- 4 Click the right end of the Add to Component split button in the window toolbar.
- 5 From the menu, choose Add to Component.
- 6 In the Home toolbar, click 🙀 Add Material to close the Add Material window.

Proceed to set up the physics of the model. Broadband frequency is considered in this case, which is also equivalent to single frequency. Each room is defined with absorption coefficients on its boundaries and a mean free path. The rooms are then coupled with each other by applying transmission loss or sound field continuity on the partitions they have in common.

ACOUSTIC DIFFUSION EQUATION (ADE)

- I In the Model Builder window, under Component I (comp1) click Acoustic Diffusion Equation (ade).
- **2** Select Domains 2–12 only.

Room I

- I In the Model Builder window, expand the Acoustic Diffusion Equation (ade) node, then click Room I.
- 2 In the Settings window for Room, locate the Domain Selection section.
- 3 Click Clear Selection.
- **4** Select Domain 5 only.

Wall I

- I In the Model Builder window, expand the Room I node, then click Wall I.
- 2 In the Settings window for Wall, locate the Boundary Selection section.
- 3 From the Selection list, choose All boundaries.
- **4** Locate the **Wall Absorption Properties** section. In the α text field, type **a_wall**.

Room I

In the Model Builder window, click Room I.

Wall 2

- I In the Physics toolbar, click 📃 Attributes and choose Wall.
- 2 In the Settings window for Wall, locate the Boundary Selection section.
- 3 From the Selection list, choose Windows.
- 4 Locate the Wall Absorption Properties section. In the α text field, type a_window.

Room I

In the Model Builder window, click Room I.

Wall 3

- I In the Physics toolbar, click 📃 Attributes and choose Wall.
- 2 In the Settings window for Wall, locate the Boundary Selection section.
- 3 From the Selection list, choose Wooden Floors.
- **4** Locate the **Wall Absorption Properties** section. In the α text field, type a_floor.

Room I

In the Model Builder window, click Room I.

Wall 4

- I In the Physics toolbar, click 📃 Attributes and choose Wall.
- 2 In the Settings window for Wall, locate the Boundary Selection section.
- **3** From the **Selection** list, choose **Ceilings**.

4 Locate the Wall Absorption Properties section. In the α text field, type a_ceiling.

Room 2

- I Right-click Room I and choose Duplicate.
- 2 In the Settings window for Room, locate the Domain Selection section.
- 3 Click Clear Selection.
- 4 Select Domain 8 only.

Room 3

- I Right-click Room I and choose Duplicate.
- 2 In the Settings window for Room, locate the Domain Selection section.
- 3 Click Clear Selection.
- 4 Select Domain 7 only.

Wall 3

- I In the Model Builder window, expand the Room 3 node, then click Wall 3.
- 2 In the Settings window for Wall, locate the Boundary Selection section.
- 3 From the Selection list, choose Stairs.
- **4** Locate the **Wall Absorption Properties** section. In the α text field, type a_stairs.

Room 4

- In the Model Builder window, under Component I (compl)>
 Acoustic Diffusion Equation (ade) right-click Room I and choose Duplicate.
- 2 In the Settings window for Room, locate the Domain Selection section.
- 3 Click Clear Selection.
- **4** Select Domain 9 only.

Room 5

- I Right-click Room I and choose Duplicate.
- 2 In the Settings window for Room, locate the Domain Selection section.
- 3 Click Clear Selection.
- **4** Select Domain 4 only.

Room 6

- I Right-click Room I and choose Duplicate.
- 2 In the Settings window for Room, locate the Domain Selection section.
- 3 Click Clear Selection.

4 Select Domains 3 and 10 only.

Room 7

- I Right-click Room I and choose Duplicate.
- 2 In the Settings window for Room, locate the Domain Selection section.
- 3 Click Clear Selection.
- 4 Select Domain 2 only.

Room 8

- I Right-click Room I and choose Duplicate.
- 2 In the Settings window for Room, locate the Domain Selection section.
- 3 Click Clear Selection.
- **4** Select Domain 6 only.

Room 9

- I Right-click Room I and choose Duplicate.
- 2 In the Settings window for Room, locate the Domain Selection section.
- **3** Click **Clear Selection**.
- **4** Select Domain 12 only.

Room 10

- I Right-click Room I and choose Duplicate.
- 2 In the Settings window for Room, locate the Domain Selection section.
- **3** Click Clear Selection.
- **4** Select Domain 11 only.

Mapped Room Coupling 1

- I In the Physics toolbar, click 🔚 Boundaries and choose Mapped Room Coupling.
- 2 In the Settings window for Mapped Room Coupling, locate the Boundary Selection section.
- 3 From the Selection list, choose Door I.
- 4 Locate the Transmission Loss section. In the TL text field, type TL_heavy.

Mapped Room Coupling 2

- I Right-click Mapped Room Coupling I and choose Duplicate.
- 2 In the Settings window for Mapped Room Coupling, locate the Boundary Selection section.
- 3 From the Selection list, choose Door 2.

Mapped Room Coupling 3

- I Right-click Mapped Room Coupling 2 and choose Duplicate.
- 2 In the Settings window for Mapped Room Coupling, locate the Boundary Selection section.
- 3 From the Selection list, choose Door 3.

Mapped Room Coupling 4

- I Right-click Mapped Room Coupling 3 and choose Duplicate.
- 2 In the Settings window for Mapped Room Coupling, locate the Boundary Selection section.
- 3 From the Selection list, choose Door 4.

Mapped Room Coupling 5

- I Right-click Mapped Room Coupling 4 and choose Duplicate.
- 2 In the Settings window for Mapped Room Coupling, locate the Boundary Selection section.
- 3 From the Selection list, choose Door 5.

Mapped Room Coupling 6

- I Right-click Mapped Room Coupling 5 and choose Duplicate.
- 2 In the Settings window for Mapped Room Coupling, locate the Boundary Selection section.
- 3 From the Selection list, choose Door 6.

Mapped Room Coupling 7

- I Right-click Mapped Room Coupling 6 and choose Duplicate.
- 2 In the Settings window for Mapped Room Coupling, locate the Boundary Selection section.
- 3 From the Selection list, choose Door 7.

Mapped Room Coupling 8

- I Right-click Mapped Room Coupling 7 and choose Duplicate.
- 2 In the Settings window for Mapped Room Coupling, locate the Boundary Selection section.
- 3 From the Selection list, choose Door 8.
- 4 Locate the Transmission Loss section. In the TL text field, type TL_light.

Mapped Room Coupling 9

- I Right-click Mapped Room Coupling 8 and choose Duplicate.
- 2 In the Settings window for Mapped Room Coupling, locate the Boundary Selection section.
- 3 From the Selection list, choose Wall Partition.

Room Coupling 1

I In the Physics toolbar, click 🔚 Boundaries and choose Room Coupling.

- 2 In the Settings window for Room Coupling, locate the Boundary Selection section.
- 3 From the Selection list, choose Door 9.
- 4 Locate the Transmission Loss section. In the TL text field, type TL_light.
- 5 Click to expand the **Continuity** section. Select the **Force continuity** check box.

Point Source 1

- I In the Physics toolbar, click 📄 Points and choose Point Source.
- 2 Select Point 49 only.
- 3 In the Settings window for Point Source, locate the Point Source section.
- **4** In the q_p text field, type P_s.

Now create a mesh for the model. Geometrical acoustics methods do not require a fine mesh to perform accurately; however, in order to study the sound-pressure level on the different surfaces the element sizes should remain reasonably small.

MESH I

Information 1

In the Model Builder window, under Component I (comp1) right-click Mesh I and choose Build All.

Proceed to compute the stationary study. Solving the model takes a few seconds.

STUDY I - STATIONARY

I In the Settings window for Study, type Study 1 - Stationary in the Label text field.

2 In the **Home** toolbar, click **= Compute**.

RESULTS

Sound Pressure Level (ade) - Slices

In the **Settings** window for **3D Plot Group**, type Sound Pressure Level (ade) - Slices in the **Label** text field.

Multislice

- I In the Model Builder window, expand the Sound Pressure Level (ade) Slices node, then click Multislice.
- 2 In the Settings window for Multislice, locate the Multiplane Data section.
- 3 Find the X-planes subsection. In the Planes text field, type 0.
- **4** Find the **Y-planes** subsection. In the **Planes** text field, type **0**.

5 Find the Z-planes subsection. In the Planes text field, type 4.

6 In the Sound Pressure Level (ade) - Slices toolbar, click 💽 Plot.



Multislice: Sound pressure level (dB)

Sound Pressure Level (ade) - Boundaries

- I In the Home toolbar, click 🚛 Add Plot Group and choose 3D Plot Group.
- 2 In the Settings window for 3D Plot Group, type Sound Pressure Level (ade) Boundaries in the Label text field.
- **3** Locate the **Color Legend** section. Select the **Show units** check box.

Surface 1

- I Right-click Sound Pressure Level (ade) Boundaries and choose Surface.
- 2 In the Settings window for Surface, locate the Expression section.
- 3 In the **Expression** text field, type ade.Lp.



4 In the Sound Pressure Level (ade) - Boundaries toolbar, click 🗿 Plot.

Multislice

- I In the Model Builder window, expand the Sound Energy Density (ade) node, then click Multislice.
- 2 In the Settings window for Multislice, locate the Multiplane Data section.
- 3 Find the X-planes subsection. In the Planes text field, type 0.
- 4 Find the Y-planes subsection. In the Planes text field, type 2.
- 5 Find the Z-planes subsection. In the Planes text field, type 3.

6 In the Sound Energy Density (ade) toolbar, click 🗿 Plot.



Multislice: Sound energy density (J/m³)

Arrow Volume

n

- I In the Model Builder window, expand the Local Energy Flux (ade) node.
- 2 Right-click Arrow Volume and choose Disable.

Streamline 1

- I In the Model Builder window, right-click Local Energy Flux (ade) and choose Streamline.
- 2 In the Settings window for Streamline, locate the Streamline Positioning section.
- 3 In the Number text field, type 100.
- 4 Select Boundaries 66, 68, 133, and 139 only.
- **5** Locate the **Coloring and Style** section. Find the **Line style** subsection. From the **Type** list, choose **Tube**.

Color Expression 1

- I Right-click Streamline I and choose Color Expression.
- 2 In the Settings window for Color Expression, locate the Expression section.
- 3 In the Expression text field, type sqrt(ade.Jx^2+ade.Jy^2+ade.Jz^2).
- 4 Locate the Coloring and Style section. From the Scale list, choose Logarithmic.

5 In the Local Energy Flux (ade) toolbar, click **9** Plot.





Reverberation Time

- I In the Home toolbar, click 📠 Add Plot Group and choose 3D Plot Group.
- 2 In the Settings window for 3D Plot Group, type Reverberation Time in the Label text field.

Volume 1

- I Right-click Reverberation Time and choose Volume.
- 2 In the Settings window for Volume, locate the Expression section.
- 3 In the Expression text field, type ade.T60_EN.
- **4** Locate the **Coloring and Style** section. Click **Change Color Table**.
- 5 In the Color Table dialog box, select Aurora>AuroraBorealis in the tree.
- 6 Click OK.

7 In the **Reverberation Time** toolbar, click **I** Plot.





Model Thumbnail

- I In the Home toolbar, click 🚛 Add Plot Group and choose 3D Plot Group.
- 2 In the Settings window for 3D Plot Group, type Model Thumbnail in the Label text field.

Streamline 1

In the Model Builder window, under Results>Local Energy Flux (ade) right-click Streamline I and choose Copy.

Streamline I

- I In the Model Builder window, right-click Model Thumbnail and choose Paste Streamline.
- 2 In the Settings window for Streamline, locate the Streamline Positioning section.
- 3 In the Number text field, type 50.

Color Expression 1

- I In the Model Builder window, expand the Streamline I node, then click Color Expression I.
- 2 In the Settings window for Color Expression, locate the Coloring and Style section.
- **3** Clear the **Color legend** check box.

Slice 1

- I In the Model Builder window, right-click Model Thumbnail and choose Slice.
- 2 In the Settings window for Slice, locate the Expression section.
- 3 In the **Expression** text field, type ade.Lp.
- 4 Locate the Plane Data section. From the Plane list, choose XY-planes.
- 5 From the Entry method list, choose Coordinates.
- 6 In the **Z-coordinates** text field, type 0.3.
- 7 Locate the Coloring and Style section. Clear the Color legend check box.

Surface 1

Right-click Model Thumbnail and choose Surface.

Selection 1

- I In the Model Builder window, right-click Surface I and choose Selection.
- 2 In the Settings window for Selection, locate the Selection section.
- **3** From the **Selection** list, choose **Stairs**.

Surface 1

- I In the Model Builder window, click Surface I.
- 2 In the Settings window for Surface, locate the Expression section.
- **3** In the **Expression** text field, type **1**.
- 4 Locate the Coloring and Style section. Clear the Color legend check box.
- 5 From the Coloring list, choose Uniform.
- 6 From the Color list, choose Gray.

Surface 2

Right-click Results>Model Thumbnail>Surface I and choose Duplicate.

Selection 1

- I In the Model Builder window, expand the Surface 2 node, then click Selection I.
- 2 In the Settings window for Selection, locate the Selection section.
- **3** Click **Clear Selection**.
- 4 Click **Paste Selection**.
- 5 In the Paste Selection dialog box, type 16, 17, 20, 21, 23, 25, 29, 32, 45, 61, 123, 201 in the Selection text field.
- 6 Click OK.

7 In the Model Thumbnail toolbar, click 💿 Plot.

Add and compute an eigenvalue study to investigate the modes in the house and derive associated reverberation times.

ADD STUDY

- I In the Home toolbar, click 2 Add Study to open the Add Study window.
- 2 Go to the Add Study window.
- 3 Find the Studies subsection. In the Select Study tree, select General Studies>Eigenvalue.
- 4 Click Add Study in the window toolbar.
- 5 In the Home toolbar, click \sim_1^{\sim} Add Study to close the Add Study window.

STUDY 2

Step 1: Eigenvalue

- I In the Settings window for Eigenvalue, locate the Study Settings section.
- **2** Select the **Desired number of eigenvalues** check box. In the associated text field, type 10.
- **3** Select the Search for eigenvalues around check box.
- 4 From the Eigenvalue search method around shift list, choose Larger real part.
- 5 In the Model Builder window, click Study 2.
- 6 In the Settings window for Study, type Study 2 Eigenvalue in the Label text field.
- 7 In the **Home** toolbar, click **= Compute**.

RESULTS

Sound Energy Density Modes (ade)

- I In the Settings window for 3D Plot Group, locate the Data section.
- 2 From the Eigenvalue (rad/s) list, choose 23.452.

Multislice

- I In the Model Builder window, expand the Sound Energy Density Modes (ade) node, then click Multislice.
- 2 In the Settings window for Multislice, locate the Multiplane Data section.
- 3 Find the X-planes subsection. In the Planes text field, type 0.
- 4 Find the Y-planes subsection. In the Planes text field, type 0.
- 5 Find the Z-planes subsection. In the Planes text field, type 2.



6 In the Sound Energy Density Modes (ade) toolbar, click 💿 Plot.

Reverberation Time

- I In the Model Builder window, under Results click Evaluation Group I.
- 2 In the Settings window for Evaluation Group, type Reverberation Time in the Label text field.
- **3** In the **Reverberation Time** toolbar, click **= Evaluate**.

Add a transient study to calculate the energy decay in the different rooms. The solution from Study 1 serves as input to represent a stationary source being turned off at the initial time of the transient study.

ADD STUDY

- I In the Home toolbar, click $\stackrel{\sim}{\sim}$ Add Study to open the Add Study window.
- 2 Go to the Add Study window.
- 3 Find the Studies subsection. In the Select Study tree, select General Studies> Time Dependent.
- 4 Click Add Study in the window toolbar.
- 5 In the Home toolbar, click ~ 1 Add Study to close the Add Study window.

STUDY 3

Step 1: Time Dependent

- I In the Settings window for Time Dependent, locate the Study Settings section.
- 2 In the **Output times** text field, type range(0,0.01,1).
- **3** Locate the **Physics and Variables Selection** section. Select the **Modify model configuration for study step** check box.
- 4 In the tree, select Component I (compl)>Acoustic Diffusion Equation (ade)> Point Source I.
- 5 Right-click and choose **Disable**.
- 6 Click to expand the Values of Dependent Variables section. Find the Initial values of variables solved for subsection. From the Settings list, choose User controlled.
- 7 From the Method list, choose Solution.
- 8 From the Study list, choose Study I Stationary, Stationary.
- 9 In the Model Builder window, click Study 3.
- 10 In the Settings window for Study, type Study 3 Transient in the Label text field.
- II Locate the Study Settings section. Clear the Generate default plots check box.
- **12** In the **Home** toolbar, click **= Compute**.

RESULTS

Energy Decay Curves (normalized)

- I In the Home toolbar, click 🚛 Add Plot Group and choose ID Plot Group.
- 2 In the Settings window for ID Plot Group, type Energy Decay Curves (normalized) in the Label text field.
- 3 Locate the Data section. From the Dataset list, choose Study 3 Transient/ Solution 3 (sol3).
- 4 Click to expand the Title section. From the Title type list, choose Manual.
- 5 In the Title text area, type Energy Decay Curves.
- 6 Locate the Plot Settings section.
- 7 Select the y-axis label check box. In the associated text field, type Level (dB).

Point Graph 1

- I Right-click Energy Decay Curves (normalized) and choose Point Graph.
- 2 Select Points 100, 377, and 415 only.

- 3 In the Settings window for Point Graph, locate the y-Axis Data section.
- **4** In the **Expression** text field, type ade.Lp-with('first',ade.Lp).
- 5 Click to expand the Coloring and Style section. From the Width list, choose 2.
- 6 Click to expand the Legends section. Select the Show legends check box.
- 7 Find the Prefix and suffix subsection. In the Prefix text field, type Point .
- 8 In the Energy Decay Curves (normalized) toolbar, click 💿 Plot.



The sound field radiated outside the house can be investigated with the *Ray Acoustics* physics interface. Start by importing parameters to represent absorption and scattering coefficients in the outdoor domain.

GLOBAL DEFINITIONS

Parameters 3 - Outdoor Boundaries

- I In the Home toolbar, click Pi Parameters and choose Add>Parameters.
- **2** In the **Settings** window for **Parameters**, type **Parameters 3 Outdoor Boundaries** in the **Label** text field.
- 3 Locate the Parameters section. Click 📂 Load from File.
- 4 Browse to the model's Application Libraries folder and double-click the file one_family_house_parameters_outdoor.txt.

Define the surfaces radiating outwards and import the variables to set up the manual coupling between the *Acoustics Diffusion Equation* and *Ray Acoustics* physics interfaces.

DEFINITIONS

Radiating Window I

- I In the **Definitions** toolbar, click http://www.explicit.
- 2 In the Settings window for Explicit, type Radiating Window 1 in the Label text field.
- 3 Locate the Input Entities section. From the Geometric entity level list, choose Boundary.
- 4 Select Boundary 43 only.

Radiating Window 2

- I Right-click Radiating Window I and choose Duplicate.
- 2 In the Settings window for Explicit, type Radiating Window 2 in the Label text field.
- **3** Locate the Input Entities section. Click Clear Selection.
- 4 Select Boundaries 110 and 146 only.

Integration 1 (intop1)

- I In the Definitions toolbar, click Nonlocal Couplings and choose Integration.
- 2 In the Settings window for Integration, locate the Source Selection section.
- 3 From the Geometric entity level list, choose Boundary.
- 4 From the Selection list, choose Radiating Window I.

Integration 2 (intop2)

- I Right-click Integration I (intop I) and choose Duplicate.
- 2 In the Settings window for Integration, locate the Source Selection section.
- 3 From the Selection list, choose Radiating Window 2.

Variables I - Outdoor Radiation

- I In the Model Builder window, right-click Definitions and choose Variables.
- 2 In the Settings window for Variables, type Variables 1 Outdoor Radiation in the Label text field.
- 3 Locate the Variables section. Click 📂 Load from File.
- 4 Browse to the model's Application Libraries folder and double-click the file one_family_house_variables_radiation.txt.

Proceed to set up the physics model. To compute the sound pressure level on surfaces, it is necessary to model the power along the rays.

ADD PHYSICS

- I In the Home toolbar, click 🖄 Add Physics to open the Add Physics window.
- 2 Go to the Add Physics window.
- 3 In the tree, select Acoustics>Geometrical Acoustics>Ray Acoustics (rac).
- 4 Find the Physics interfaces in study subsection. In the table, clear the Solve check boxes for Study 1 Stationary, Study 2 Eigenvalue, and Study 3 Transient.
- 5 Click Add to Component I in the window toolbar.
- 6 In the Home toolbar, click 🙀 Add Physics to close the Add Physics window.

RAY ACOUSTICS (RAC)

- I In the Settings window for Ray Acoustics, locate the Domain Selection section.
- 2 Click 📉 Clear Selection.
- 3 Select Domain 1 only.
- 4 Locate the Intensity Computation section. From the Intensity computation list, choose Compute power.

Medium Properties I

- I In the Model Builder window, under Component I (compl)>Ray Acoustics (rac) click Medium Properties I.
- **2** In the **Settings** window for **Medium Properties**, locate the **Pressure Acoustics Model** section.
- **3** From the Fluid model list, choose Atmosphere attenuation.
- **4** Locate the **Model Input** section. In the ϕ_w text field, type 0.45.

Set up the sources as radiating surfaces based on the sound power calculated in Study 1.

Release from Boundary I

I In the Physics toolbar, click 📄 Boundaries and choose Release from Boundary.

Start by selecting the desired surface and defining its discretization. Rays will be released from every point on the surface.

- 2 In the Settings window for Release from Boundary, locate the Boundary Selection section.
- 3 From the Selection list, choose Radiating Window I.
- **4** Locate the **Initial Position** section. In the *N* text field, type 200.

Continue with the radiation direction and the number of rays released by each point.

5 Locate the **Ray Direction Vector** section. From the **Ray direction vector** list, choose **Hemispherical**.

- 6 Select the Specify tangential and normal vector components check box.
- 7 In the $N_{\rm w}$ text field, type 500.
- 8 Specify the **r** vector as

0 tl

- 0 t2
- 1 n

Finally, enter the source power previously defined in variables.

9 Locate the Total Source Power section. In the $P_{\rm src}$ text field, type Prad1.

Release from Boundary 2

- I Right-click Release from Boundary I and choose Duplicate.
- 2 In the Settings window for Release from Boundary, locate the Boundary Selection section.
- 3 From the Selection list, choose Radiating Window 2.
- **4** Locate the **Total Source Power** section. In the $P_{\rm src}$ text field, type Prad2.

Wall 2 - Ground

- I In the Physics toolbar, click 🔚 Boundaries and choose Wall.
- 2 In the Settings window for Wall, type Wall 2 Ground in the Label text field.
- **3** Select Boundary 3 only.
- 4 Locate the Wall Condition section. From the Wall condition list, choose Mixed diffuse and specular reflection.
- **5** In the γ_s text field, type 1-s_ground.
- 6 Locate the Reflection Coefficients Model section. In the α_s text field, type a_ground.
- **7** In the α_d text field, type a_ground.

Sound Pressure Level Calculation 1

In the Physics toolbar, click 📃 Attributes and choose Sound Pressure Level Calculation.

Wall 3 - Exterior Wall

- I In the Physics toolbar, click 🔚 Boundaries and choose Wall.
- 2 In the Settings window for Wall, type Wall 3 Exterior Wall in the Label text field.
- **3** Select Boundaries 33–35, 40–42, 51–53, 73, 74, 103–109, 143–145, 175, and 226 only.
- 4 Locate the Wall Condition section. From the Wall condition list, choose Mixed diffuse and specular reflection.

- **5** In the γ_s text field, type 1-s_extwall.
- 6 Locate the **Reflection Coefficients Model** section. In the α_s text field, type a_extwall.
- **7** In the α_d text field, type a_extwall.

Wall 4 - Windows

- I Right-click Wall 3 Exterior Wall and choose Duplicate.
- 2 In the Settings window for Wall, type Wall 4 Windows in the Label text field.
- 3 Locate the Boundary Selection section. Click 📉 Clear Selection.
- 4 Select Boundaries 43, 54, 110, 111, and 146 only.
- **5** Locate the **Wall Condition** section. In the γ_s text field, type 1-s_window.
- 6 Locate the Reflection Coefficients Model section. In the α_s text field, type a_window.
- 7 In the α_d text field, type a_window.

Wall 5 - Air

- I In the Physics toolbar, click 🔚 Boundaries and choose Wall.
- 2 In the Settings window for Wall, type Wall 5 Air in the Label text field.
- **3** Select Boundaries 1, 2, 4, 5, and 259 only.
- 4 Locate the Wall Condition section. From the Wall condition list, choose Disappear.

Proceed with the ray tracing study, setting the results from Study 1 as input.

ADD STUDY

- I In the Home toolbar, click $\sim\sim$ Add Study to open the Add Study window.
- 2 Go to the Add Study window.
- 3 Find the Studies subsection. In the Select Study tree, select Preset Studies for Selected Physics Interfaces>Ray Acoustics>Ray Tracing.
- 4 Find the Physics interfaces in study subsection. In the table, clear the Solve check box for Acoustic Diffusion Equation (ade).
- 5 Click Add Study in the window toolbar.
- 6 In the Home toolbar, click ~ 2 Add Study to close the Add Study window.

STUDY 4

Step 1: Ray Tracing

- I In the Settings window for Ray Tracing, locate the Study Settings section.
- 2 From the Time unit list, choose s.

- 3 In the **Output times** text field, type 0 0.2.
- 4 Click to expand the Values of Dependent Variables section. Find the Values of variables not solved for subsection. From the Settings list, choose User controlled.
- 5 From the Method list, choose Solution.
- 6 From the Study list, choose Study I Stationary, Stationary.
- 7 In the Model Builder window, click Study 4.
- 8 In the Settings window for Study, type Study 4 Ray Acoustics in the Label text field.
- **9** In the **Home** toolbar, click **= Compute**.

RESULTS

Ray Trajectories (rac)

- I Click the 🕂 Zoom Extents button in the Graphics toolbar.
- 2 In the Settings window for 3D Plot Group, locate the Data section.
- **3** From the **Time (s)** list, choose **Interpolation**.
- 4 In the Time text field, type 0.003.

Ray Trajectories 1

- I Click the **Zoom Extents** button in the **Graphics** toolbar.
- 2 In the Model Builder window, expand the Ray Trajectories (rac) node, then click Ray Trajectories I.
- 3 In the Settings window for Ray Trajectories, locate the Coloring and Style section.
- 4 Find the Line style subsection. From the Type list, choose None.
- 5 Find the Point style subsection. From the Type list, choose Point.

Color Expression 1

- I In the Model Builder window, expand the Ray Trajectories I node, then click Color Expression I.
- 2 In the Settings window for Color Expression, locate the Expression section.
- 3 In the Expression text field, type rac.Q.

4 In the **Ray Trajectories (rac)** toolbar, click **O Plot**.



Outdoor SPL

- I In the Home toolbar, click 📠 Add Plot Group and choose 3D Plot Group.
- 2 In the Settings window for 3D Plot Group, type Outdoor SPL in the Label text field.
- 3 Locate the Data section. From the Dataset list, choose Study 4 Ray Acoustics/ Solution 4 (sol4).
- 4 Locate the Color Legend section. Select the Show units check box.

Surface 1

- I Right-click Outdoor SPL and choose Surface.
- 2 In the Settings window for Surface, locate the Expression section.
- 3 In the **Expression** text field, type rac.wall2.spl1.Lp.
- 4 Click to expand the Range section. Select the Manual color range check box.
- 5 In the Minimum text field, type 65.
- 6 In the Maximum text field, type 115.

Surface 2

- I Right-click Surface I and choose Duplicate.
- 2 In the Settings window for Surface, locate the Data section.

- 3 From the Dataset list, choose Study I Stationary/Solution I (soll).
- 4 Locate the Expression section. In the Expression text field, type ade.Lp.
- 5 Click to expand the Title section. From the Title type list, choose None.
- 6 Locate the Coloring and Style section. Clear the Color legend check box.
- 7 In the Outdoor SPL toolbar, click on Plot.



Geometry Modeling Instructions

From the File menu, choose New.

NEW

In the New window, click Slank Model.

GLOBAL DEFINITIONS

Parameters 1

- I In the Model Builder window, under Global Definitions click Parameters I.
- 2 In the Settings window for Parameters, locate the Parameters section.
- **3** Click **b** Load from File.

4 Browse to the model's Application Libraries folder and double-click the file one_family_house_parameters_source.txt.

ADD COMPONENT

In the Home toolbar, click 🚫 Add Component and choose **3D**.

GEOMETRY I

Import I (imp1)

- I In the **Home** toolbar, click া Import.
- 2 In the Settings window for Import, locate the Import section.
- 3 In the Filename text field, type one_family_house.mphbin.
- 4 Click া Import.
- **5** Click the **Wireframe Rendering** button in the **Graphics** toolbar.

Point I (ptl)

- I In the **Geometry** toolbar, click \bigoplus **More Primitives** and choose **Point**.
- 2 In the Settings window for Point, locate the Point section.
- **3** In the **x** text field, type x_s.
- **4** In the **y** text field, type **y_s**.
- **5** In the **z** text field, type **z_s**.

Block I (blkI)

- I In the **Geometry** toolbar, click 🗍 **Block**.
- 2 In the Settings window for Block, locate the Size and Shape section.
- 3 In the Width text field, type 9.
- 4 In the **Depth** text field, type 5.
- 5 In the **Height** text field, type 5.
- 6 Locate the **Position** section. In the **x** text field, type -4.5.
- 7 In the y text field, type 4.695.
- 8 In the z text field, type 0.3.

Difference I (dif1)

- I In the Geometry toolbar, click is Booleans and Partitions and choose Difference.
- 2 Select the object **blk1** only.
- 3 In the Settings window for Difference, locate the Difference section.

- **4** Find the **Objects to subtract** subsection. Click to select the **Selection** toggle button.
- **5** Select the object **imp1** only.
- 6 Select the Keep objects to subtract check box.
- 7 Clear the Keep interior boundaries check box.

Line Segment I (Is I)

- I In the Geometry toolbar, click \bigoplus More Primitives and choose Line Segment.
- 2 On the object difl, select Point 6 only.
- 3 In the Settings window for Line Segment, locate the Endpoint section.
- 4 Find the End vertex subsection. Click to select the 🔲 Activate Selection toggle button.
- **5** On the object **dif1**, select Point 7 only.

Line Segment 2 (Is2)

- I In the Geometry toolbar, click \bigoplus More Primitives and choose Line Segment.
- **2** On the object **dif1**, select Point 27 only.
- 3 In the Settings window for Line Segment, locate the Endpoint section.
- 4 Find the End vertex subsection. Click to select the 🔲 Activate Selection toggle button.
- 5 On the object difl, select Point 29 only.

Line Segment 3 (Is3)

- I In the Geometry toolbar, click \bigoplus More Primitives and choose Line Segment.
- 2 On the object difl, select Point 54 only.
- 3 In the Settings window for Line Segment, locate the Endpoint section.
- 4 Find the End vertex subsection. Click to select the 💷 Activate Selection toggle button.
- **5** On the object **dif1**, select Point 55 only.

Windows

- I In the Geometry toolbar, click 🛯 🔓 Selections and choose Explicit Selection.
- 2 In the Settings window for Explicit Selection, type Windows in the Label text field.
- **3** Locate the **Entities to Select** section. From the **Geometric entity level** list, choose **Boundary**.
- 4 Click **Paste Selection**.
- 5 In the **Paste Selection** dialog box, type imp1: 1 2 6 37 42 48 104 105 140 156 208 251 252 in the **Selection** text field.
- 6 Click OK.

Wooden Floors

- I In the Geometry toolbar, click 💁 Selections and choose Explicit Selection.
- 2 In the Settings window for Explicit Selection, type Wooden Floors in the Label text field.
- **3** Locate the **Entities to Select** section. From the **Geometric entity level** list, choose **Boundary**.
- 4 Click **Paste Selection**.
- 5 In the Paste Selection dialog box, type imp1: 8 13 17 26 56 95 118 135 144 191 in the Selection text field.
- 6 Click OK.

Stairs

- I In the Geometry toolbar, click 🐚 Selections and choose Explicit Selection.
- 2 In the Settings window for Explicit Selection, type Stairs in the Label text field.
- **3** Locate the **Entities to Select** section. From the **Geometric entity level** list, choose **Boundary**.
- 4 Click **Paste Selection**.
- 5 In the Paste Selection dialog box, type imp1: 82 128-130 153-155 170 171 177 179 180 200 201-203 213-216 221-224 226-234 in the Selection text field.
- 6 Click OK.

Ceilings

- I In the Geometry toolbar, click 🐚 Selections and choose Explicit Selection.
- 2 In the Settings window for Explicit Selection, type Ceilings in the Label text field.
- **3** Locate the **Entities to Select** section. From the **Geometric entity level** list, choose **Boundary**.
- 4 Click **Paste Selection**.
- 5 In the Paste Selection dialog box, type imp1: 14 18 22 27 39 40 57 83 96 119 136 145 186-188 192 in the Selection text field.
- 6 Click OK.

Door I

- I In the Geometry toolbar, click 🝖 Selections and choose Explicit Selection.
- 2 In the Settings window for Explicit Selection, type Door 1 in the Label text field.
- **3** Locate the **Entities to Select** section. From the **Geometric entity level** list, choose **Boundary**.
- 4 Click **Paste Selection**.

- 5 In the Paste Selection dialog box, type imp1: 107 109 in the Selection text field.
- 6 Click OK.
- 7 Right-click Door I and choose Group.

Room Separations

In the Settings window for Group, type Room Separations in the Label text field.

Door 2

- I In the Geometry toolbar, click 🐚 Selections and choose Explicit Selection.
- 2 In the Settings window for Explicit Selection, type Door 2 in the Label text field.
- **3** Locate the **Entities to Select** section. From the **Geometric entity level** list, choose **Boundary**.
- 4 Click **Paste Selection**.
- 5 In the Paste Selection dialog box, type imp1: 79 85 in the Selection text field.
- 6 Click OK.

Door 3

- I In the Geometry toolbar, click 🐚 Selections and choose Explicit Selection.
- 2 In the Settings window for Explicit Selection, type Door 3 in the Label text field.
- **3** Locate the **Entities to Select** section. From the **Geometric entity level** list, choose **Boundary**.
- 4 Click **Paste Selection**.
- 5 In the Paste Selection dialog box, type imp1: 78 80 in the Selection text field.
- 6 Click OK.

Door 4

- I In the Geometry toolbar, click 🐚 Selections and choose Explicit Selection.
- 2 In the Settings window for Explicit Selection, type Door 4 in the Label text field.
- **3** Locate the **Entities to Select** section. From the **Geometric entity level** list, choose **Boundary**.
- 4 Click **Paste Selection**.
- 5 In the Paste Selection dialog box, type imp1: 162 164 in the Selection text field.
- 6 Click OK.

Door 5

I In the Geometry toolbar, click 🝖 Selections and choose Explicit Selection.

- 2 In the Settings window for Explicit Selection, type Door 5 in the Label text field.
- **3** Locate the **Entities to Select** section. From the **Geometric entity level** list, choose **Boundary**.
- 4 Click Paste Selection.
- 5 In the Paste Selection dialog box, type imp1: 141 142 in the Selection text field.
- 6 Click OK.

Door 6

- I In the Geometry toolbar, click 🖣 Selections and choose Explicit Selection.
- 2 In the Settings window for Explicit Selection, type Door 6 in the Label text field.
- **3** Locate the **Entities to Select** section. From the **Geometric entity level** list, choose **Boundary**.
- 4 Click **Paste Selection**.
- 5 In the Paste Selection dialog box, type imp1: 31 33 in the Selection text field.
- 6 Click OK.

Door 7

- I In the Geometry toolbar, click 🝖 Selections and choose Explicit Selection.
- 2 In the Settings window for Explicit Selection, type Door 7 in the Label text field.
- **3** Locate the **Entities to Select** section. From the **Geometric entity level** list, choose **Boundary**.
- 4 Click **Paste Selection**.
- 5 In the Paste Selection dialog box, type imp1: 185 189 in the Selection text field.

6 Click OK.

Door 8

- I In the Geometry toolbar, click 🐚 Selections and choose Explicit Selection.
- 2 In the Settings window for Explicit Selection, type Door 8 in the Label text field.
- **3** Locate the **Entities to Select** section. From the **Geometric entity level** list, choose **Boundary**.
- 4 Click Paste Selection.
- 5 In the Paste Selection dialog box, type imp1: 60 62 in the Selection text field.
- 6 Click OK.

Door 9

I In the Geometry toolbar, click 🐚 Selections and choose Explicit Selection.

- 2 In the Settings window for Explicit Selection, type Door 9 in the Label text field.
- **3** Locate the **Entities to Select** section. From the **Geometric entity level** list, choose **Boundary**.
- 4 Click **Paste Selection**.
- 5 In the Paste Selection dialog box, type imp1: 127 in the Selection text field.
- 6 Click OK.

Wall Partition

- I In the Geometry toolbar, click 🝖 Selections and choose Explicit Selection.
- **2** In the **Settings** window for **Explicit Selection**, type Wall Partition in the **Label** text field.
- **3** Locate the **Entities to Select** section. From the **Geometric entity level** list, choose **Boundary**.
- 4 Click Paste Selection.
- 5 In the Paste Selection dialog box, type imp1: 76 93 in the Selection text field.
- 6 Click OK.
- 7 In the Geometry toolbar, click 🟢 Build All.