



# Introduction to Sound: Acoustics for the Hearing and Speech Sciences, Fourth Edition

By Charles E. Speaks

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## Introduction to Sound: Acoustics for the Hearing and Speech Sciences, Fourth Edition By Charles E. Speaks

The beloved classic textbook, *Introduction to Sound: Acoustics for the Hearing and Speech Sciences*, is back in a new fourth edition and continues its aim to teach fundamental concepts of acoustics to students in communication sciences and disorders and related disciplines. Students in speech, language, and hearing science must have a thorough understanding of the elements of acoustics before they can successfully embark on more advanced study of both normal and disordered human communication.

The textbook is known for how acoustical concepts have been made understandable for all students, not just those who are already grounded in mathematics and physics. The book is appropriate for undergraduate courses in hearing science, acoustics for speech and hearing, as well as related courses in audiology.

### NEW TO THIS EDITION:

- New chapter on Room Acoustics (Chapter 10) summarizes relevant concepts for classrooms as well as discusses principles and methods for assessing speech intelligibility/understanding
- Chapter 3 on Acoustic Impedance is now a new free-standing chapter
- Each chapter includes Practice Problems
- Several other chapters have been reorganized to achieve an improved focus and more logical flow of concepts
- Now includes a Glossary of key terms
- Information has been made more concise
- Access to a **PluralPlus companion website** that includes resources for both students (course notes, study questions) and instructors (PowerPoint lecture slides, related links.)
- Availability of 17 computer animations on the web to illustrate, in slow motion, elements of acoustics that are ordinarily too fast to visualize. **NOTE:** This book comes with supplementary content on a PluralPlus companion website. If you purchase or rent a used copy of the printed book, the code to access the website printed inside the book may have been previously redeemed/used or be incorrect and you will not be able to use it. To guarantee access to the website,

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## **Editorial Review**

### **Review**

*"This is an extraordinary book. It is the essential resource on the nature of sound and its measurement. The writing is clear and concise. Difficult concepts in acoustics are explained in easily understandable form. The 4th edition adds an excellent overview on the important topic of room acoustics. Heartily recommended for everyone in the speech and hearing sciences."* --James Jerger, PhD

*"The fourth edition of Introduction to Sound by Charles Speaks continues to be the finest introductory textbook for speech and hearing students beginning their studies in acoustics. I have used this book since its first edition and have found it to be a valuable teaching tool, both in and out of the classroom. The book covers a wealth of information relative to basics acoustics, yet does not require students to have an extensive background in mathematics. Speaks writes in a style that students find easy to follow and comprehend. The new chapter on room acoustics is a welcome addition. The Practice Problems at the end of each chapter are comprehensive and logically follow the material in each chapter. The answers provided at the back of the book are a terrific learning tool, and provide students immediate feedback relative to the material they have learned."* --Larry Small, PhD, Bowling Green State University, OH, USA

### **About the Author**

Charles E. Speaks, PhD, is a Distinguished Morse-Alumni Professor Emeritus in the Department of Speech-Language-Hearing Sciences at the University of Minnesota. He received his Bachelor of Science and Master of Arts degrees from Ohio University and his PhD degree from the University of Michigan. He taught an undergraduate/graduate-level course in acoustics at the University of Minnesota for 39 years, and developed an undergraduate course on the physics and biology of spoken language. Dr. Speaks was awarded a Distinguished Teacher Award by the College of Liberal Arts in 1977, a Horace T. Morse-Minnesota Alumni Association Award for Outstanding Contributions to Undergraduate Education in 1997, and was inducted into the University of Minnesota Academy of Distinguished Teachers in 1999. Dr. Speaks also was awarded the Honors of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association in 2002.

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