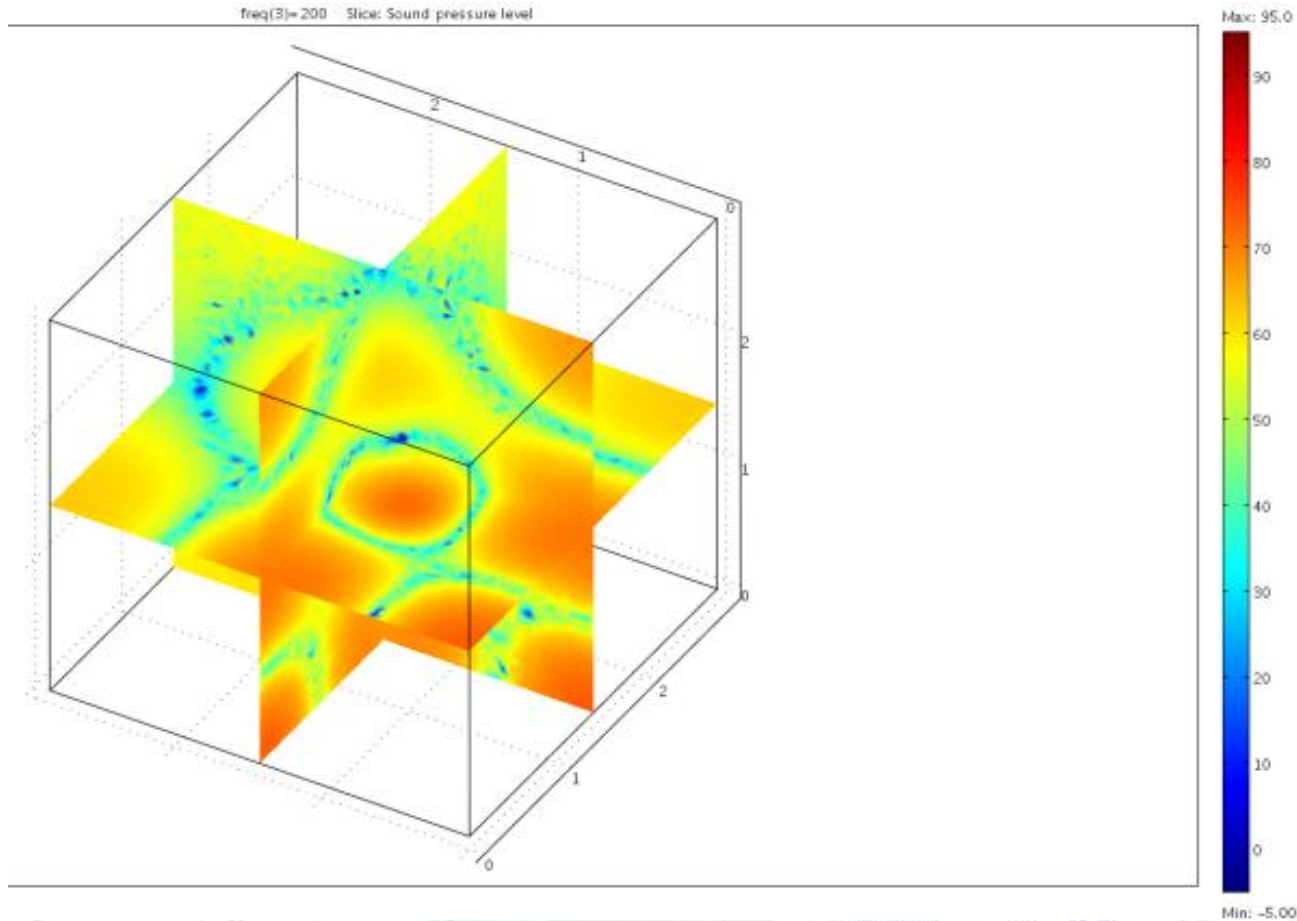


# Analysis of Acoustic Response of Rooms

**COMSOL Conference**  
**October 7-9, 2010**



# Background



**Room acoustic resonance**  
**< 1 kHz**

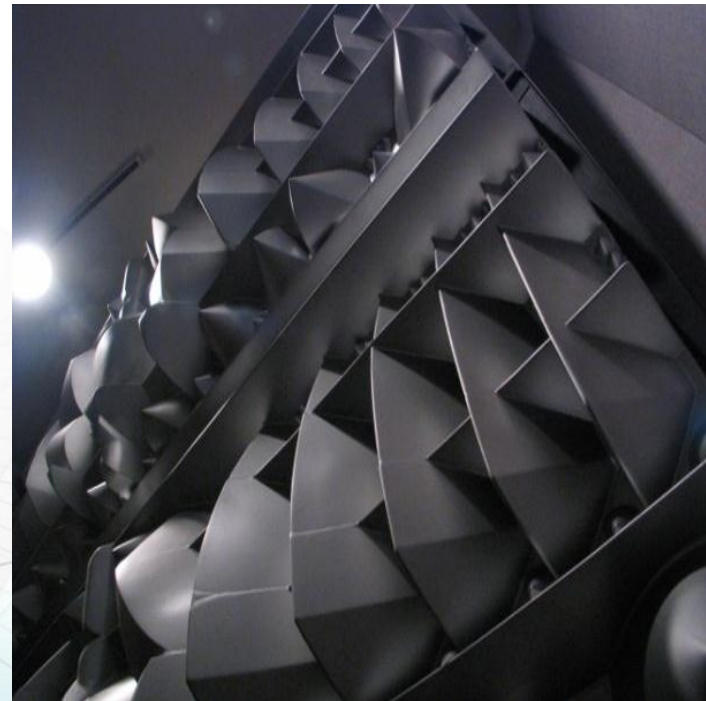
# Solutions

- **Traditional**

- Reverberation time < 1s
- Sound absorbing panels
- Experience based
- Non optimized

- **Alternative**

- Acoustic distributor panels
- Complex surface



# Objective

- **Acoustic analysis**
- **Analyze room acoustic resonance**
- **Optimize acoustic energy distribution**

# Challenges

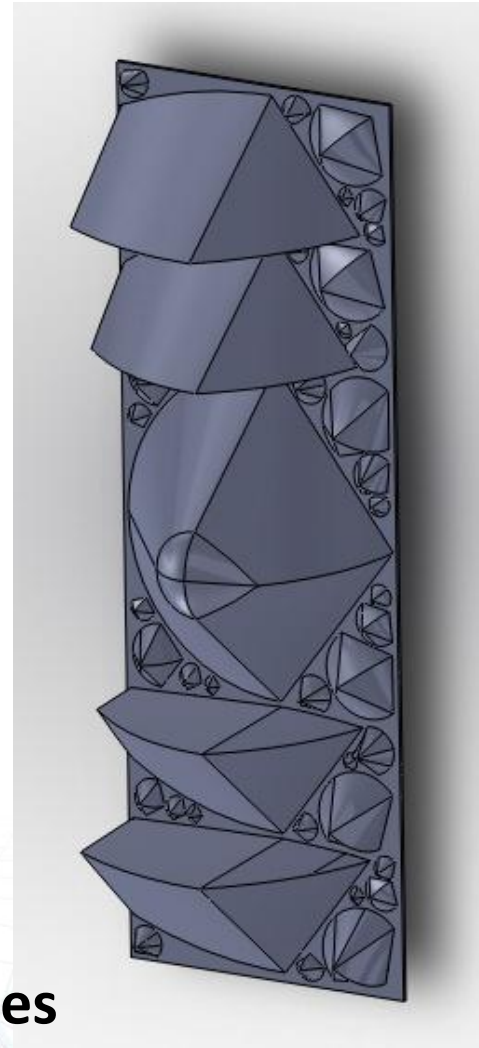
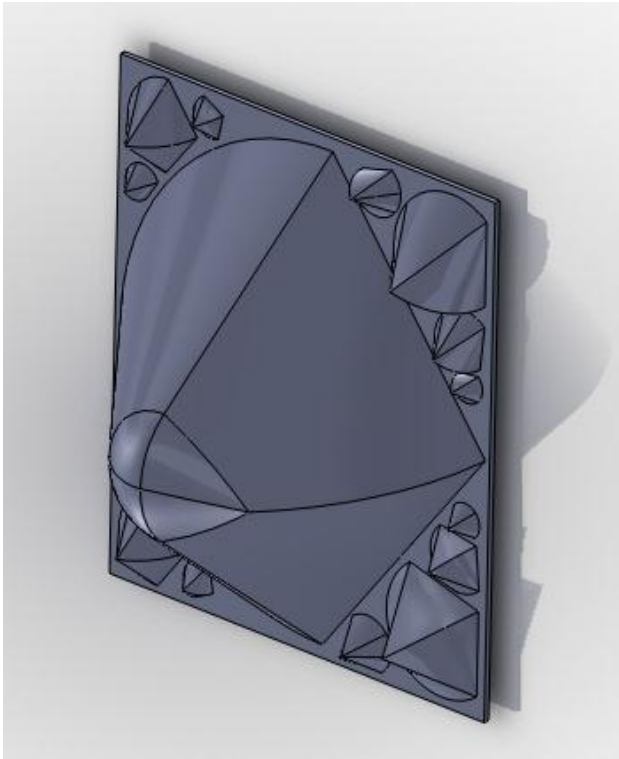


**Acoustic panel geometries are complex with hundreds of surfaces**

# Challenges

- **CAD work in SolidWorks prior to use in COMSOL**
  - **Repairing surface contours**
  - **Building solid panels from the surfaces**
  - **Removing features smaller than the shortest wavelengths of interest**

# Acoustic panels



Six panel types

# Model set up

- **Time-harmonic acoustic field in a lossless medium**

$$\nabla \cdot \left( -\frac{1}{\rho_0} \nabla p \right) - \frac{\omega^2}{\rho_0 c_s^2} p = 0$$

- **Sound-hard boundaries for acoustic panel surfaces**

$$\frac{\partial p}{\partial n} = 0$$



# Model set up

- Impedance BC for sound absorbing walls

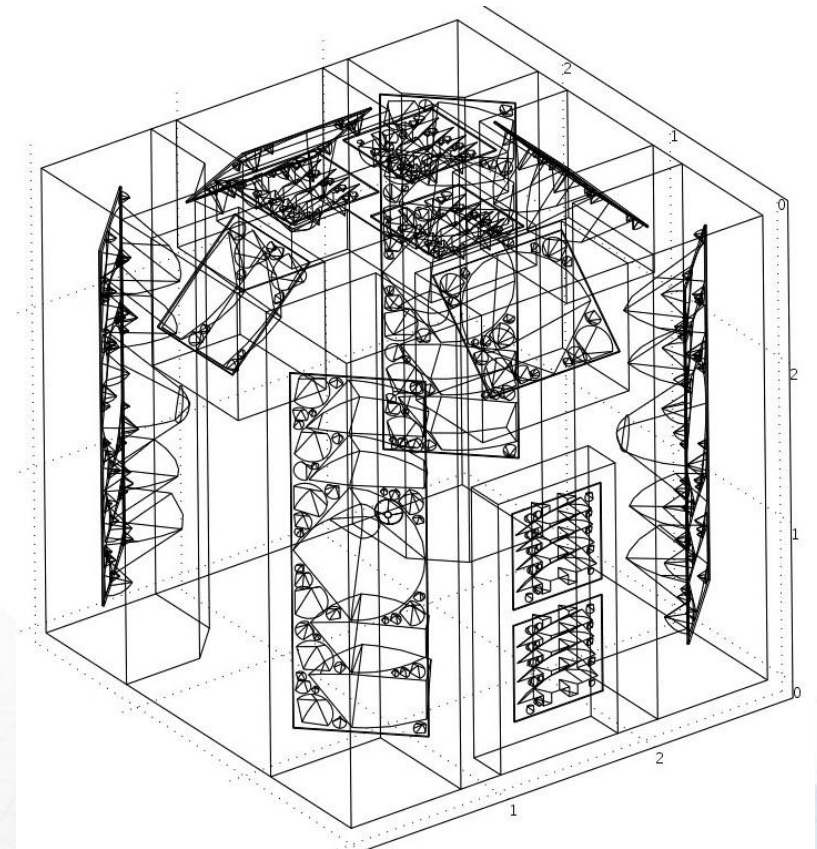
$$\mathbf{n} \cdot \left( \frac{1}{\rho_0} \nabla p \right) + \frac{i\omega}{Z} p = 0$$

- Normal acceleration BC for acoustic source

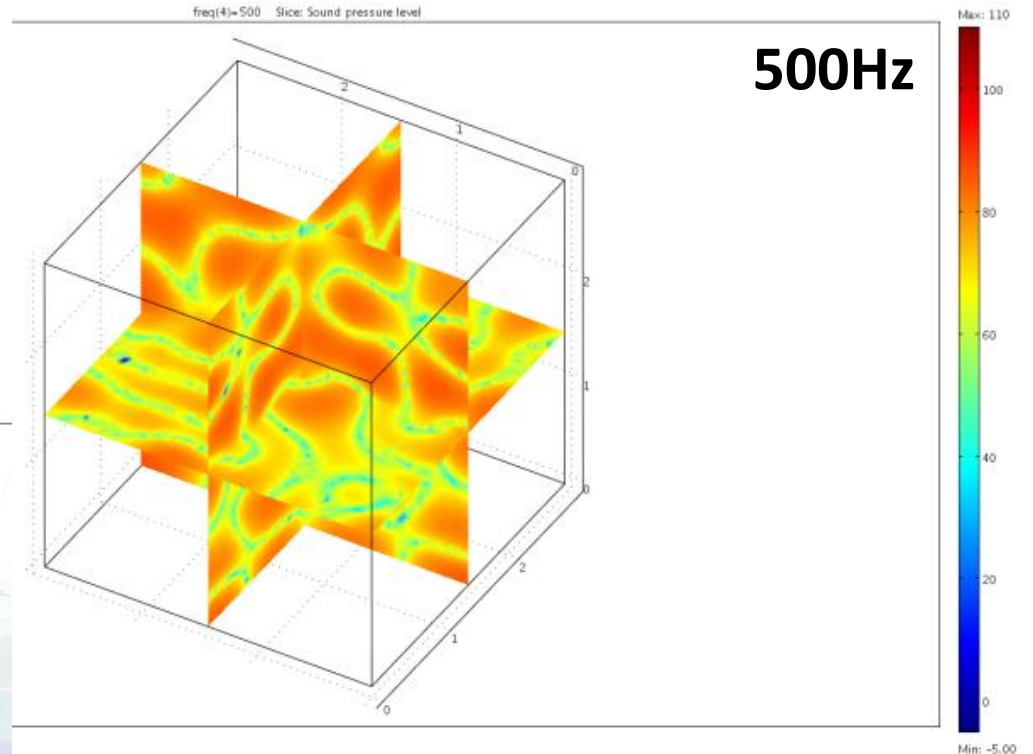
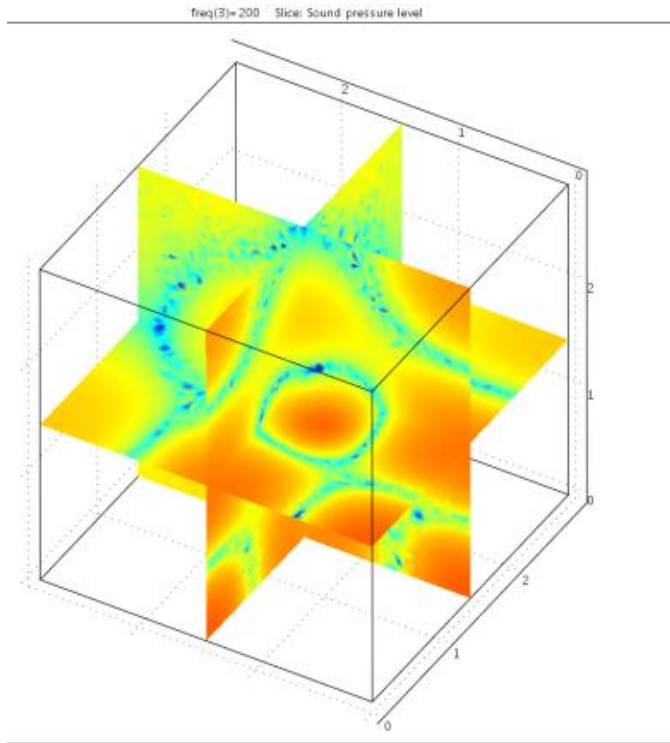
$$\mathbf{n} \cdot \left( \frac{1}{\rho_0} \nabla p \right) = a_n$$

# Model set up

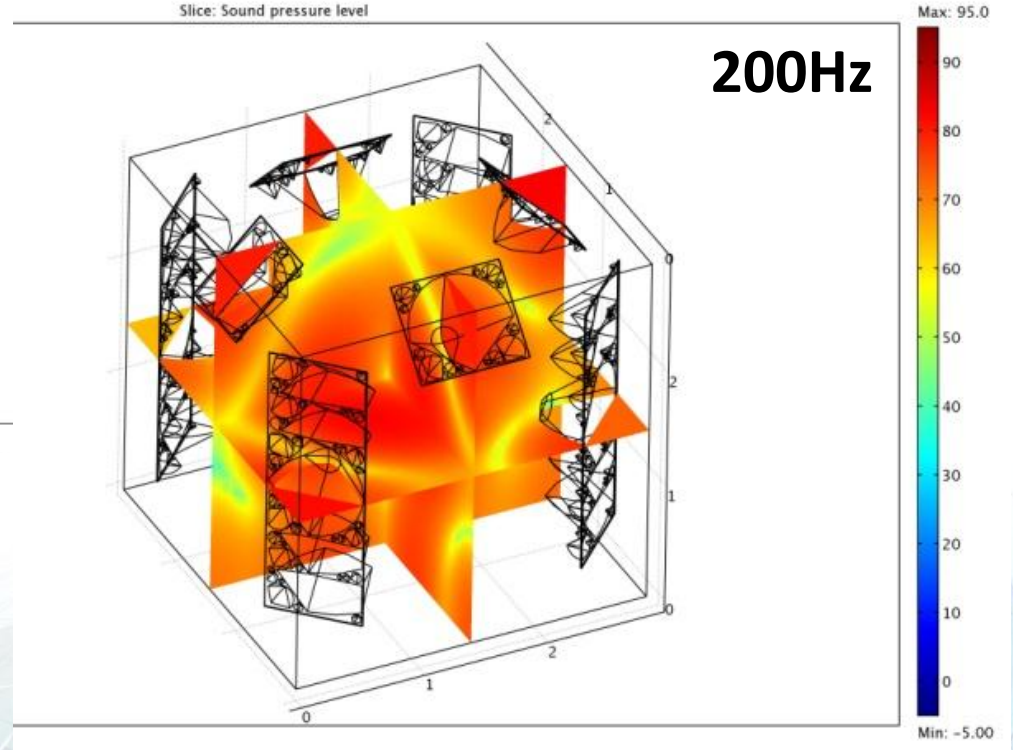
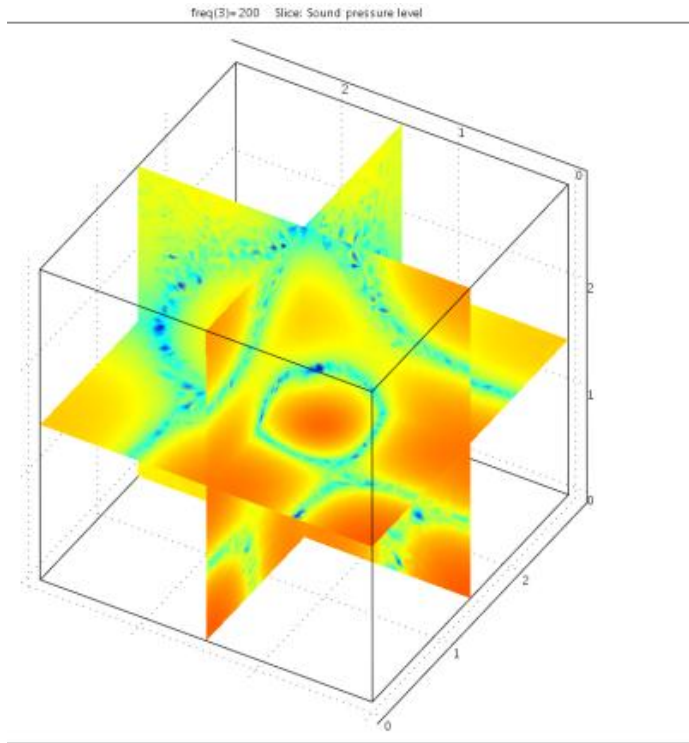
- Acoustic panels as individual domains, mesh sequentially
- Min 6 elements per wavelength to resolve the acoustic field
- Mesh  $> 10^6$  elements depending on the frequency, room size, and panels



# Analysis

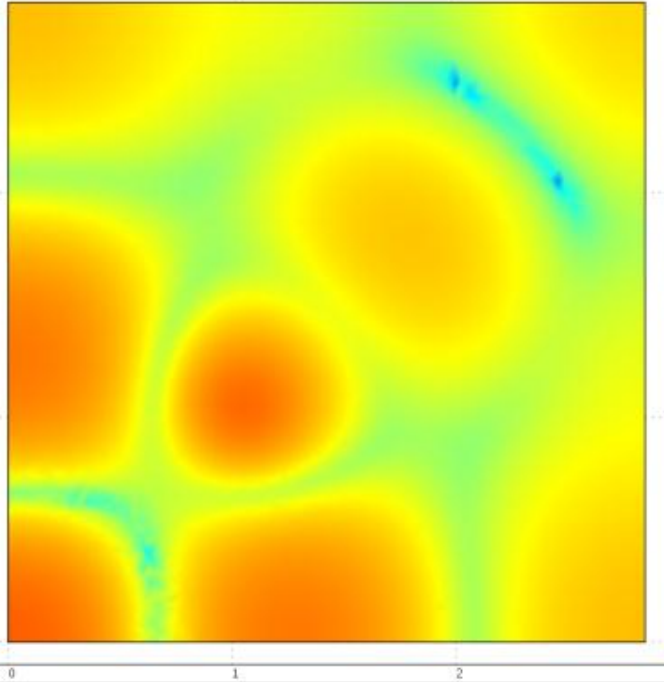


# Analysis



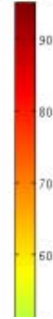
# Analysis

Slice: Sound pressure level

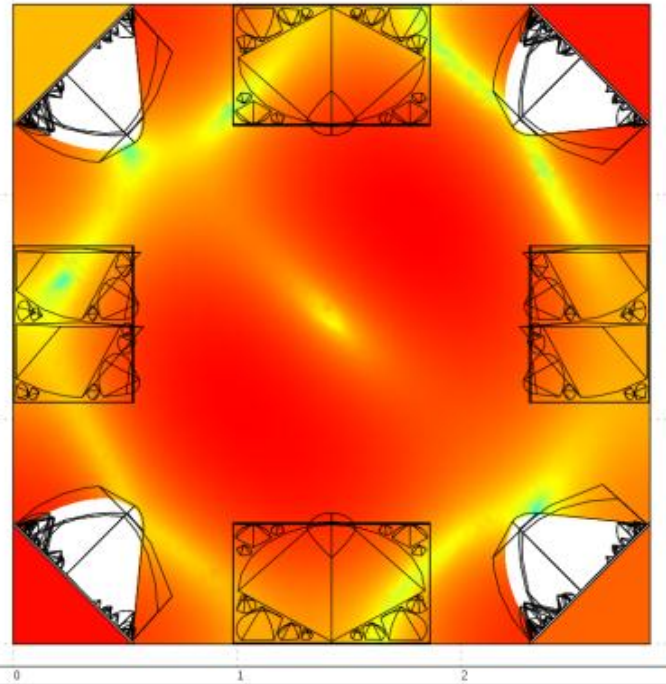


200Hz

Max: 95.0

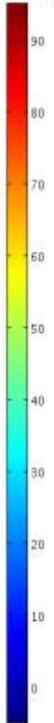


Slice: Sound pressure level



200Hz

Max: 95.0



Min: -5.00

# Summary

- **Predictive analysis of room acoustic response**
- **Predict distribution of acoustic energy**
- **Analyze influence of distribution panels**
- **Analyze effect of acoustic materials**
- **Identify room design for optimum acoustic response**