

Background

$$SPL = 20 \log_{10} \left(\frac{P}{P_{ref}} \right)$$

Sound Pressure Level

$$P = P_{ref} \times 10^{\frac{SPL}{20}}$$

Sound Pressure or Reference Pressure

$$IL = 10 \log_{10} \left(\frac{I}{I_0} \right)$$

Sound Intensity Level or Sound Intensity

$$I = \frac{P_{AV}}{4 \pi r^2}$$

Intensity at a distance from point source

$$frequency = \frac{velocity}{wavelength}$$

Wave Velocity or Wave Length

Where

SPL = sound pressure level decibels (db)

P = sound wave pressure, newtons/meter²

Pref = reference pressure or hearing threshold, newton/meter²

IL = intensity level, decibel (db)

I = sound intensity, watt

I₀ = reference intensity or least audible sound level, watt

PAV = average power, watt

NPL = noise pollution level, decibel (db)

Notes:

- Usually, I_0 is set to 10-12 watts
- Usually, Pref is set to 0.00002 newtons/meter²

References - Books:

- 1) P. Aarne Vesilind, J. Jeffrey Peirce and Ruth F. Weiner. 1994. Environmental Engineering. Butterworth Heinemann. 3rd ed.
- 2) Tipler, Paul A.. 1995. Physics For Scientists and Engineers. Worth Publishers. 3rd ed.