

Letter to the Editors

Book Review: Acoustics for Engineers – Troy Lectures in: Vol. 37, 597–600 (2012)

The author appreciate the long and thoughtful review of their book and take the opportunity to add some further information that may be useful for potential readers.

1. The book was written as a textbook for a one-semester introductory course in engineering acoustics at academic level for readers with a mathematical background. It was not intended as a handbook which, amongst other thing, would have required a much broader coverage of the field and the relevant literature. Nevertheless, the authors feel gratified by the fact that their readers obviously use it as a source of reference in their further work in acoustics.
2. A second volume is in preparation [Blauert J. & Braasch J., “Acoustics for Communication – Troy Lectures”] and is scheduled to appear at Springer in 2014. This volume will cover many of the items that the reviewer missed in the current volume, for instance, speech and hearing, perceptual coding, sound quality, binaural technology, surround sound, auditory virtual reality, and others.
3. The way in which textbooks are distributed has changed dramatically during the last three years.

Of the current book only a few hundred printed copies have been sold so far, however, it has enjoyed more than ten thousand download of the e-book version. Taking this new situation into account, the book has a website of its own, namely, <http://symphony.arch.rpi.edu/~xiangn/Springer-Book.html>.

On this website confirmed errors and mistakes are listed – unless minor – and solution to the problems are provided. The collection of solutions is complete for the German language. English translations follow step by step.

All readers are invited to contribute to the website, such making the book a dynamic source of knowledge which is constantly amended and improved. In this way, the authors intend to take advantage of the social media and exploit crowd sourcing amongst their readership to the benefit of knowledge dissemination in the exciting field of acoustics. Finally, they want to thank their dear colleague, Prof. Andrzej Dobrucki for the time and effort that he has devoted to prepare the review.

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