

Abstract

The Lombard effect – making yourself heard

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This paper describes the Lombard effect phenomenon and details measurement methods that have been used to quantify its influence and variability in a range of real life scenarios. The effect is important to consider when a space is likely to be noisy and reverberant, and where there is a need to conduct conversation and speech whilst maintaining speech intelligibility. Knowledge and understanding of this effect are essential for speech clarity and privacy within spaces. The paper sets out how to measure the effect and discusses methods in which it could be used to influence building acoustic design.