

The sound pressure level due to the direct sound from the loudspeaker at the listener's position in the room is given by:

$$L_p^{listener}(\vec{r}_{listener}) = L_{Pwr}^{Spkr} + 10 \log_{10} \left(\frac{Q_{spkr}}{4\pi r^2} \right)$$

The sound pressure level associated with the direct sound fed back to the microphone at angle θ from the loudspeaker and from the reverberant sound field in the room is given by:

$$L_p^{mic}(\vec{r}_{mic}) = L_{Pwr} + 10 \log_{10} \left(\frac{Q_{spkr}}{4\pi d_1^2} + \frac{4}{A} \right) - G_{spkr}(\theta) - F_{mic}(\varphi)$$

The sound pressure level associated with the sound picked up by the microphone from a non-directional (i.e. uniform/isotropic/directivity factor $Q = 1$) source – in this case, the human speaker, located at \vec{r}_{human} with a voice sound power level of L_{Pwr}^{Human} is given by:

$$L_p^{human}(\vec{r}_{human}) = L_{Pwr}^{Human} + 10 \log_{10} \left(\frac{1}{4\pi d_2^2} \right)$$

The sound engineer needs to design the sound system such that $L_p^{listener}(\vec{r}_{listener})$ will provide sufficient clarity/intelligibility for listeners e.g. seated at the back of the room/auditorium, while simultaneously $L_p^{mic}(\vec{r}_{mic})$ will be small enough to prevent acoustic feedback from the mic. The angular factors $G_{spkr}(\theta)$ and $F_{mic}(\varphi)$ are well within the sound engineer's control, and note also that if human speakers keep the microphone as close to their mouth as possible, thereby minimizing the distance d_2 in the immediately above formula, that would also be of significant help in this regard!