

### **Complex Sound Fields $\tilde{S}(\vec{r}, t)$ :**

The acoustical physics properties associated with an arbitrary “everyday” audio complex sound field  $\tilde{S}(\vec{r}, t)$  can be **completely/uniquely determined** at the space-time point  $(\vec{r}, t)$  by measuring **two** physical quantities associated with the complex sound field:

- (a.) the complex over-pressure  $\tilde{p}(\vec{r}, t)$  at the space-time point  $(\vec{r}, t)$  - a **scalar** quantity,  
**and.**  
 (b.) the complex particle velocity  $\vec{\tilde{u}}(\vec{r}, t)$  at the space-time point  $(\vec{r}, t)$  - a 3-D **vector** quantity  
 with:  $\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} \vec{\tilde{u}}(\vec{r}) \rightarrow 0$ ,  $\vec{\nabla} \cdot \vec{\tilde{u}}(\vec{r}, t) \simeq -\frac{1}{\rho_o} (\partial \tilde{p}(\vec{r}, t) / \partial t)$  and:  $\vec{\nabla} \times \vec{\tilde{u}}(\vec{r}, t) = 0$  {or = constant}.

### **Complex Sound Field Quantities: Working in the Time-Domain vs. the Frequency-Domain**

It is extremely important whenever working with any/all complex sound field quantities to understand/distinguish as to whether one is working with such quantities in the ***time-domain*** vs. working with such quantities in the ***frequency-domain*** – they are **not** the same/identical...

Complex quantities in the ***time-domain*** vs. their ***frequency-domain*** counterparts are related by ***Fourier transforms*** of each other – because time  $t$  (units = seconds) and frequency  $f = \omega/2\pi$  (units = 1/sec = Hz) are so-called ***Fourier conjugate variables*** of each other. We thus use the notation  $\tilde{S}(\vec{r}, t)$  vs.  $\tilde{S}(\vec{r}, \omega)$  to indicate a ***time-domain*** complex sound field vs. ***frequency-domain*** complex sound field at the space-point  $\vec{r}$ , respectively.

How do we know whether we are working in the ***time-domain*** vs. the ***frequency domain***?

A time-dependent ***instantaneous*** voltage signal  $V_{p\text{-mic}}(\vec{r}, t) = V_o^{p\text{-mic}}(\omega_o) \cos(\omega_o t + \varphi_p(\vec{r}, \omega_o))$ , e.g. output from a pressure sensitive microphone placed at the point  $\vec{r} = (x\hat{x}, y\hat{y}, z\hat{z})$  in the sound field of a loudspeaker {located at the origin  $(0, 0, 0)$ } and driven by a sine-wave function generator (of angular frequency  $\omega_o = 2\pi f_o$ ) + power amplifier is a typical example of a ***time-domain*** signal – it is observable e.g. on an oscilloscope, which displays the ***instantaneous*** voltage signal  $V_{p\text{-mic}}(\vec{r}, t) = V_o^{p\text{-mic}}(\vec{r}, \omega_o) \cos(\omega_o t + \varphi_p(\vec{r}, \omega_o))$  output from the microphone as a function of time,  $t$ .

We specify, for clarity/definiteness' sake that the oscilloscope trace of the display of the  $p$ -mic signal  $V_{p\text{-mic}}(\vec{r}, t) = V_o^{p\text{-mic}}(\vec{r}, \omega_o) \cos(\omega_o t + \varphi_p(\vec{r}, \omega_o))$  is triggered ***externally*** by the ***sync signal*** output from the sine-wave generator – which serves as the ***reference*** signal and thus gives physical meaning to the (overall) phase  $\varphi_p(\vec{r}, \omega_o)$  of the  $p$ -mic signal, which is defined **relative** to the ***time-domain*** sine-wave voltage signal  $V_{FG}(t) = V_o^{FG} \cos \omega_o t$  output from the sine-wave generator, since (by industry standard, the positive-going edge of ) the TTL-level ***sync signal*** output from the sine-wave generator is used to ***in-phase*** trigger the start of the oscilloscope trace displaying the microphone signal  $V_{p\text{-mic}}(\vec{r}, t) = V_o^{p\text{-mic}}(\vec{r}, \omega_o) \cos(\omega_o t + \varphi_p(\vec{r}, \omega_o))$ .