

Report from the UK - 2014

Topics today

- Achieving and creating accessibility
- Equalities Act 2010
- Social Integration
- Connevans equipment to help



**Thank you for inviting me to
Malaysia 😊**



Achieving and creating accessibility

- UK Equality Act 2010 (Including Disability Discrimination)
- It is unlawful to discriminate against people in respect of their disabilities in relation to employment, the provision of goods and services, education and transport



Core Concepts of the Equalities Act

Service providers and employers ...

- Should not offer less favourable treatment for a reason related to a disabled person's disability
- Should make a 'reasonable adjustment' to fully include a disabled person.



Reasonable adjustments

- Loop system in the new Tiger Viewing Gallery at London Zoo
- Tour Guide system, with neck loops at Buckingham Palace



Equipment supplied by  **Connevens**

Reasonable adjustments

Transport

- Buses have ramps for wheelchair users
- So do taxis



Reasonable adjustments

Access to buildings and events

- Sporting grounds have spaces for wheelchair users
- Theatres and Concert Halls have spaces for wheelchair users



Reasonable adjustments for Educating Deaf Children in the UK



BATOD 2013 Survey

(British Association of Teachers of the Deaf)

Numbers of deaf children

- There 45,000 deaf children aged 0 to 19 in the UK
- Pre-school – 15%
- Primary, 4-11 years – 45%
- Secondary, 11-16 years – 34%
- Post 16 in school – 3%
- Further education or apprenticeships – 2%



BATOD 2013 Survey

Levels of deafness

- Unilateral hearing loss – 16%
- Mild hearing loss – 28%
- Moderate hearing loss – 32%
- Severe hearing loss – 11%
- Profound hearing loss – 13%



Chart showing loudness & pitch of common sounds

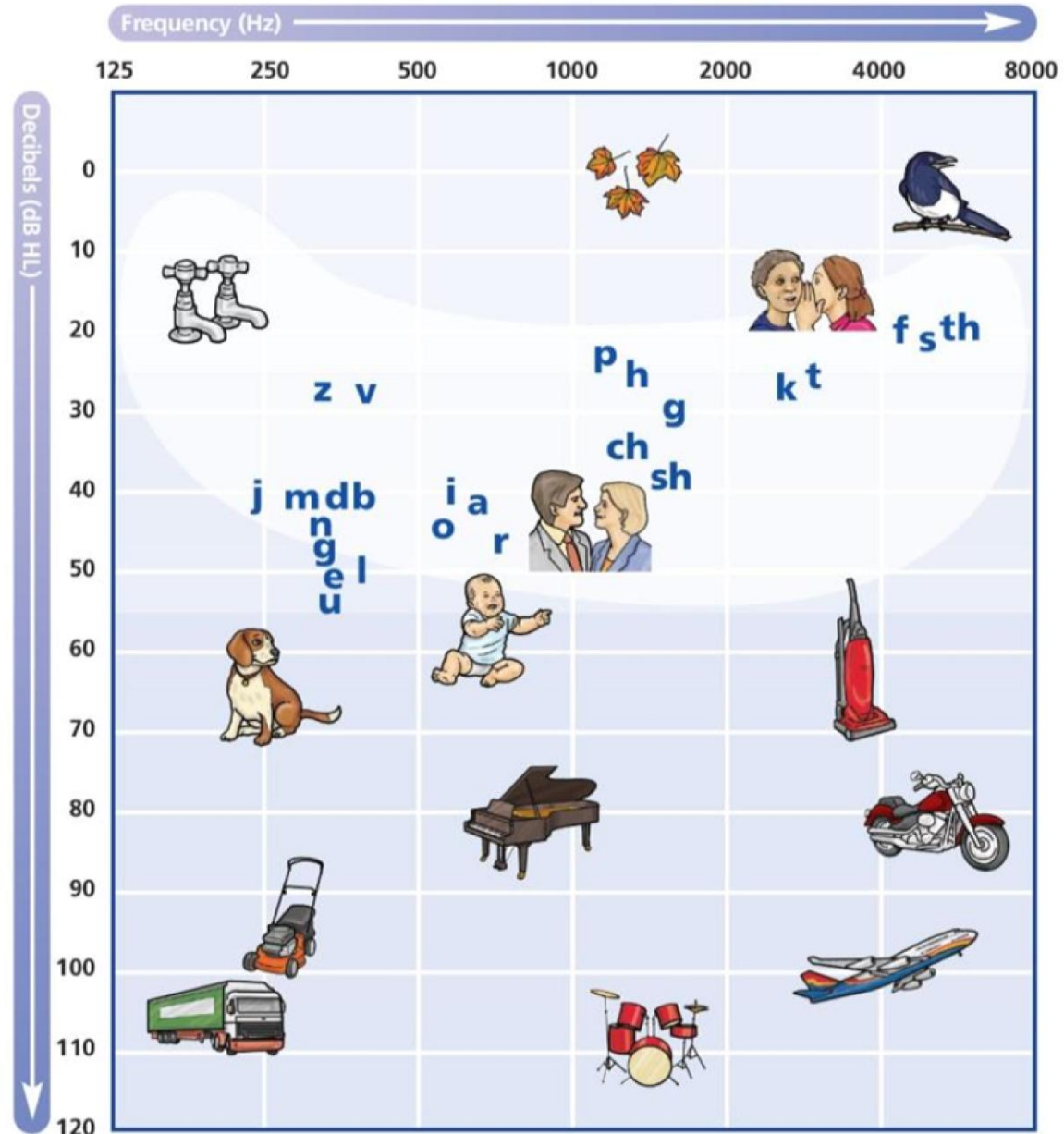
Levels of deafness:

Mild deafness
24-40 dB

Moderate deafness
41-70 dB

Severe deafness
71-95 dB

Profound deafness
95+ dB



BATOD 2013 Survey

Educational provision split

- Supported at home pre-school – 12.8%
- Supported at home & home educated – 0.5%
- In general education schools & academies – 63.5%
- Supported by a deaf resource unit in general education – 6.7%
- Special school for deaf children – 2.5%
- Other special schools – 9.6%
- Post 16 provision – 3.8%
- Other unknown – 0.6%



BATOD 2013 Survey

- 21% of children had additional Special Educational Needs (SEN)
- 8% of children have cochlear implants
- 3.2% of children only use sign language
- 5.9% of children use spoken language and sign language
- There are 1,484 'Teachers of the Deaf' in the UK
with 1,521 other specialists



Mainstream School

(Therfield School, Surrey)

- Deaf children may go to a 'mainstream' school.
- They go to all the usual lessons and may or may not need extra support such as a learning support worker or tutoring before and after lessons.
- Mainstream schools receive funding from the local government and follow the national curriculum.



Mainstream School with Specialist Unit

(Whitehall School, Chingford)

- Deaf children may go to a mainstream school which has a unit specifically for deaf children
- One or more classrooms may have been adapted especially for teaching deaf children
- In some schools, deaf children are taught only in the unit
- In others deaf children will take part in some mainstream lessons, and have some classes in the unit



School for the Deaf

(Royal School, Exeter)

- Deaf schools exist to meet the needs of deaf children with special educational needs or disabilities
- Special schools usually cover one area, such as deafness or blindness
- These schools will have specialist equipment, staff, support and teaching strategies to help meet the needs of the students



Technology to Help Deaf Children in school

- ATU30 to help speech development
- fmGenie to help deaf children hear
- IR Swift+ to help all children hear



Reasonable Equipment Provision Education

- The ATU30 Auditory Trainer
- Training a deaf student to listen, understand and speak



ATU30 Auditory Trainer

Key goals for Deaf Children – Volume & Clarity

- ATU30 allows children to hear sounds that they wouldn't otherwise hear
- ATU30 helps children to make sense of and understand the spoken word
- When deaf children hear themselves, they can develop their own speech and learn to communicate more clearly & confidently
- In a group, it enables children to intercommunicate, which hearing aids do not do
- Children can hear their own voice and listen to other deaf children
- Consistent sound quality allows a child to regulate their own voice



Background Noise

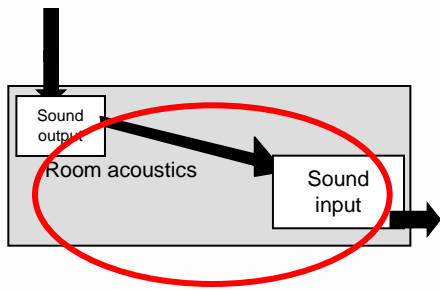
- Affects the understanding of speech
- Overlaps some of the speech to make it inaudible or masked



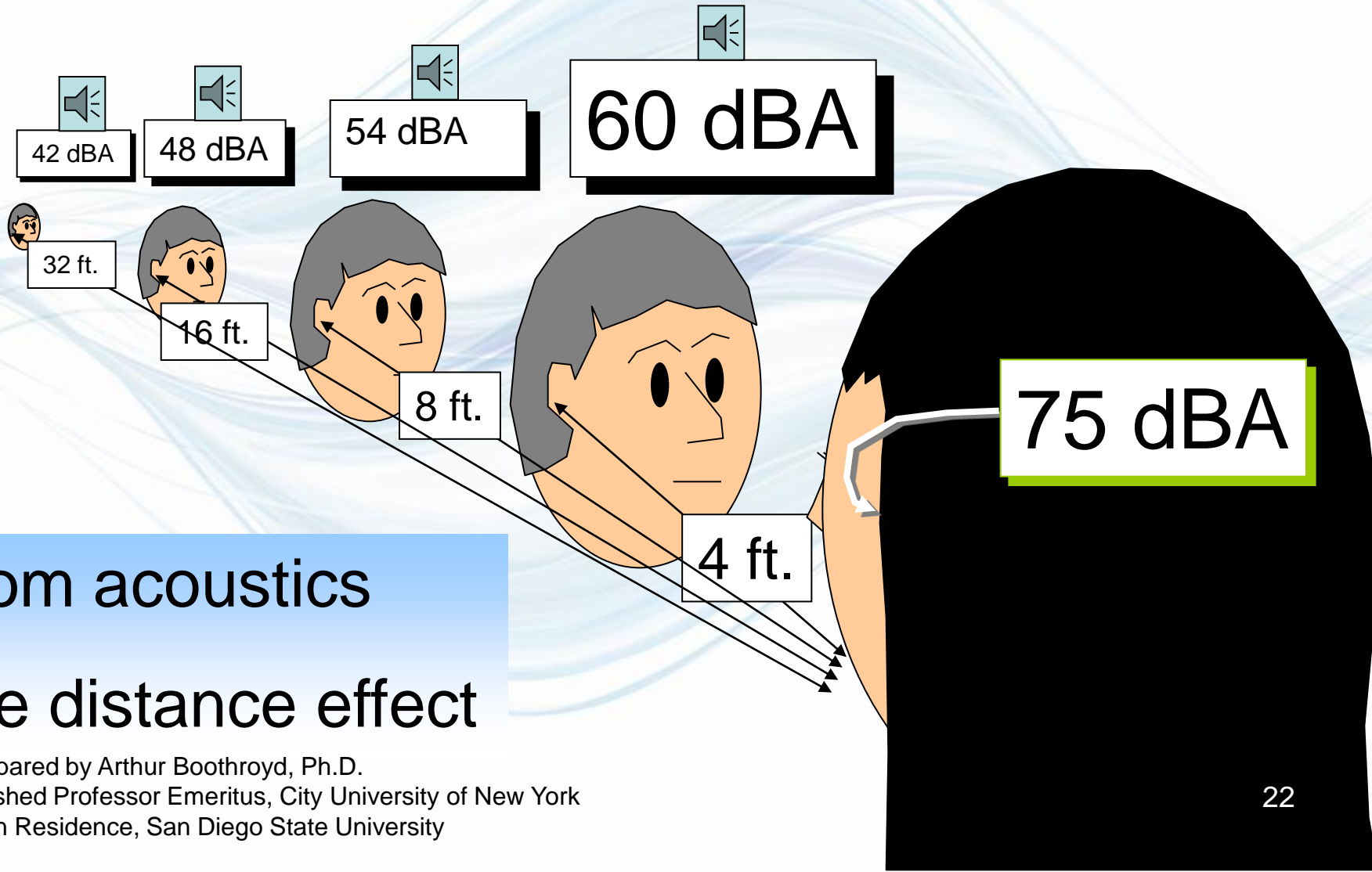
The effect of distance

Signal drops by 6dB with every doubling in distance





Lose 6 dB of direct sound for each doubling of distance



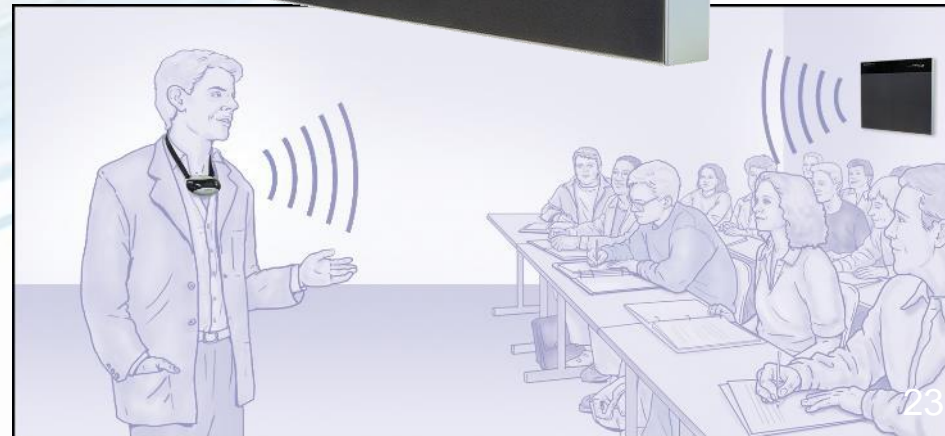
Room acoustics

- the distance effect

Slide prepared by Arthur Boothroyd, Ph.D.
Distinguished Professor Emeritus, City University of New York
Scholar in Residence, San Diego State University

Reasonable Equipment Provision in Education

- The IR Swift+ Classroom Soundfield system
- Providing clear sound in the Classroom



What is Soundfield?

Clarity



not volume!

Reasonable Equipment Provision Education

- The fm Genie Radio Aid system
- Helps a deaf student hear clearly with their hearing aids



How does a Radio Aid fm system help?

Hearing aid users find it difficult to listen, due to:

- Background noise
- Distance
- Reverberation

Even with the latest technology,
these problems cannot be
solved by a hearing aid alone



Reasonable adjustments

Employment

- Employers should provide easy access to their buildings
- With lifts and disabled facilities for staff and visitors



Sometimes unreasonable ...



Leeds Castle
is open to the
public.

- Sometimes 'reasonable adjustment' in one building is not reasonable in another.
- Equipment to help deaf people hear is reasonable but to change all of a 900 year old castle for wheelchairs is not.

London Paralympics 2012



- The London Paralympics 2012 reminded everyone of their responsibility to disabled people
- It highlighted the fantastic achievements of disabled sportsmen and women, including sportsmen and women from around the world

Summary

- Achieving and creating accessibility
- Equalities Act 2010
- Social Integration
- Connevans equipment to help





Thank you

 **Connevens**

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