



The Sound of Recycling

Transfoaming glass waste into acoustic panels

P5 Presentation | Ludwika Buczyńska | 6068804

Supervised by:

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Prof. Martin Tenpierik
Dr. Gabriele Mirra

Structures and Materials
Environmental and Climate Design
Digital Technologies



“Apart from **container glass** being successfully recycled in a **closed-loop** in Europe, the rest of the commercial glass waste is, in its majority, **downcycled or landfilled.**”

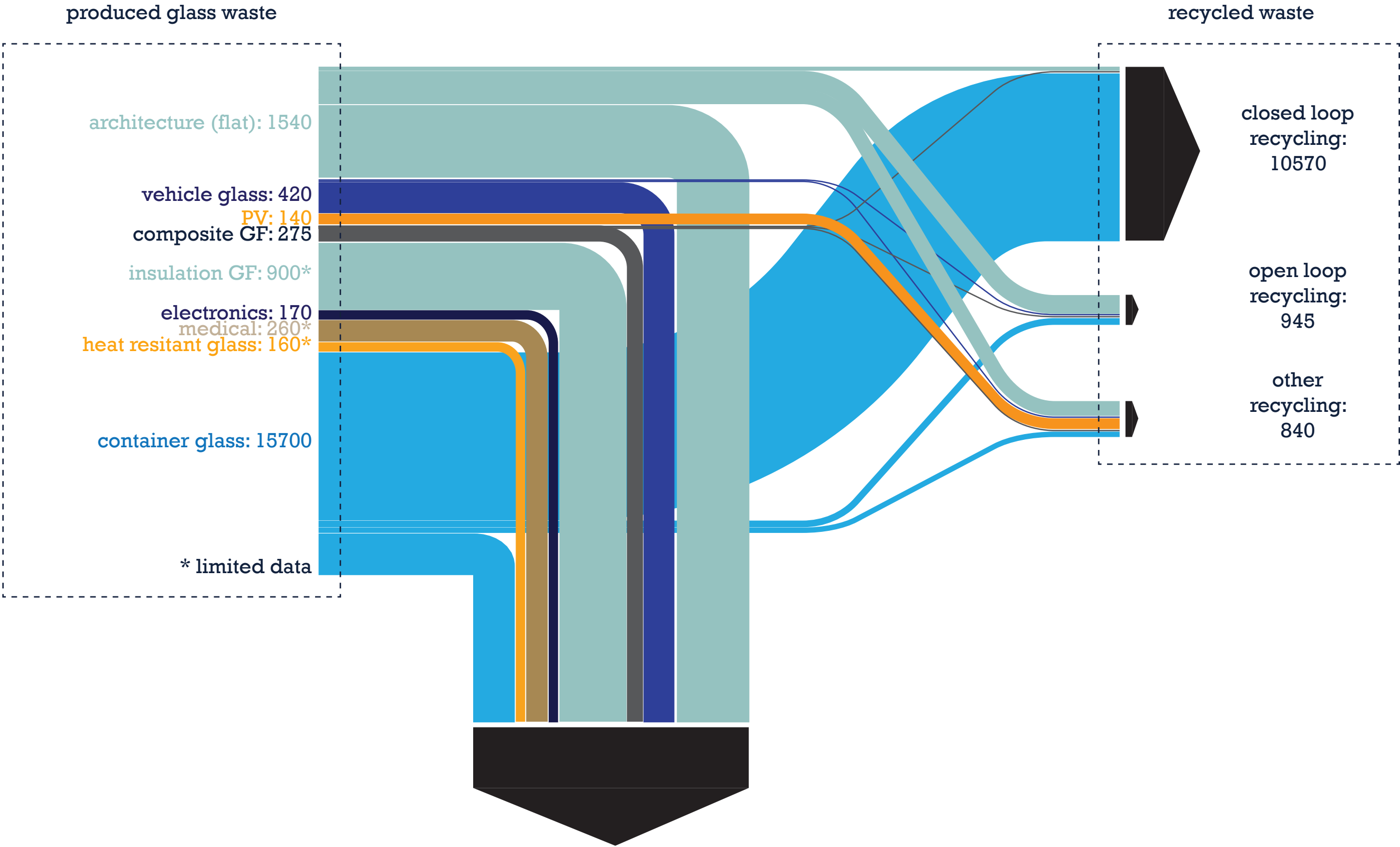
Bristogianni & Oikonomopoulou, 2023



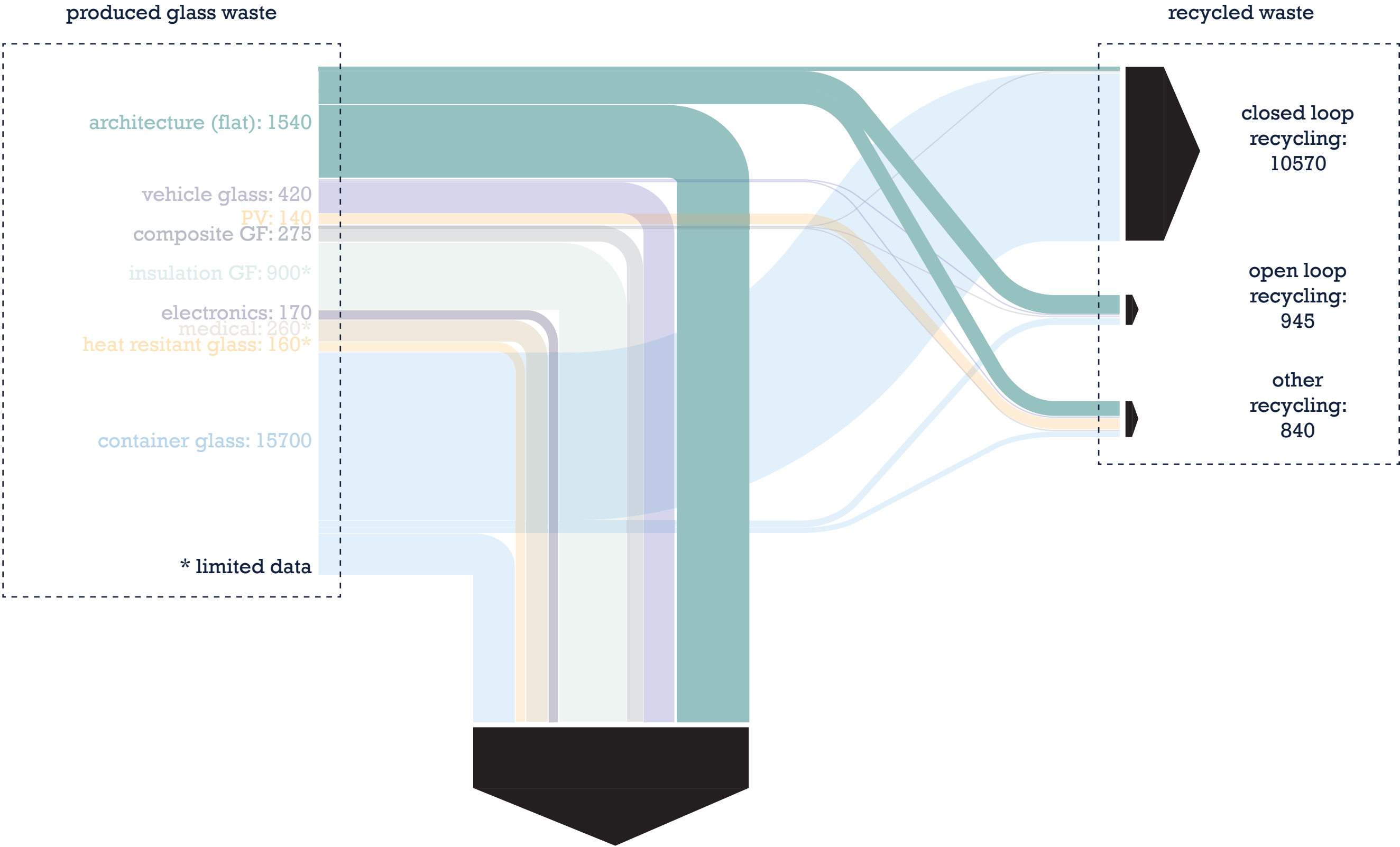
container glass



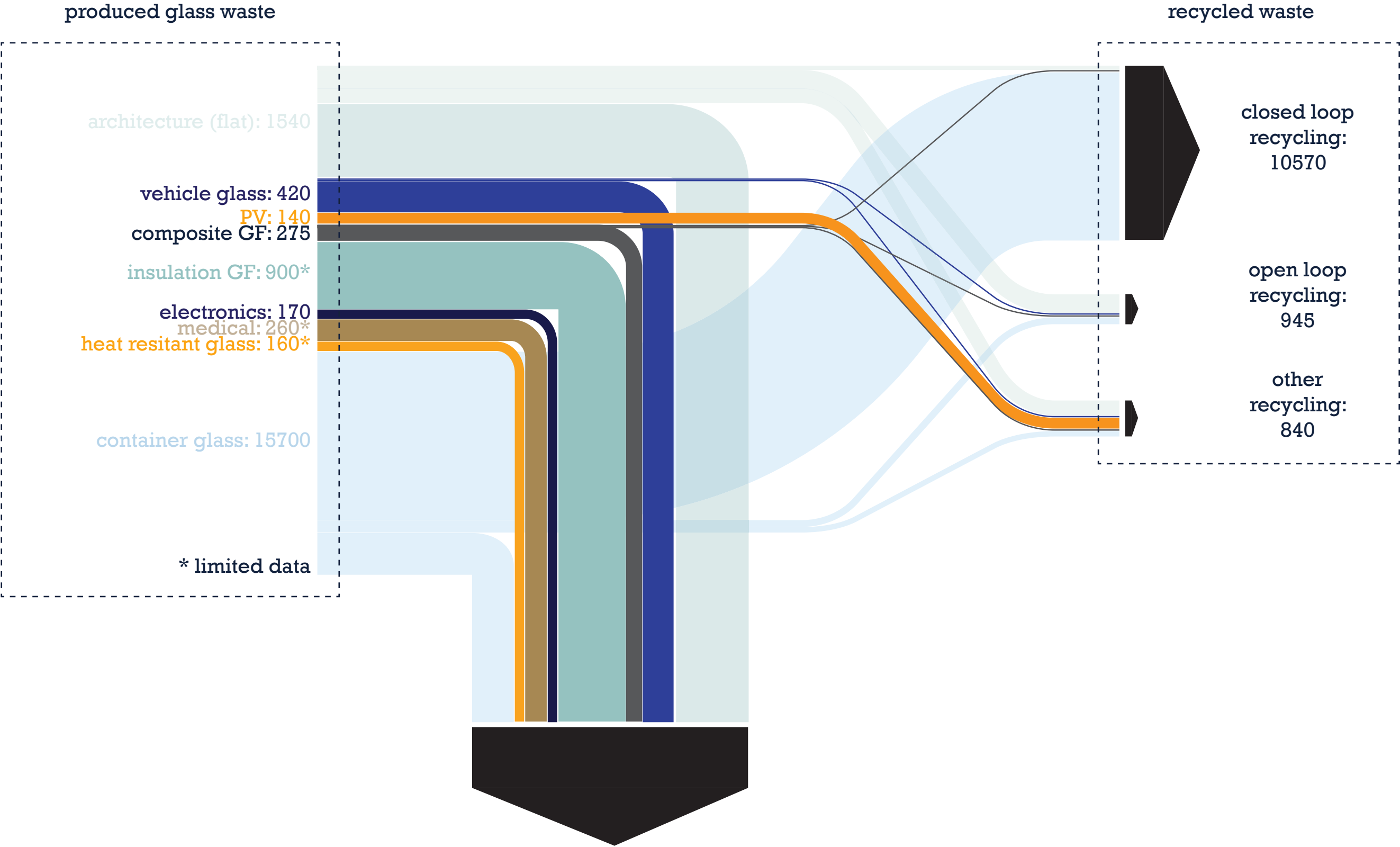
other types of glass



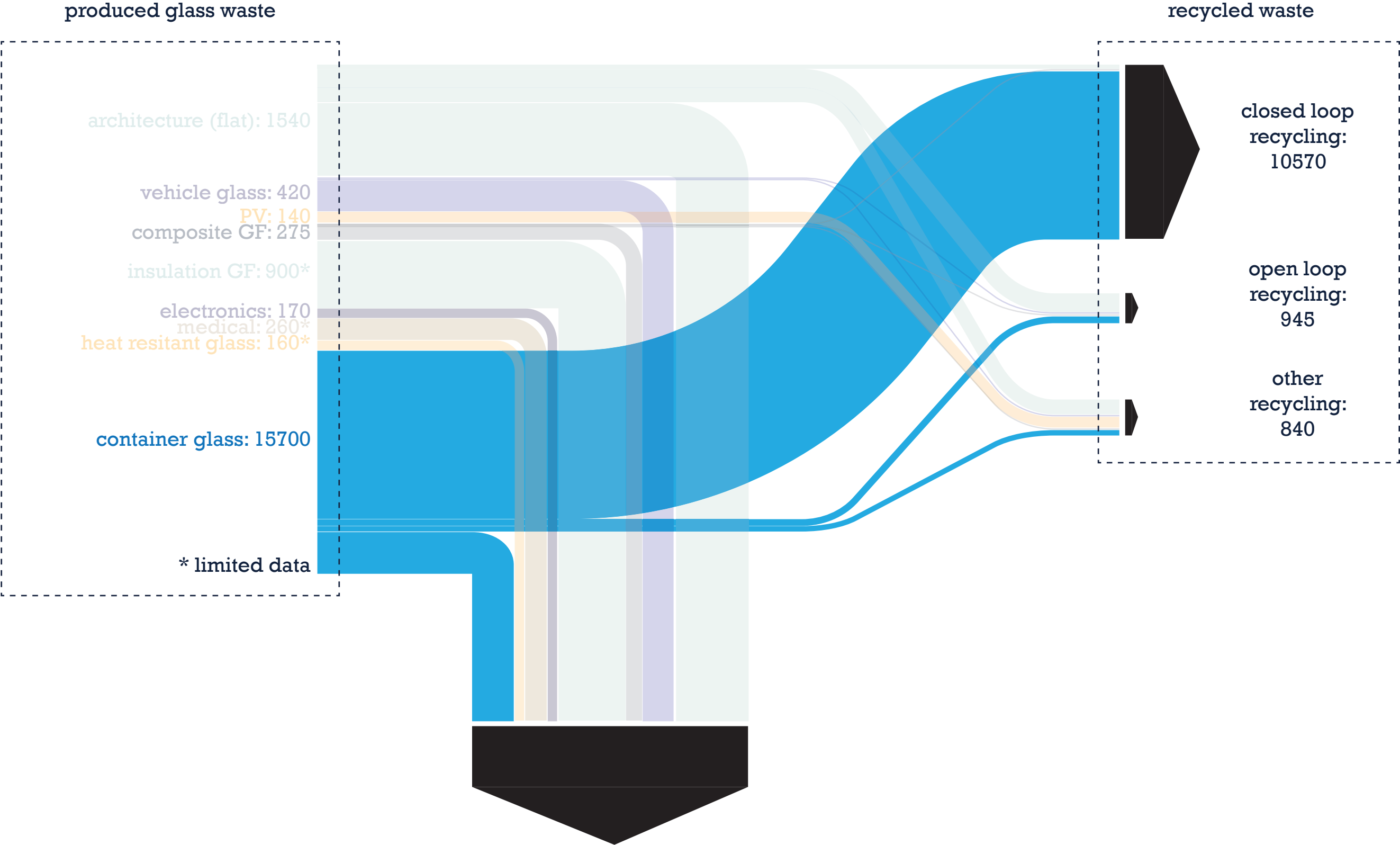
Scheme of glass waste streams, adapted from Lara Neuhaus's presentation "Mapping Glass Waste Streams: Challenges and Incentives for Recycling," presented at the Glass Forum 2025, TU Delft, on March 19.



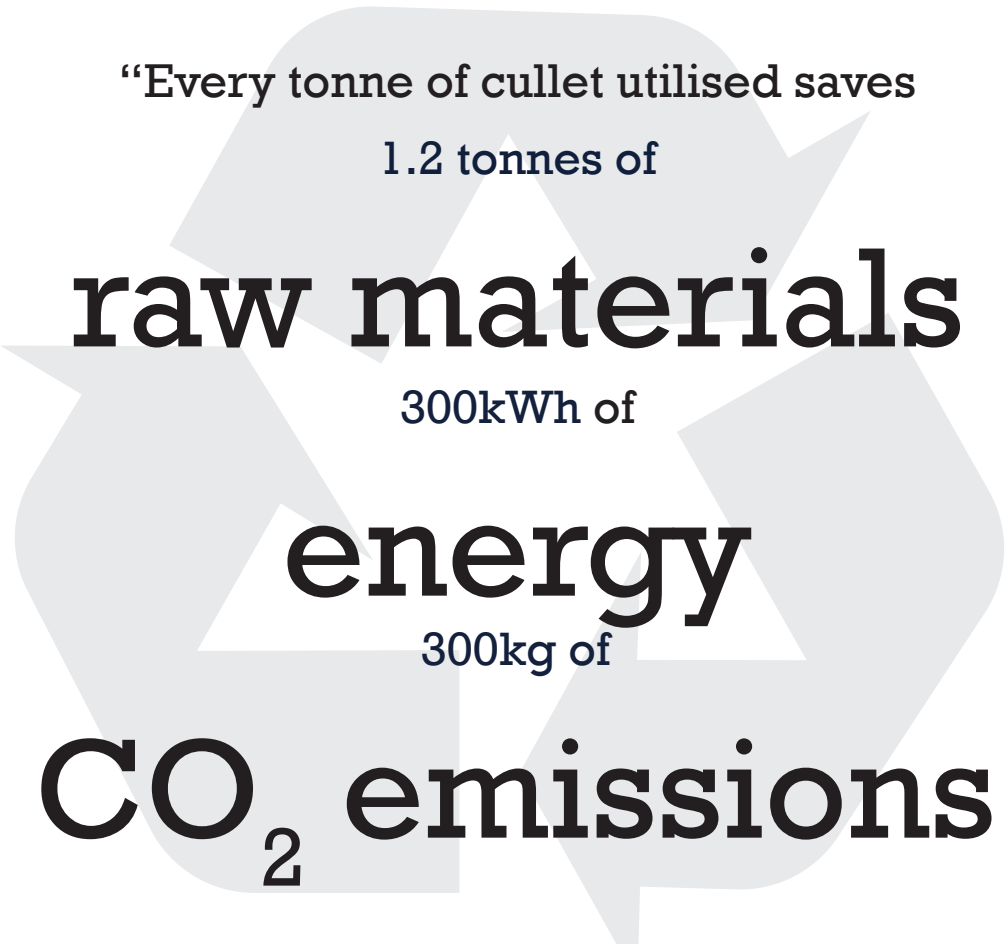
Scheme of glass waste streams, adapted from Lara Neuhaus's presentation "Mapping Glass Waste Streams: Challenges and Incentives for Recycling," presented at the Glass Forum 2025, TU Delft, on March 19.



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Scheme of glass waste streams, adapted from Lara Neuhaus's presentation "Mapping Glass Waste Streams: Challenges and Incentives for Recycling," presented at the Glass Forum 2025, TU Delft, on March 19.



“Every tonne of cullet utilised saves
1.2 tonnes of
raw materials
300kWh of
energy
300kg of
CO₂ emissions”

DeBrincat and Babic, ARUP, 2018

supply-chain challenges



lack of legislations



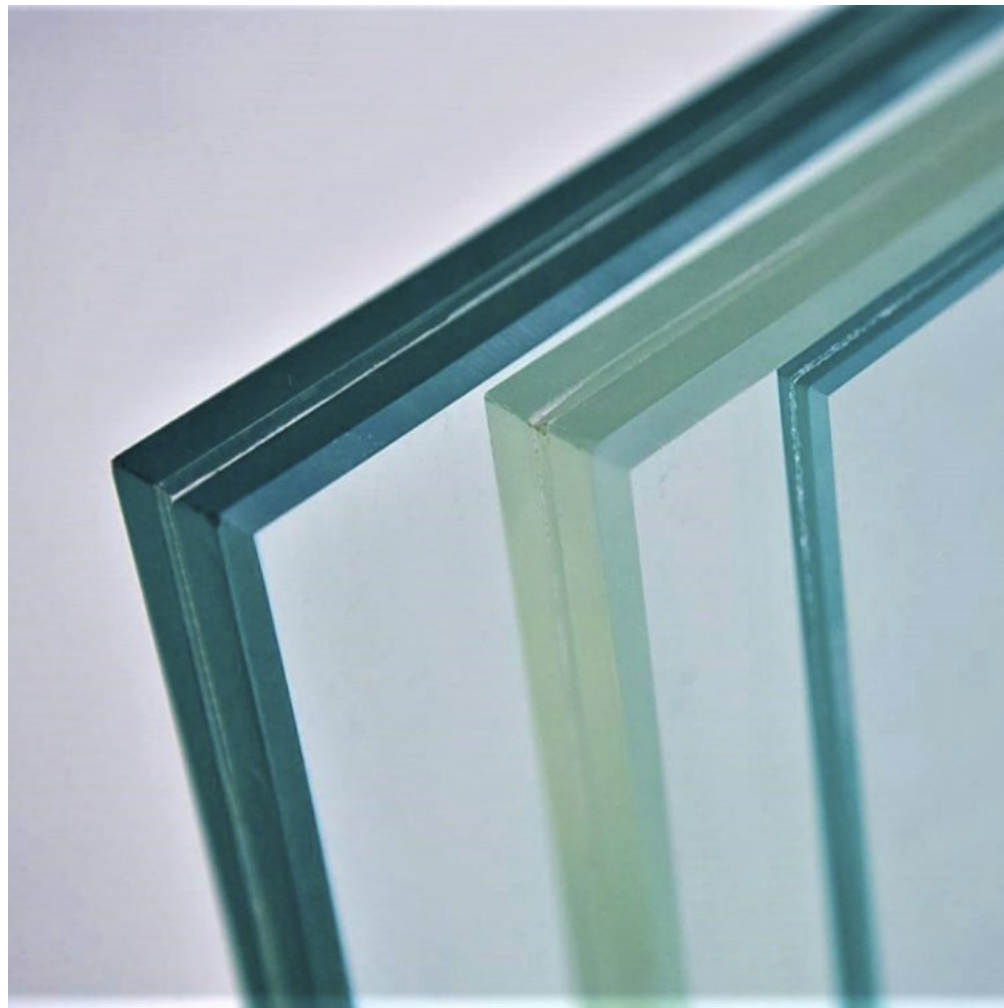
complicated logistics

technical challenges



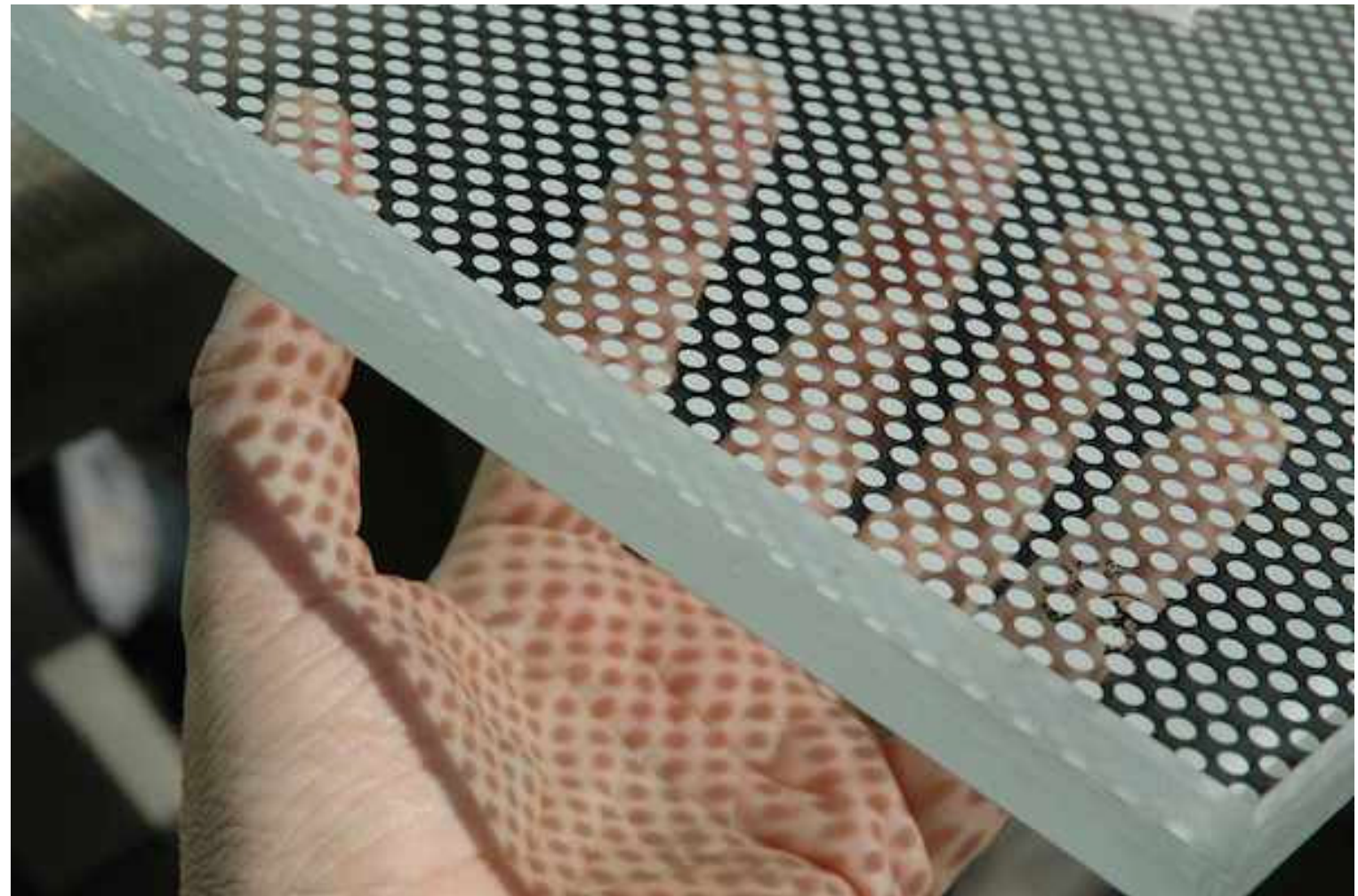
technical challenges

lamination

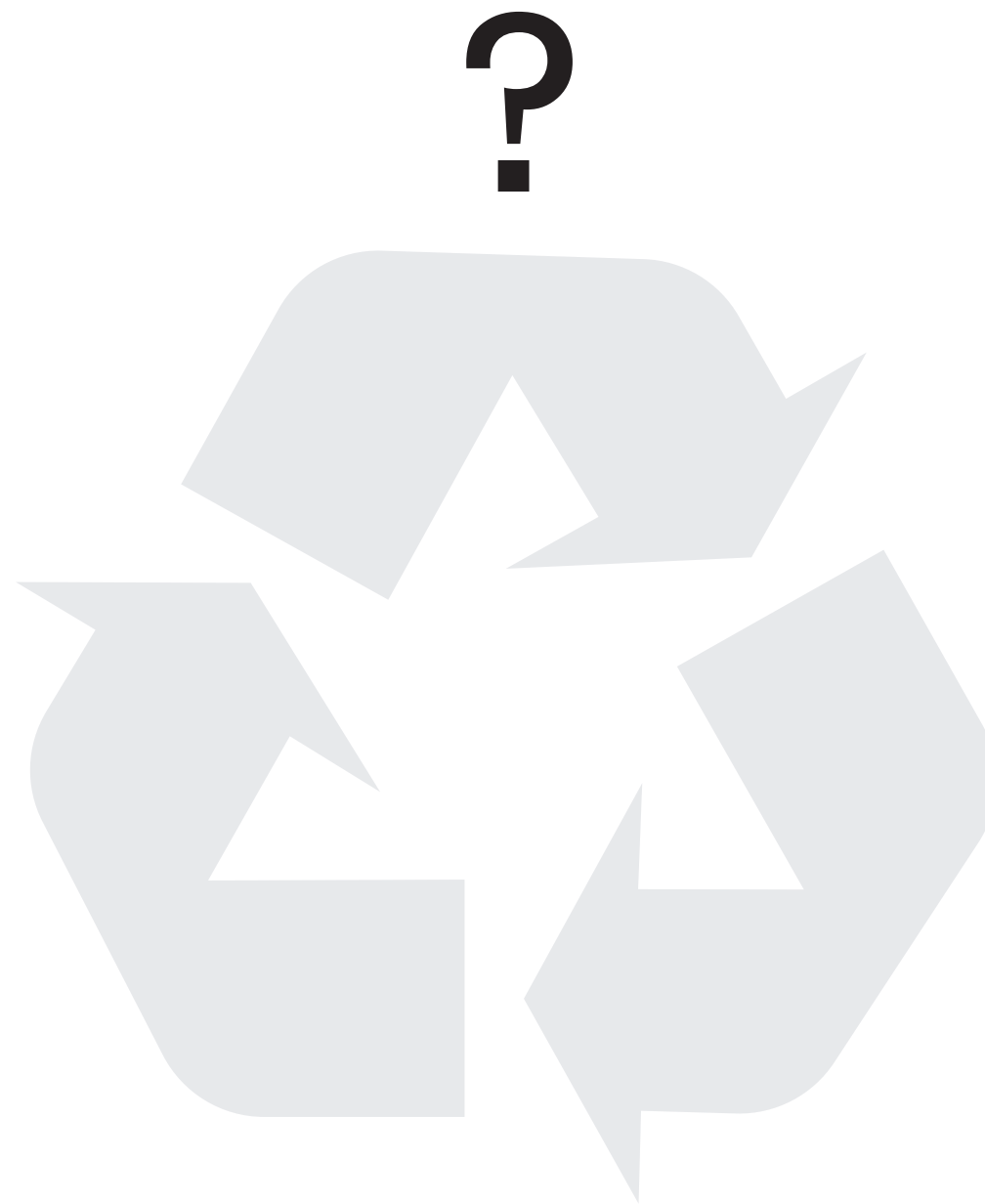


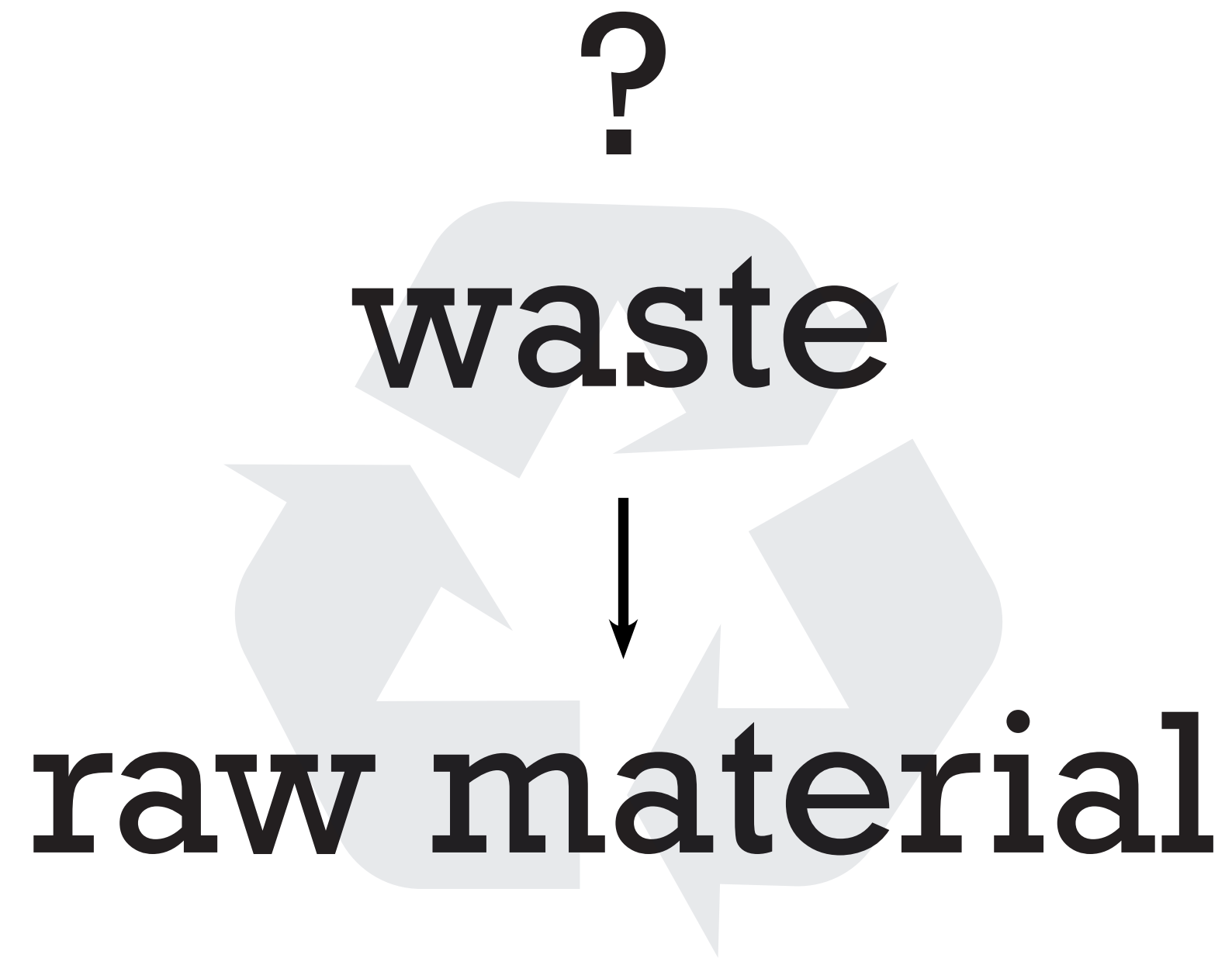
made2measure.co.uk

frittings/coatings

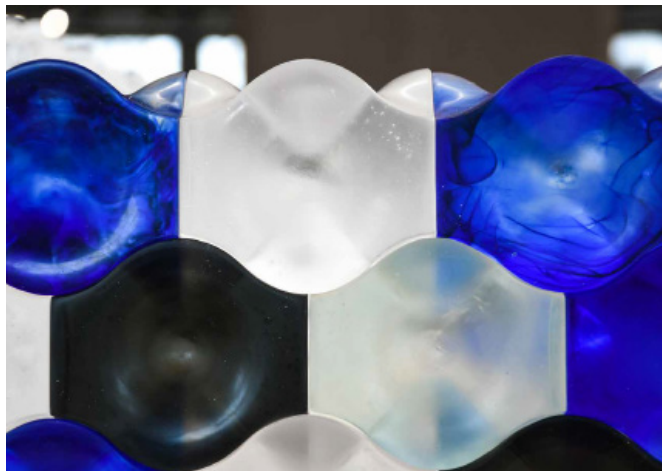


ceramics.org





cast glass



Glass samples of RE3 project, made by Faidra Oikonomopoulou et al., 2018.

foam glass

“In the production of
foam glass, **up to 70%** of the needed
raw material can be
substituted by waste glass”

Hesky et al., 2015

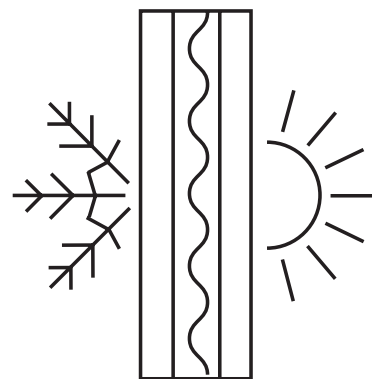


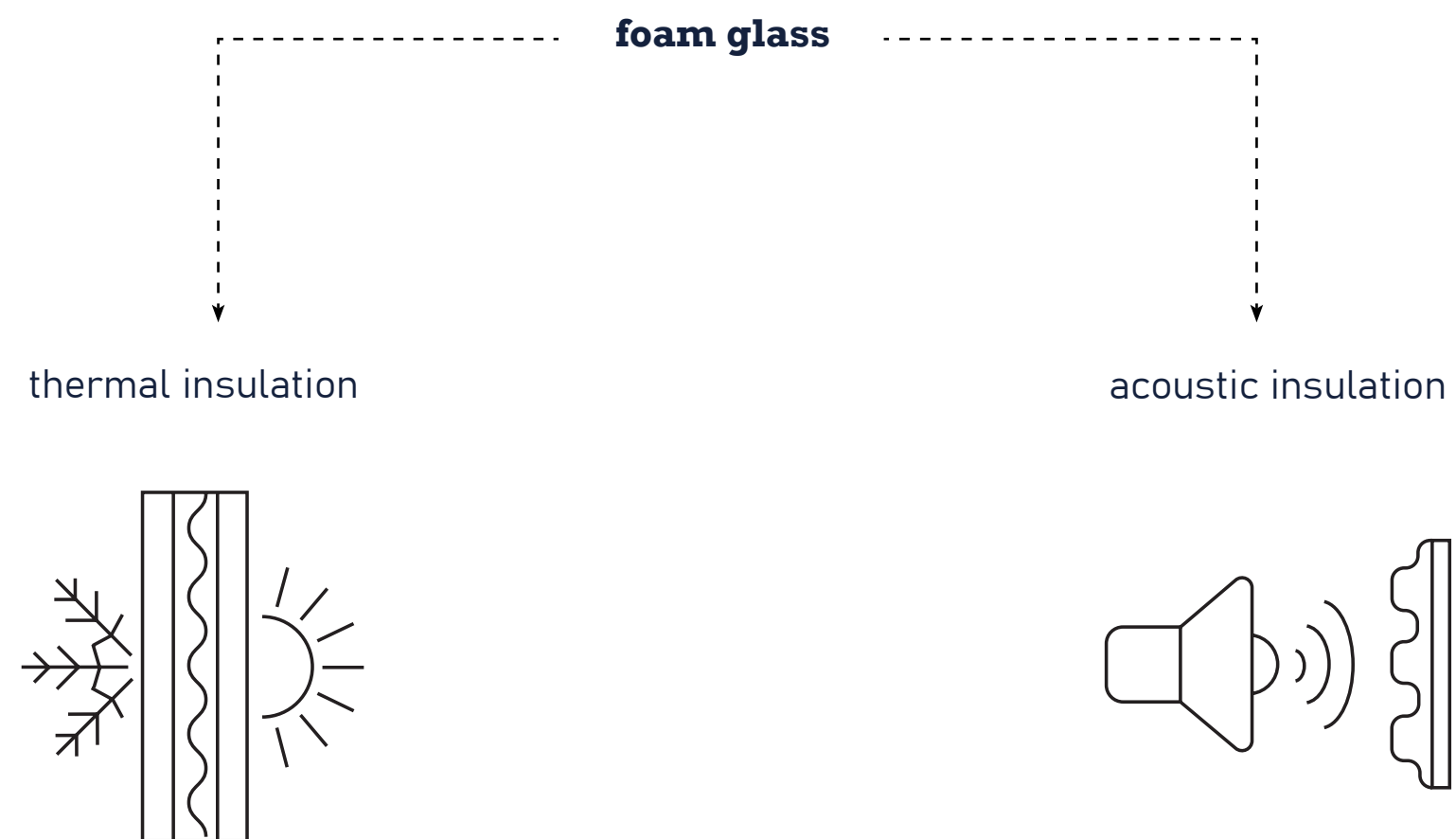


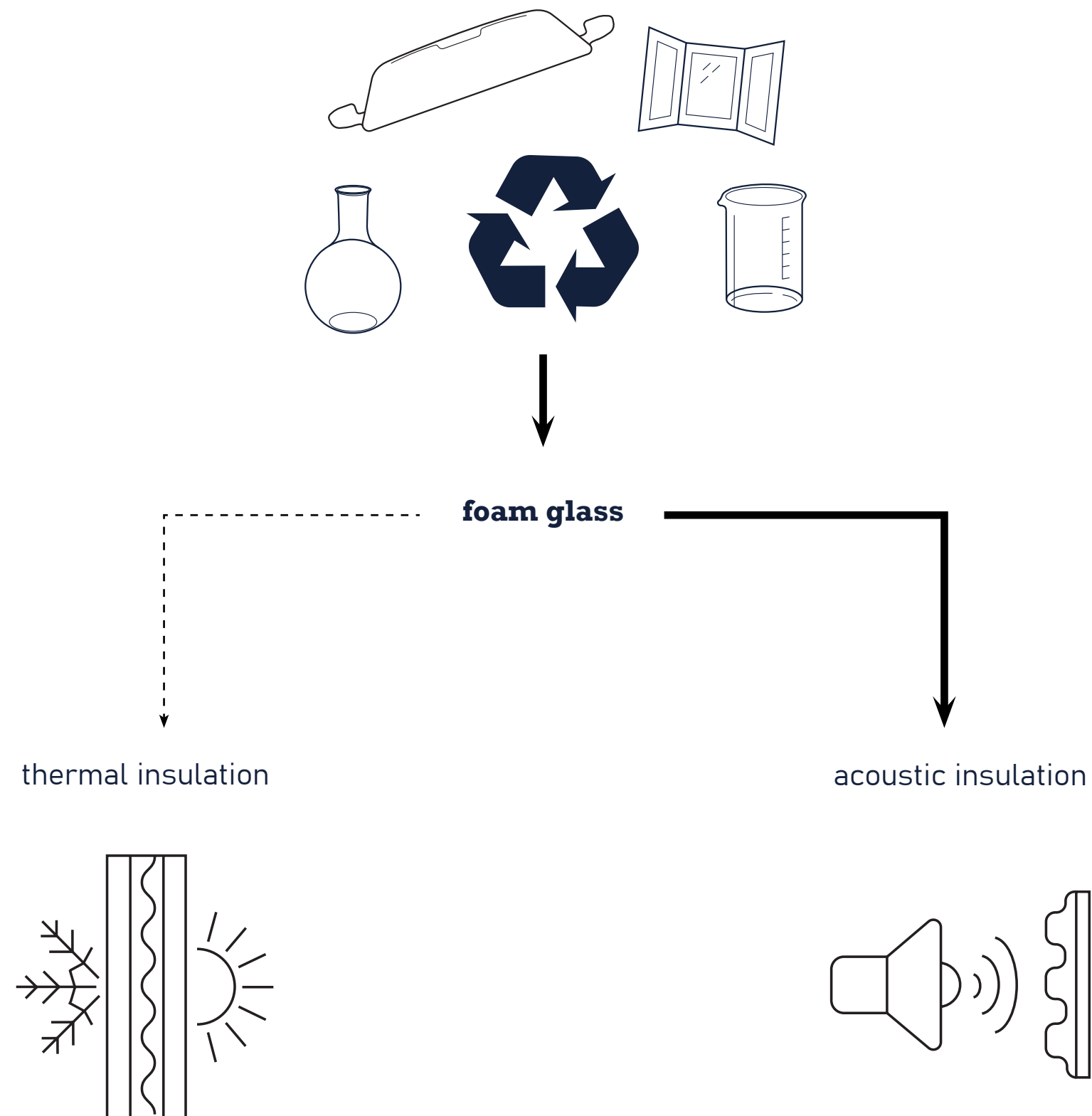
foam glass



thermal insulation

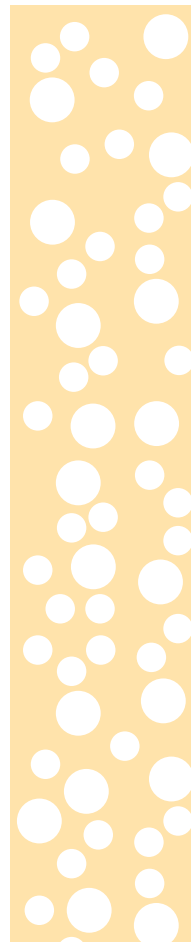




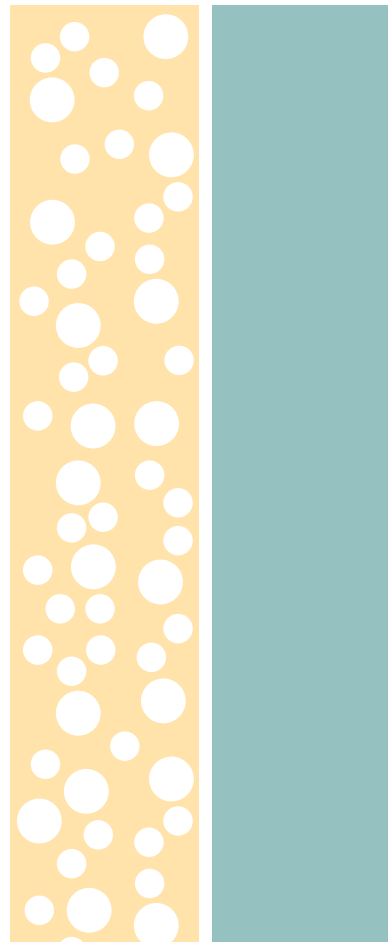




foam glass

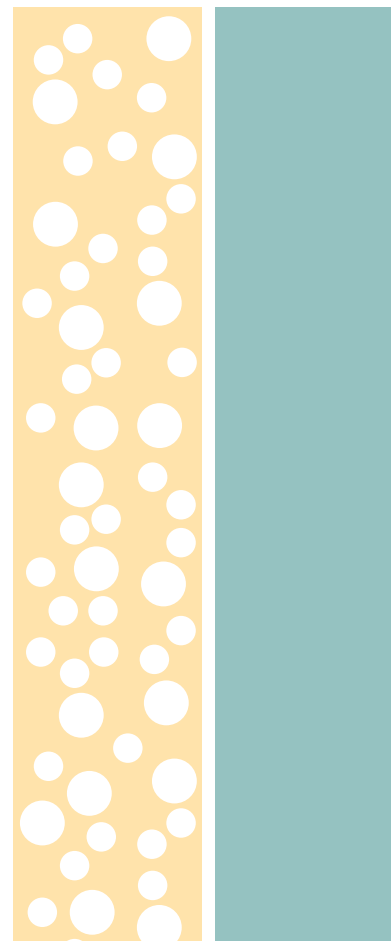


foam glass



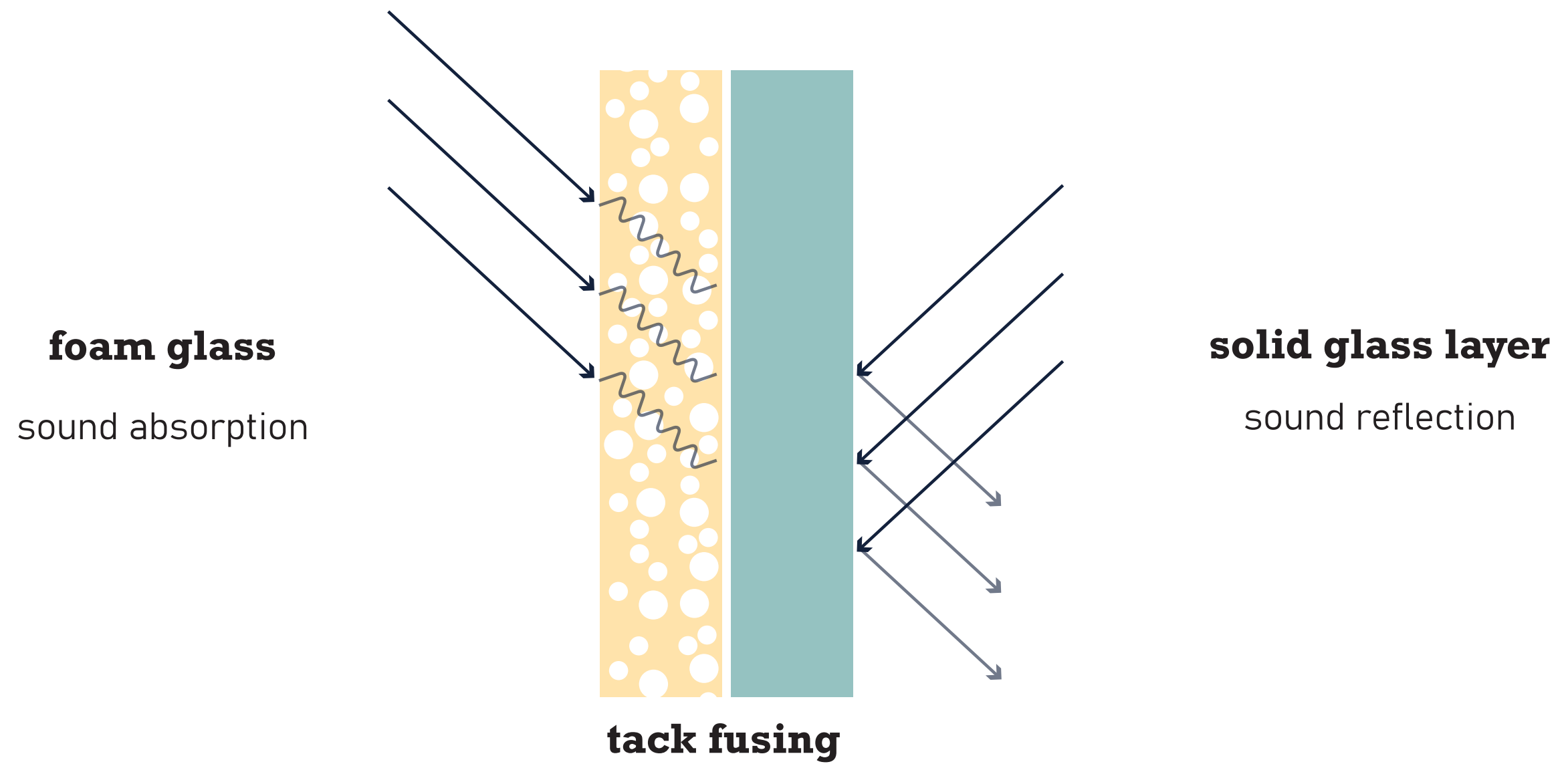
solid glass layer

foam glass



solid glass layer

tack fusing

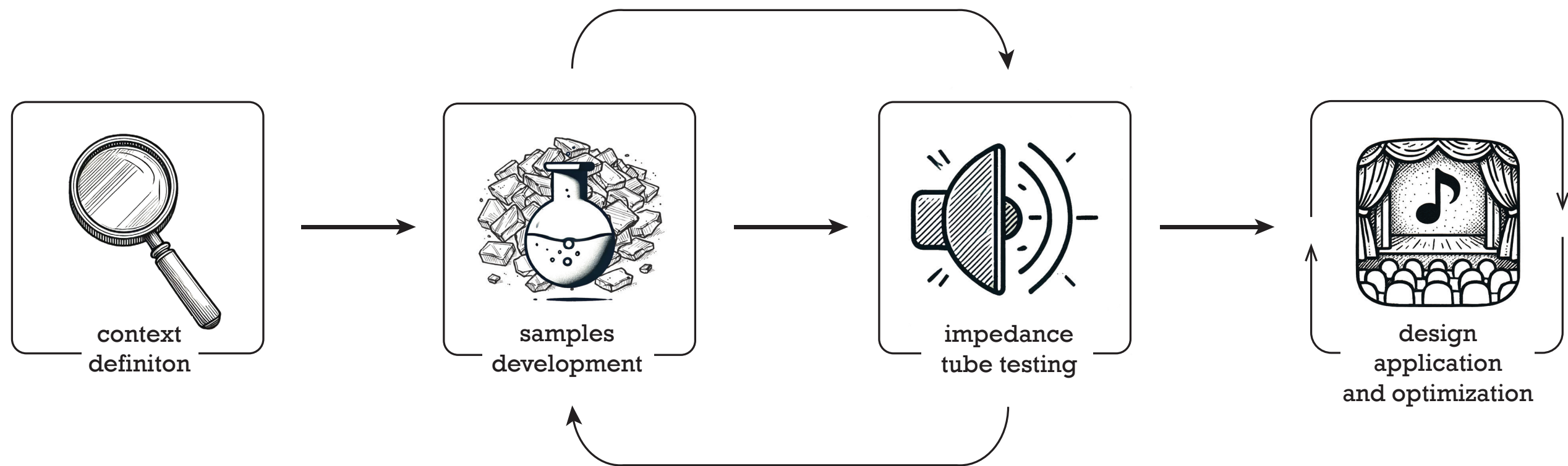


What are the potential and limitations of developing a porous material from glass waste to produce acoustic panels for architectural space?

context definition

experimental research

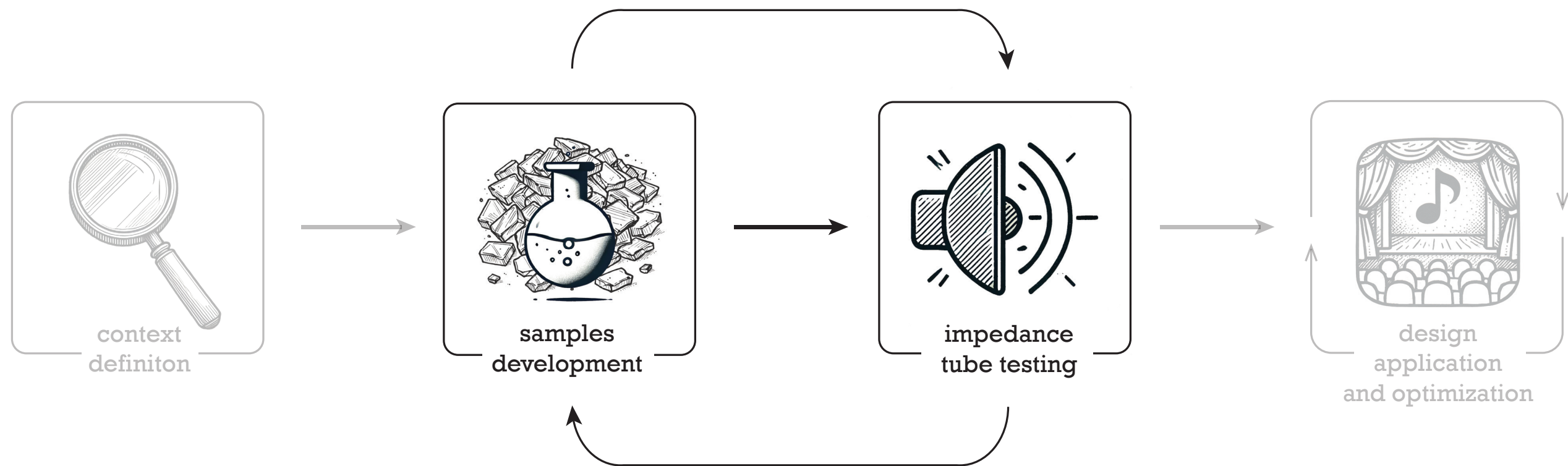
design application



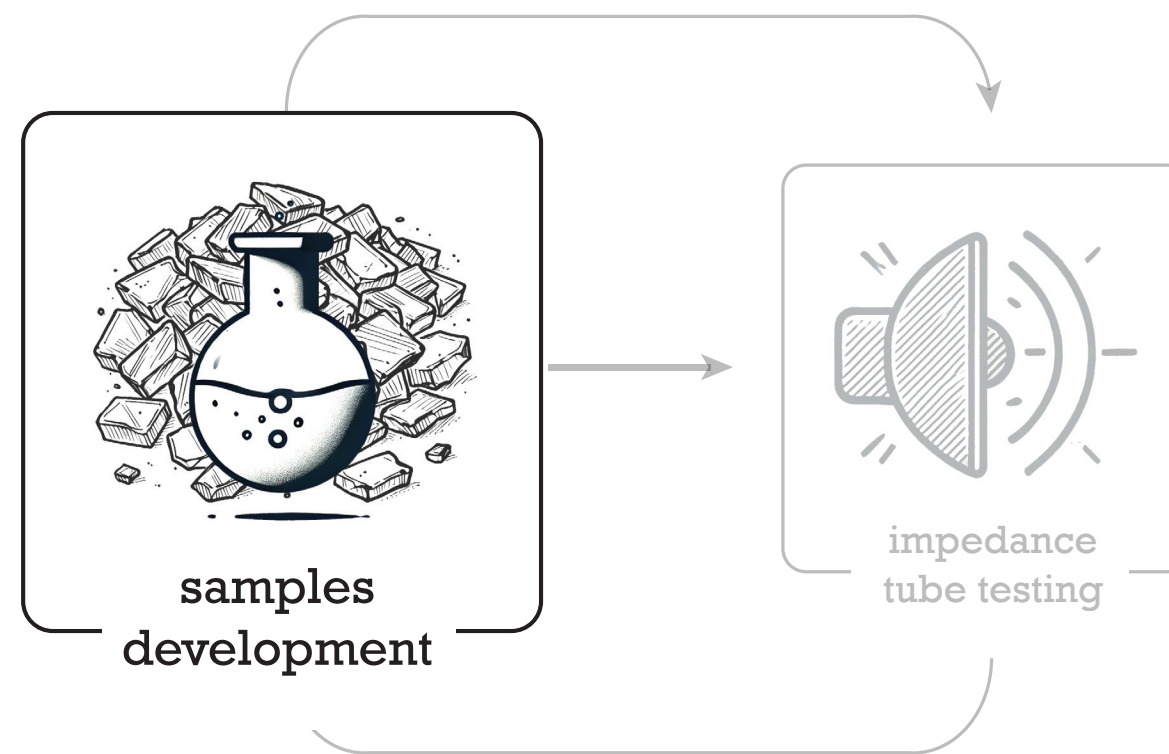
context definition

experimental research

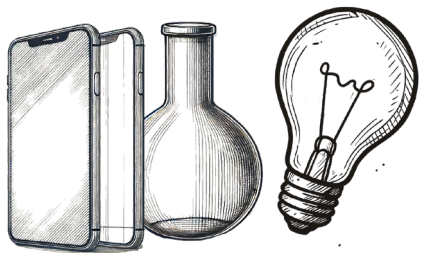
design application



manufacturing



manufacturing



glass waste

+



foaming agent

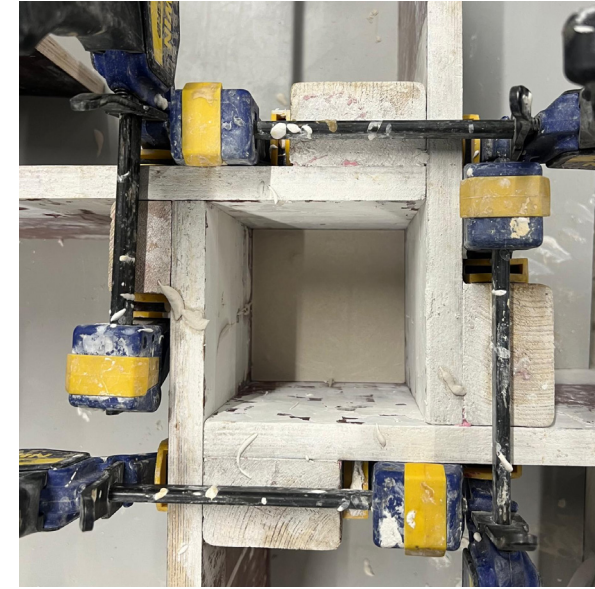
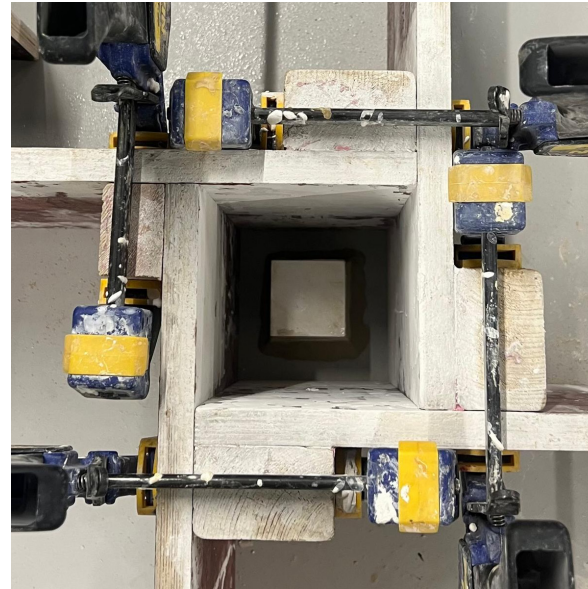
manufacturing



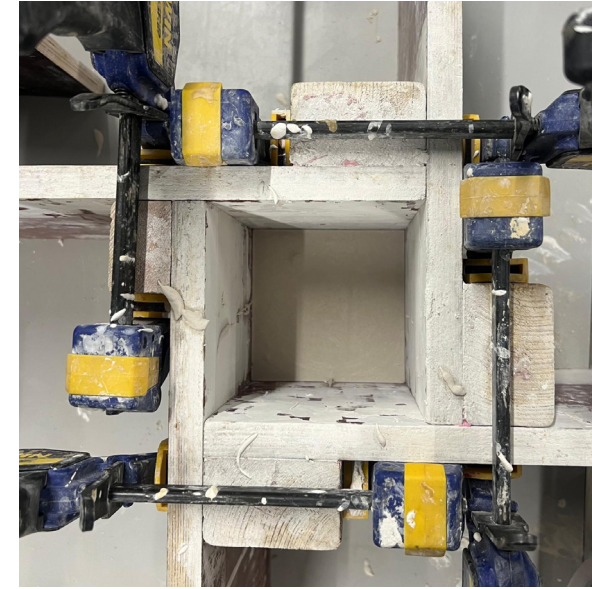
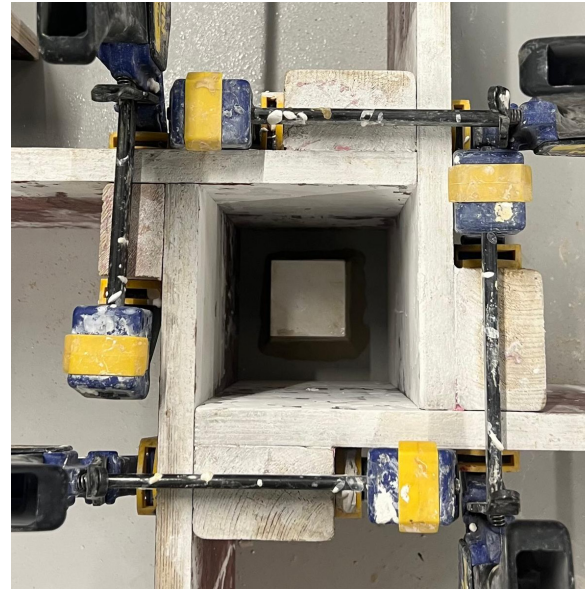
manufacturing



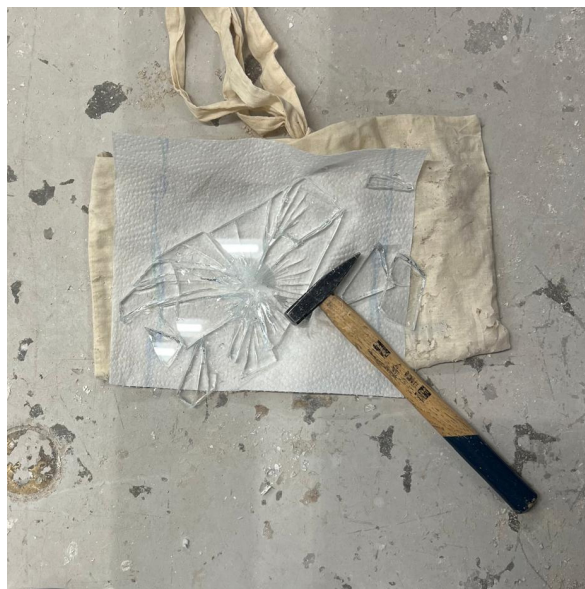
**mould
making**



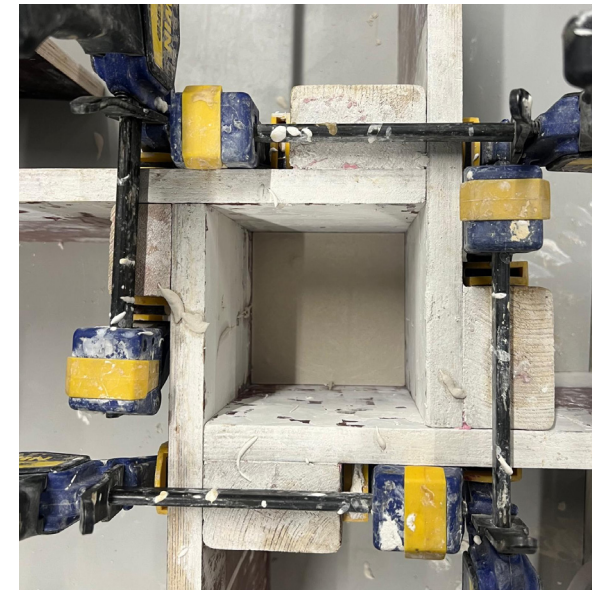
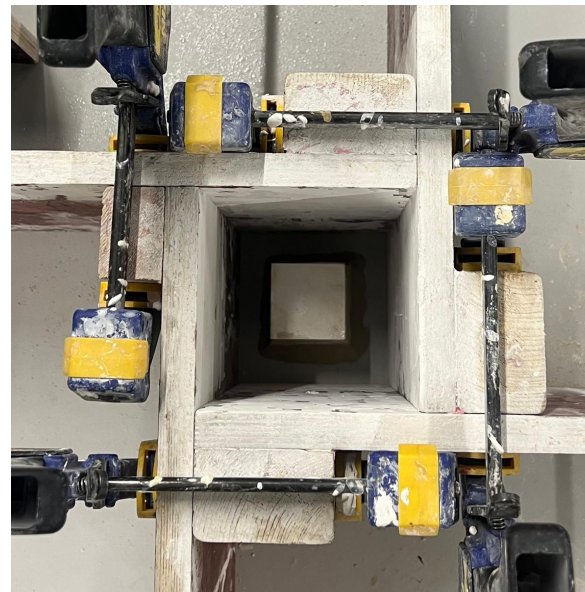
**mould
making**



**cullet
preparation**



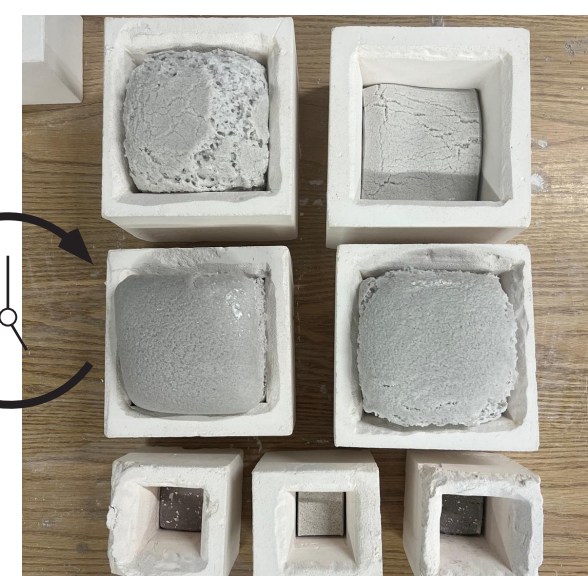
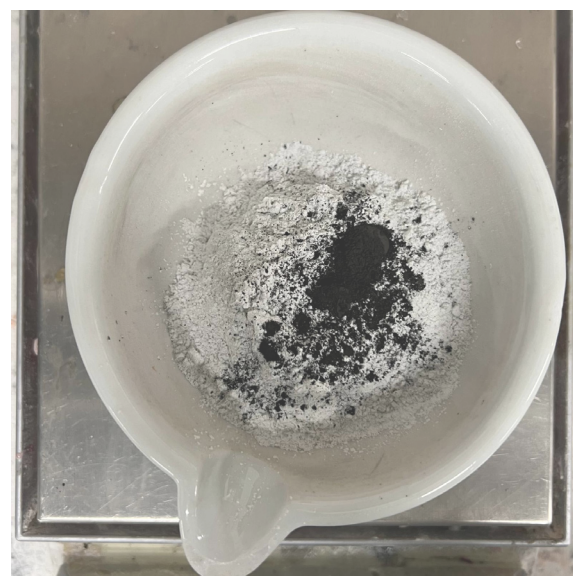
mould making



cullet preparation

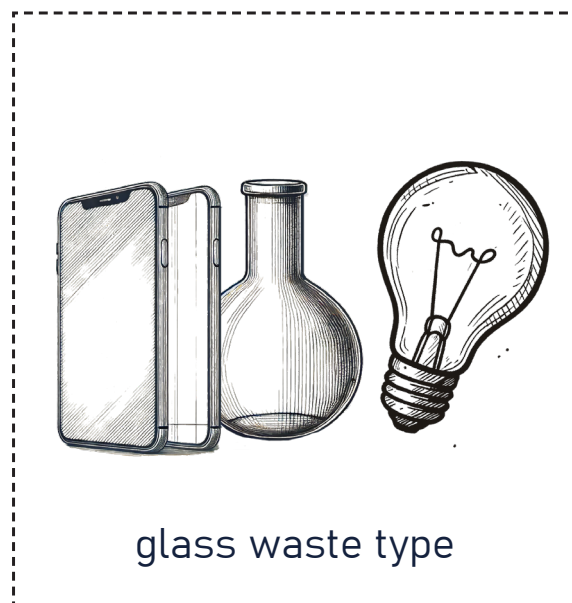


mixing, firing, sample extraction



What affects foaming?

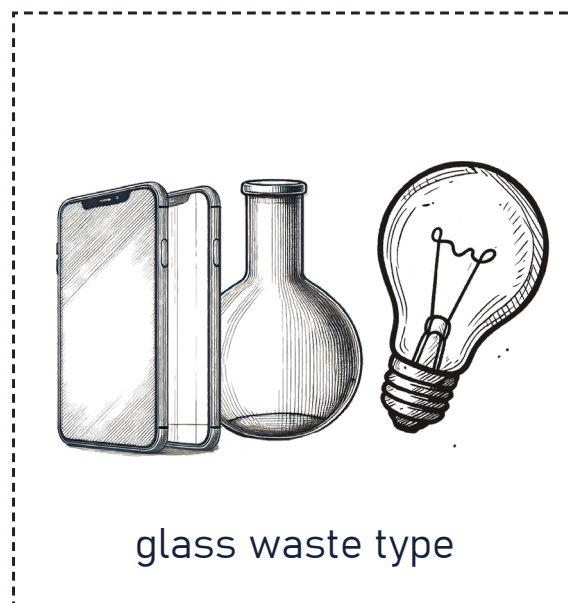
What affects foaming?



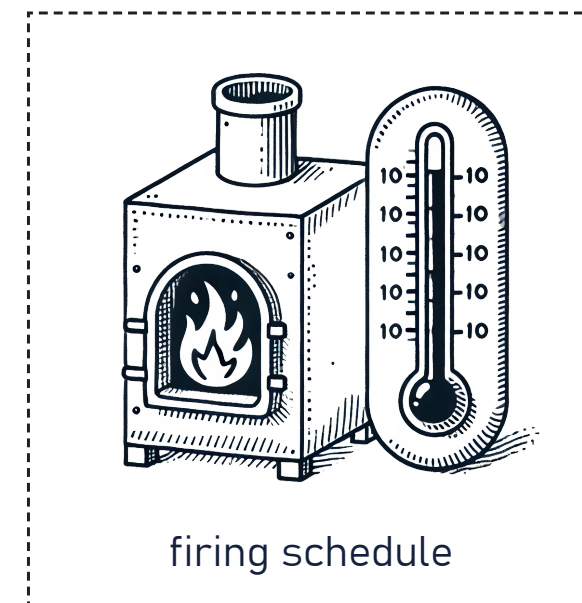
+



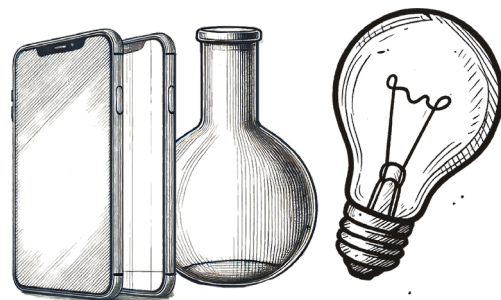
What affects foaming?



+



What affects foaming?

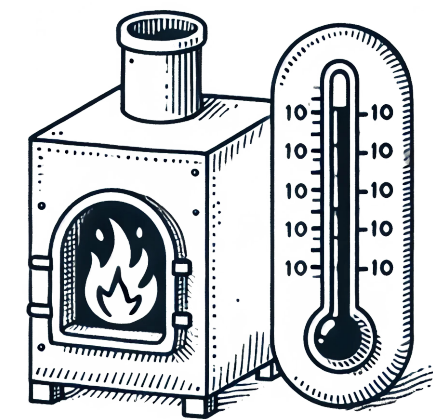


glass waste type

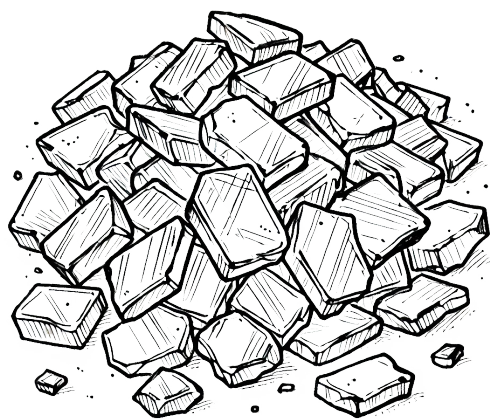
+



foaming agent



firing schedule

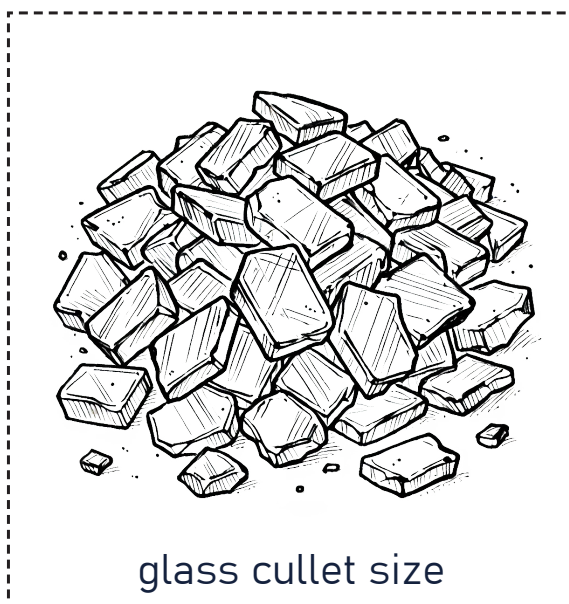
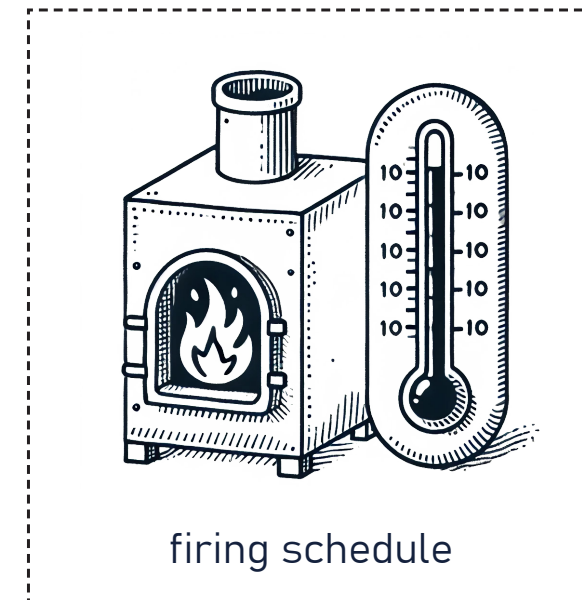


glass cullet size

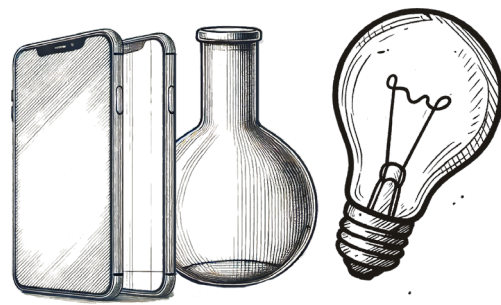
What affects foaming?



+



What affects foaming?

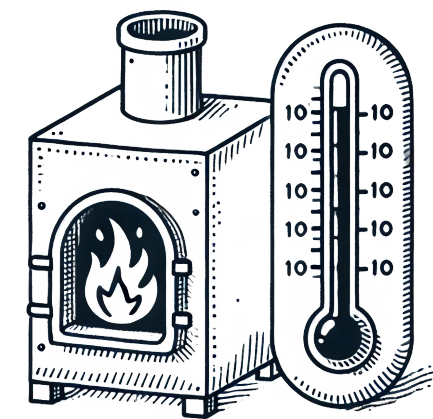


glass waste type

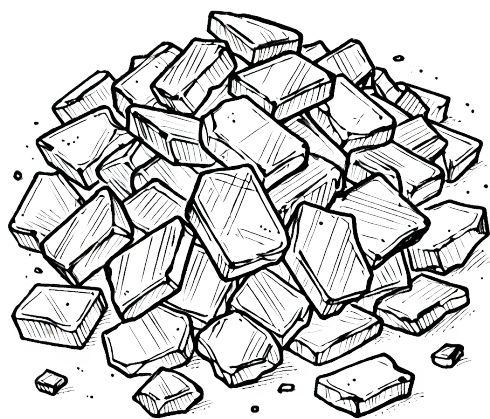
+



foaming agent



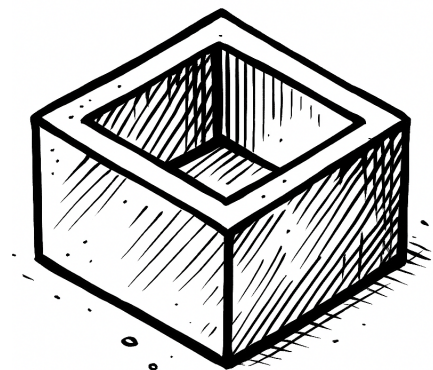
firing schedule



glass cullet size

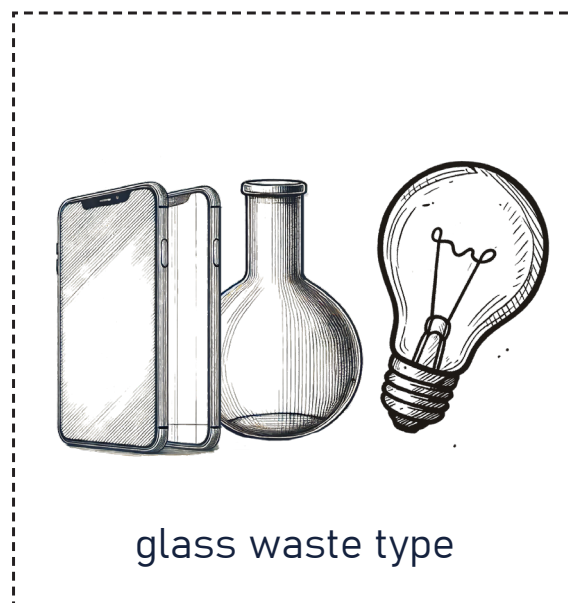


foaming agent
particle size

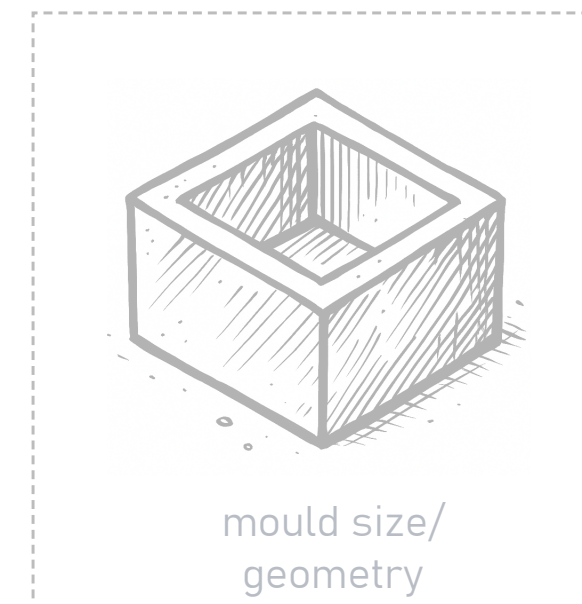
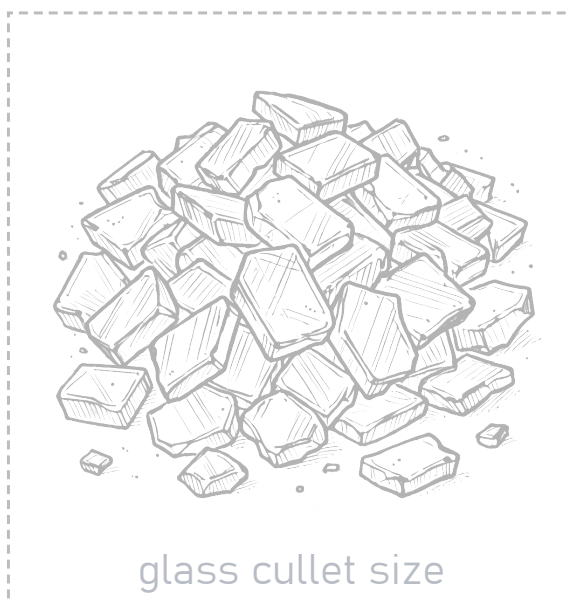
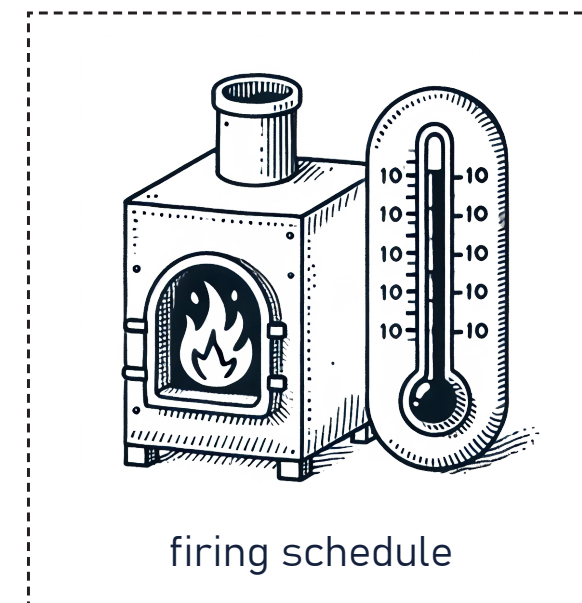


mould size/
geometry

What affects foaming?



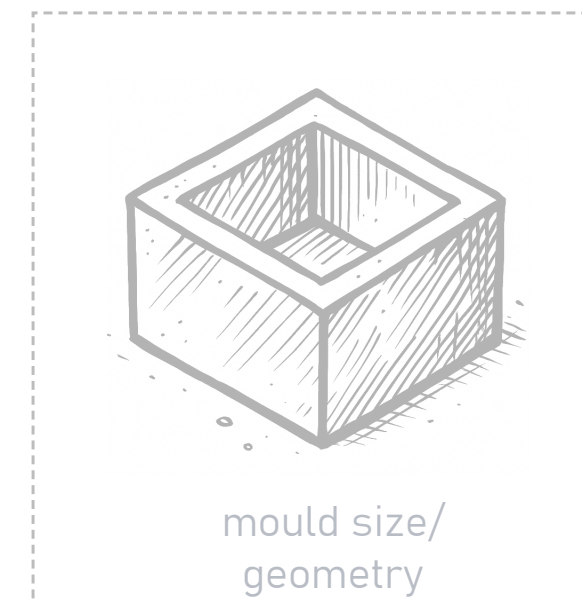
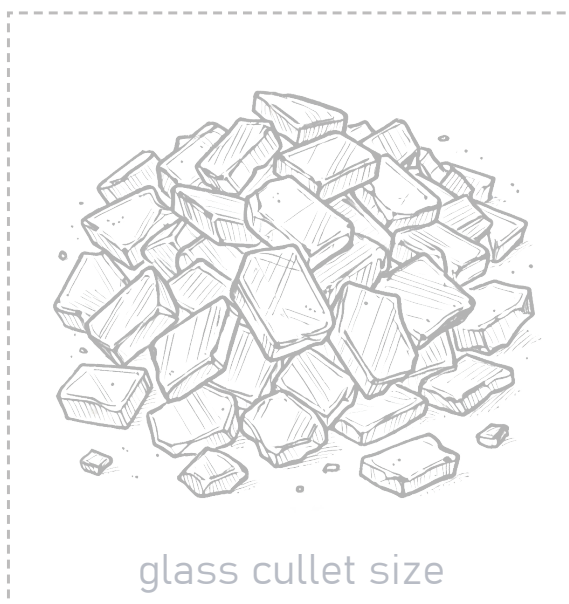
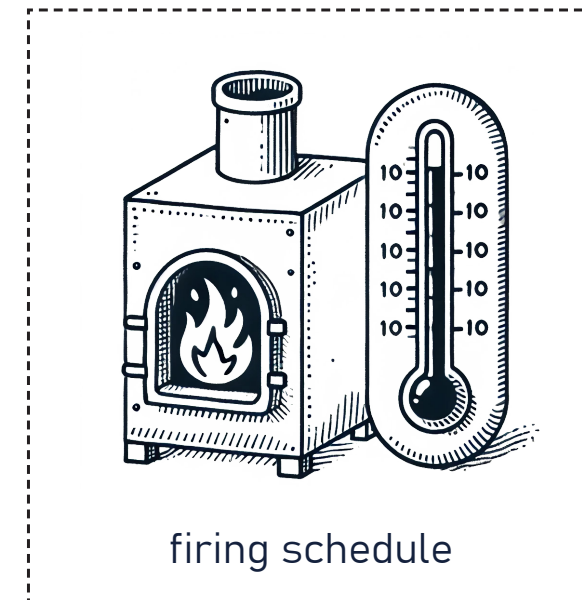
+



What affects foaming?



+



tested parameters
glass (waste) type

SODA LIME

low-iron soda lime



SODA LIME

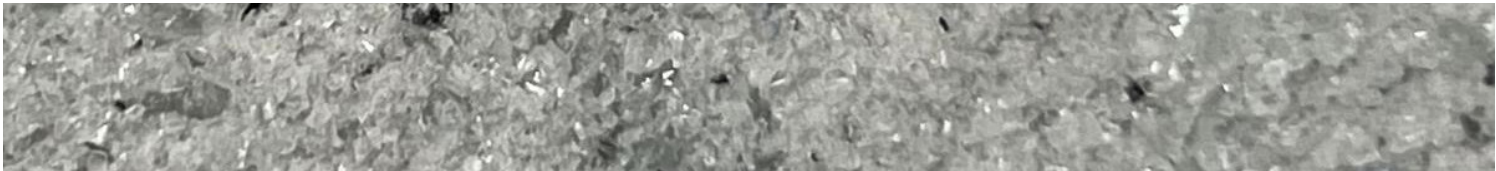
tested parameters

glass (waste) type

low-iron soda lime



automotive



SODA LIME

tested parameters

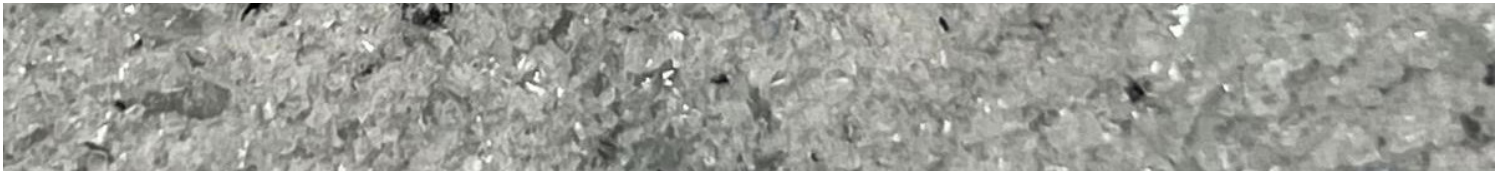
glass (waste) type

SODA LIME

low-iron soda lime



automotive



Cyclon mix



tested parameters

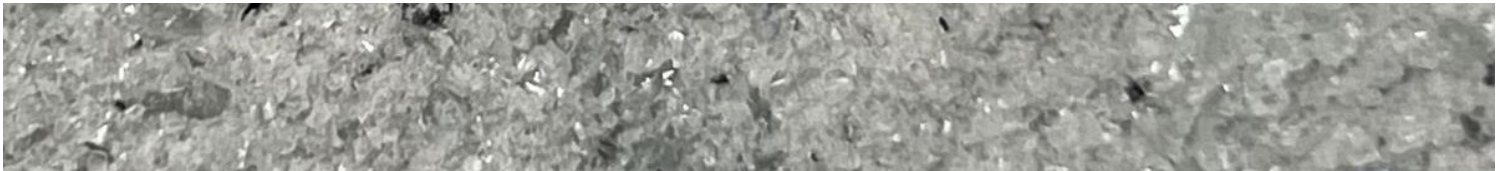
glass (waste) type

SODA LIME

low-iron soda lime



automotive



Cyclon mix



mix

light bulbs



mixed cullet



tested parameters

glass (waste) type

SODA LIME

low-iron soda lime



automotive



Cyclon mix



mix

light bulbs



mixed cullet



ALUMINOSILICATE

mobile phone
screens

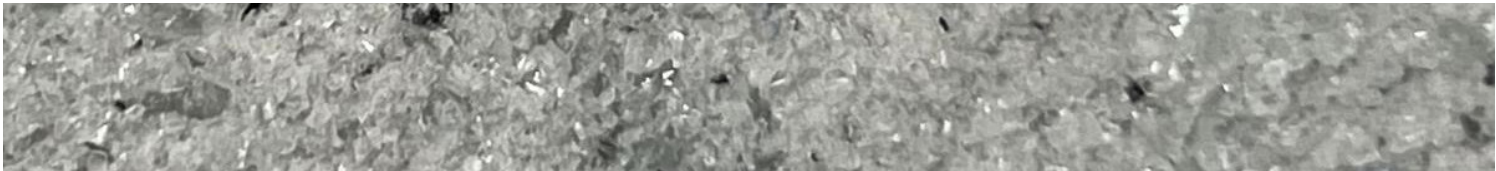


SODA LIME

low-iron soda lime



automotive



Cyclon mix



mix

light bulbs



mixed cullet



ALUMINOSILICATE

mobile phone
screens



tested parameters

glass (waste) type

SODA LIME

low-iron soda lime



automotive



Cyclon mix



mix

light bulbs



mixed cullet



ALUMINOSILICATE

mobile phone
screens



tested parameters

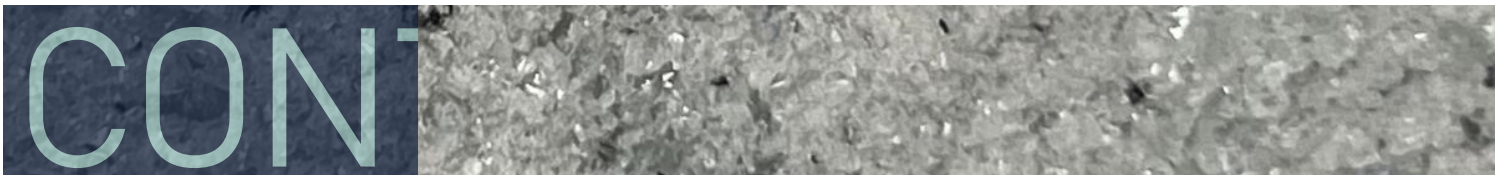
glass (waste) type

SODA LIME

low-iron soda lime



automotive



Cyclon mix



mix

light bulbs



mixed cullet



ALUMINOSILICATE

mobile phone
screens



tested parameters

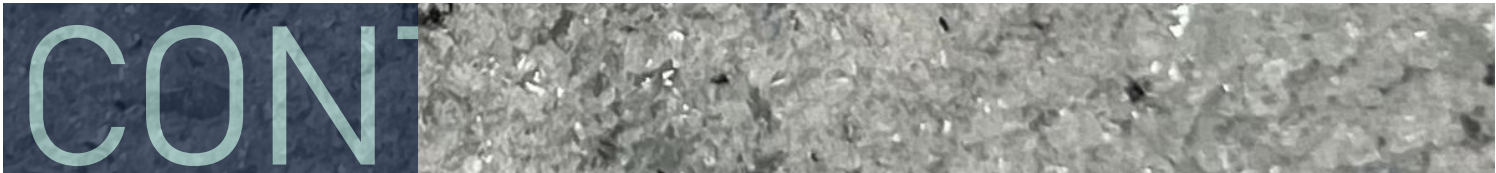
glass (waste) type

SODA LIME

low-iron soda lime



automotive



Cyclon mix



mix

light bulbs



mixed cullet

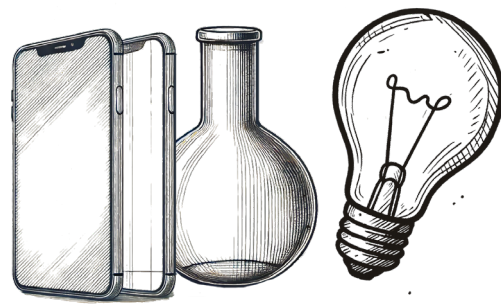


ALUMINOSILICATE

mobile phone
screens



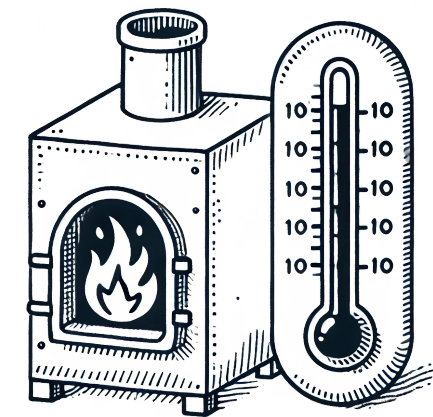
What affects foaming?



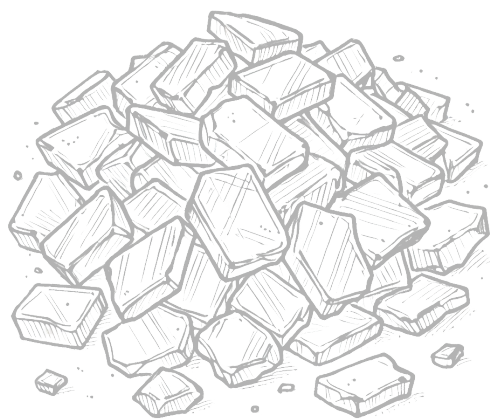
glass waste type



foaming agent



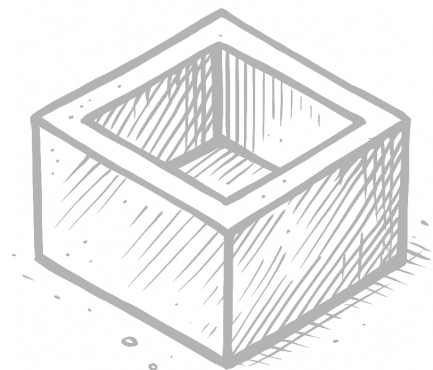
firing schedule



glass cullet size



foaming agent
particle size



mould size/
geometry

tested parameters

foaming agent

INORGANIC

calcium carbonate	CaCO_3		1 - 15 wt %
manganese dioxide	MnO_2		5, 10 wt %
carbon black	C		1 - 5 wt %
dicalcium phosphate	CaHPO_4		0.3 - 1.6 wt %

ORGANIC

tested parameters

foaming agent

INORGANIC

calcium carbonate



1 - 15 wt %

manganese dioxide



5, 10 wt %

carbon black



1 - 5 wt %

dicalcium phosphate



0.3 - 1.6 wt %

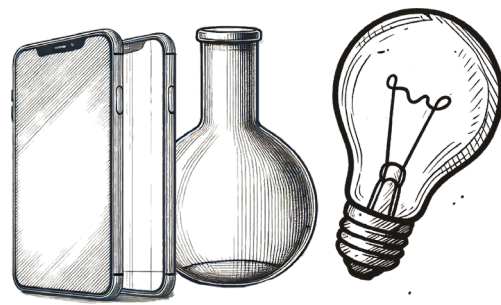
ORGANIC

eggshells



1 - 5 wt %

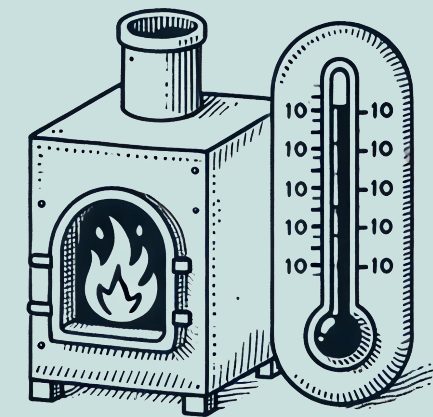
What affects foaming?



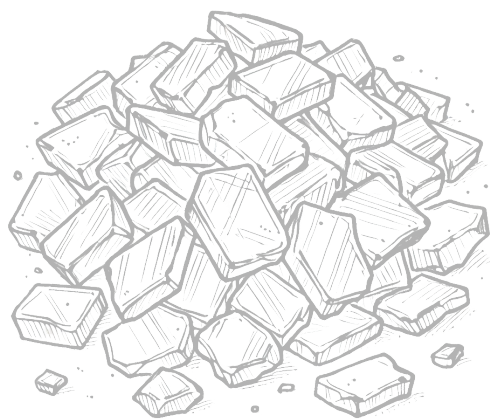
glass waste type



foaming agent



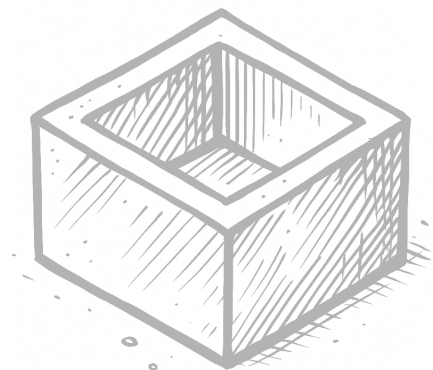
firing schedule



glass cullet size



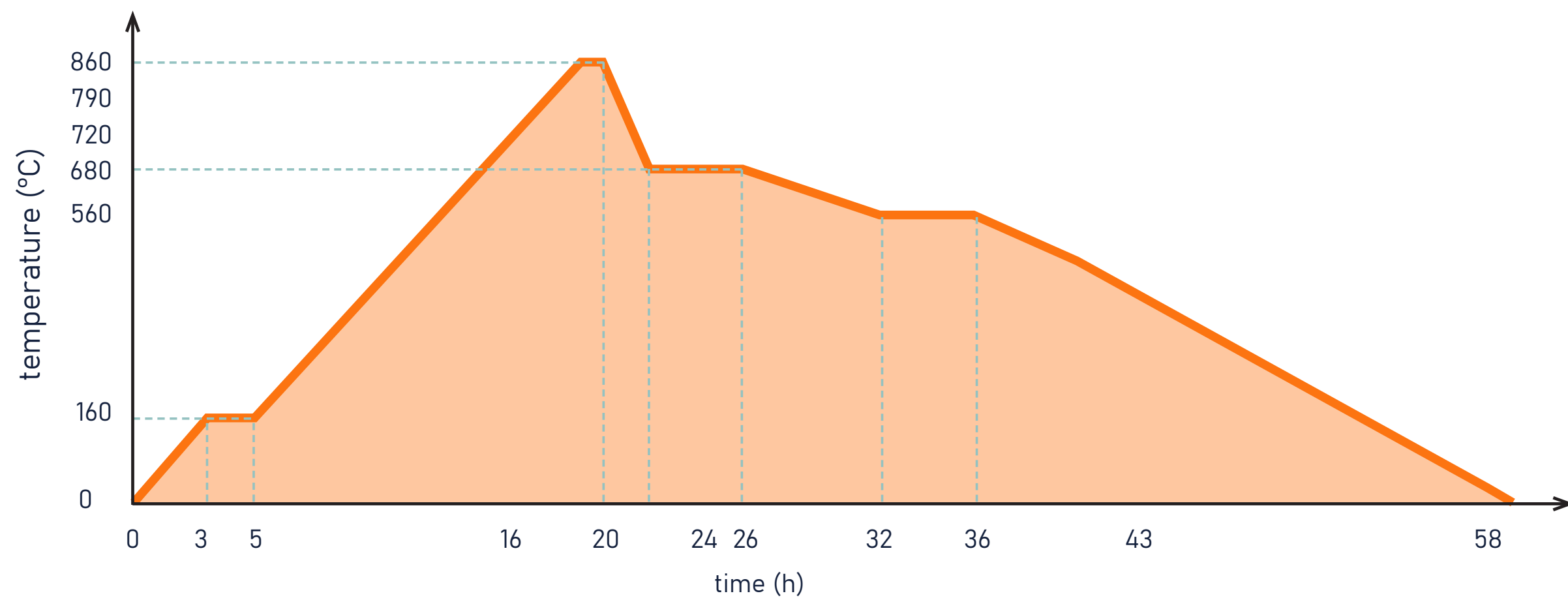
foaming agent
particle size

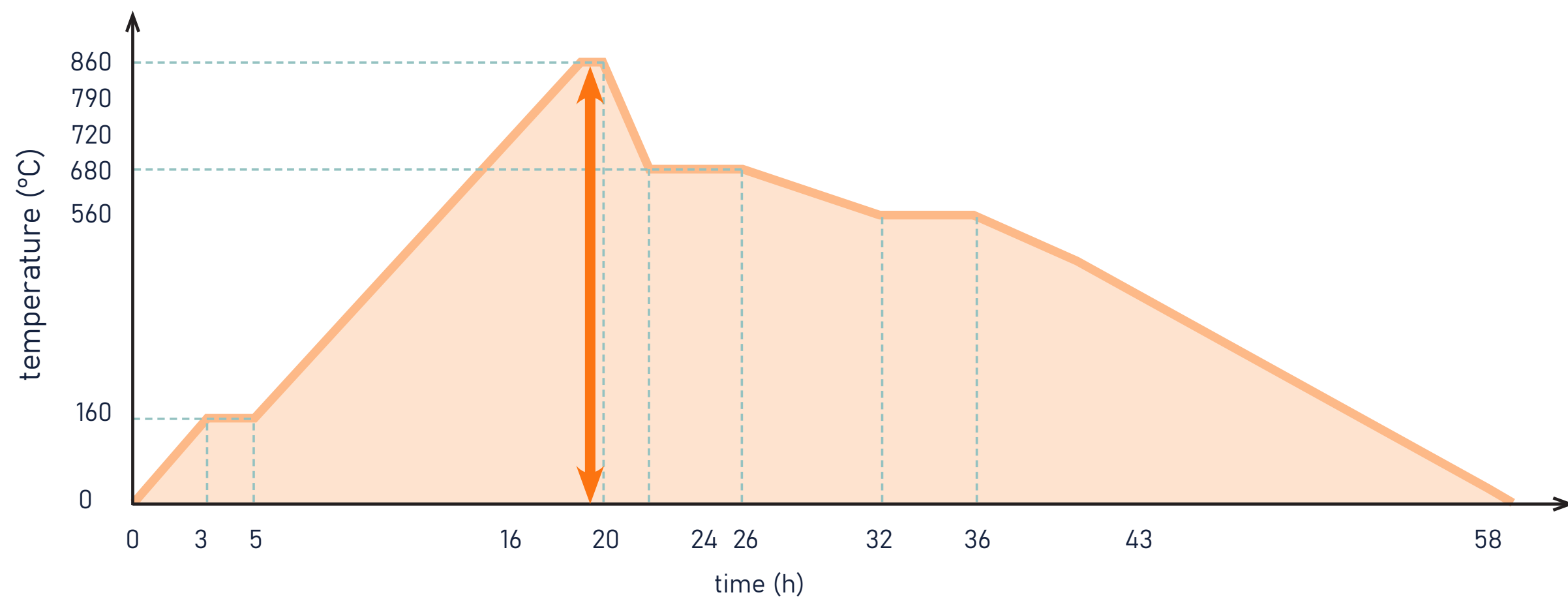


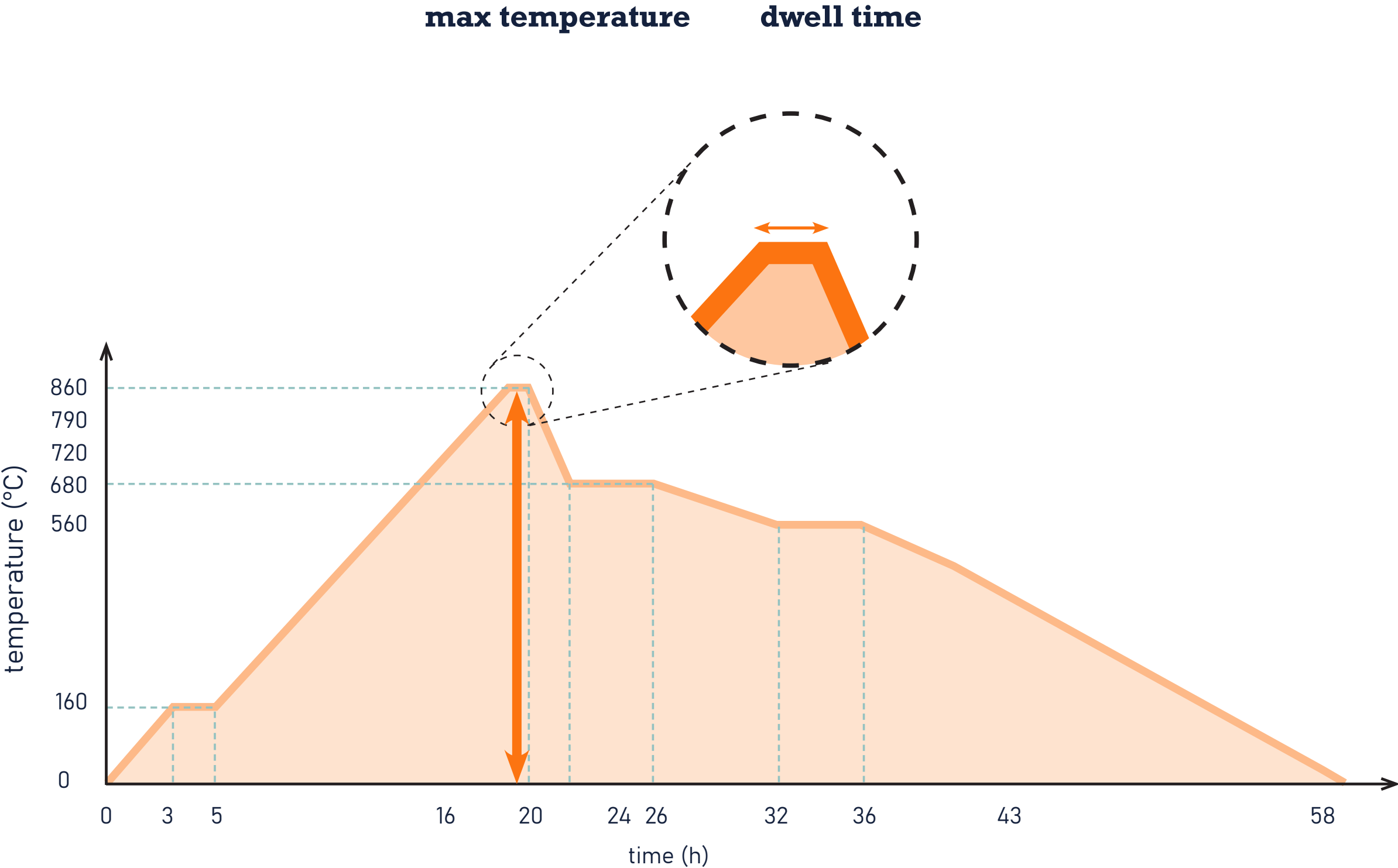
mould size/
geometry

tested parameters

firing schedule



max temperature



tested parameters

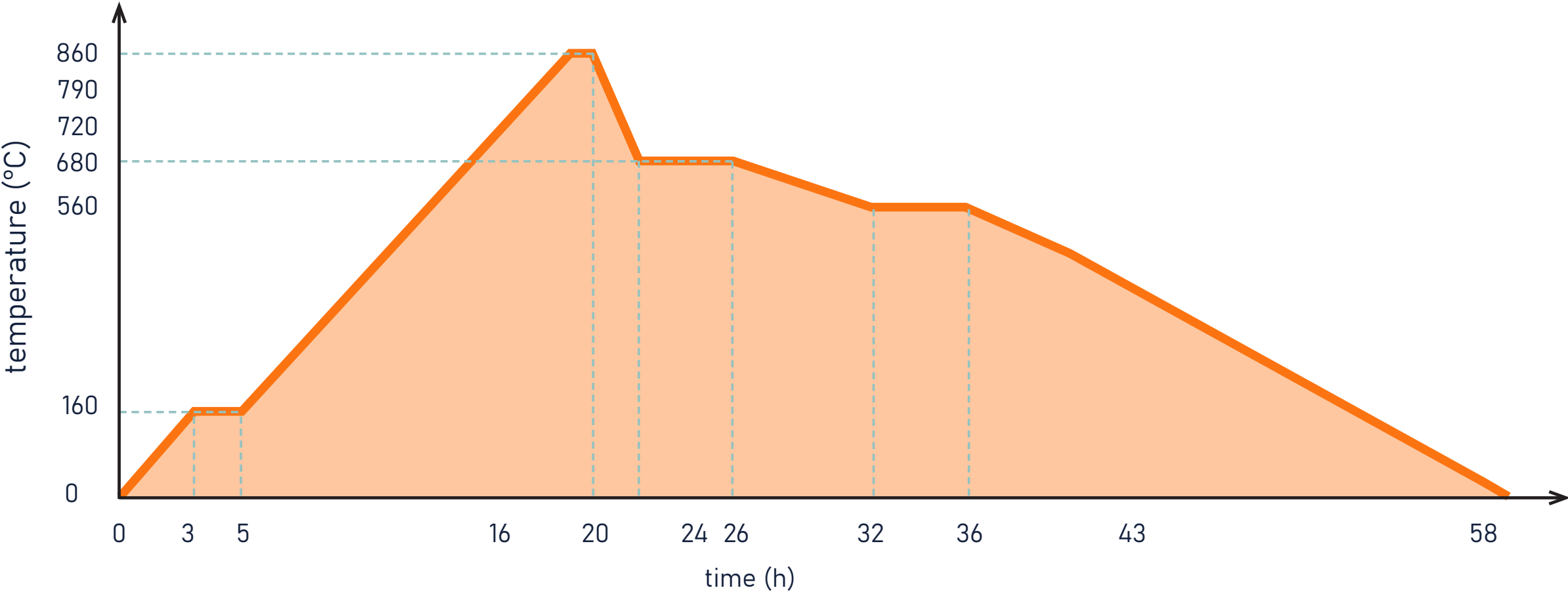
firing schedule

max temperature

860°C

dwel time

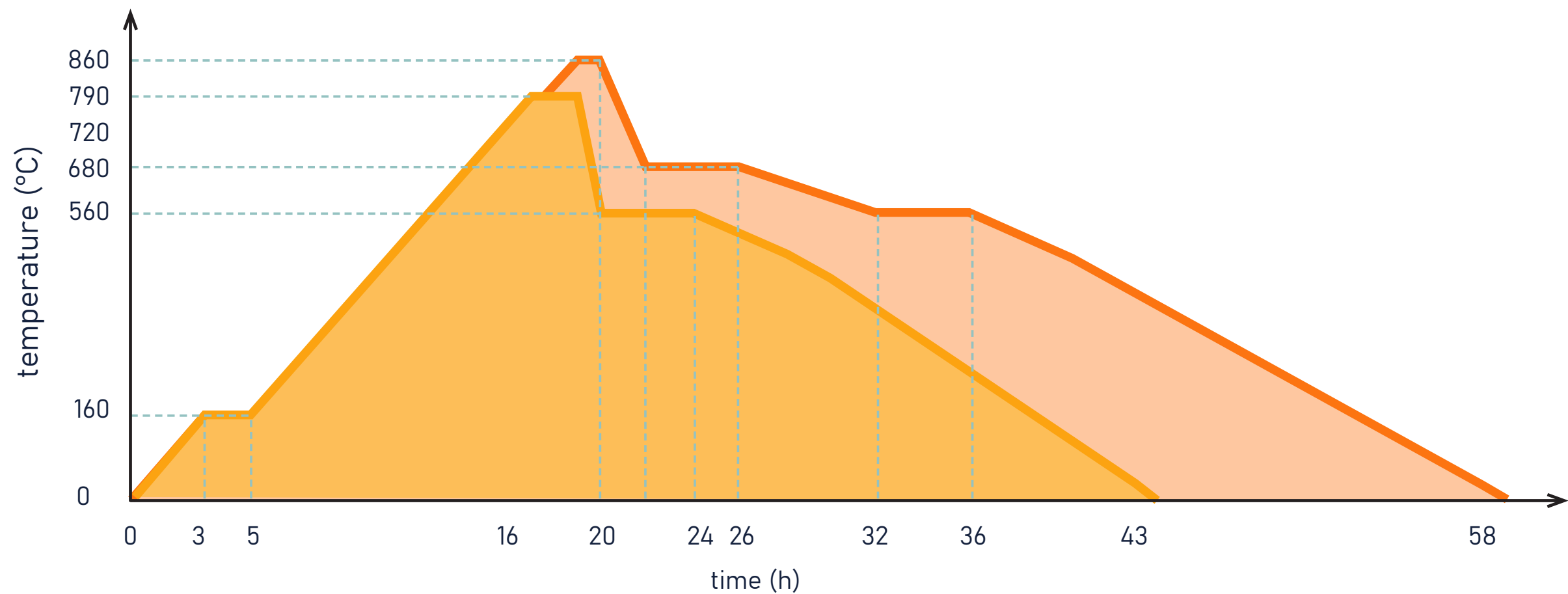
1h



tested parameters

firing schedule

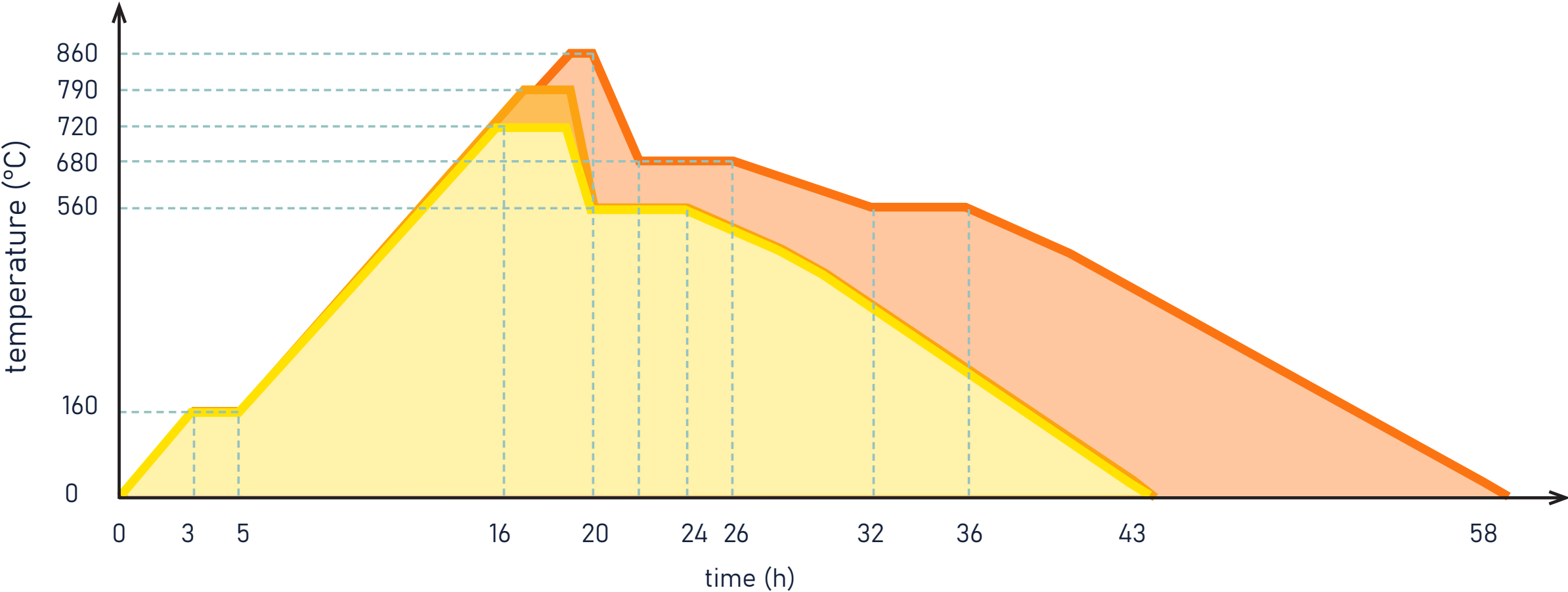
max temperature	dwel time
860°C	1h
790°C	2h

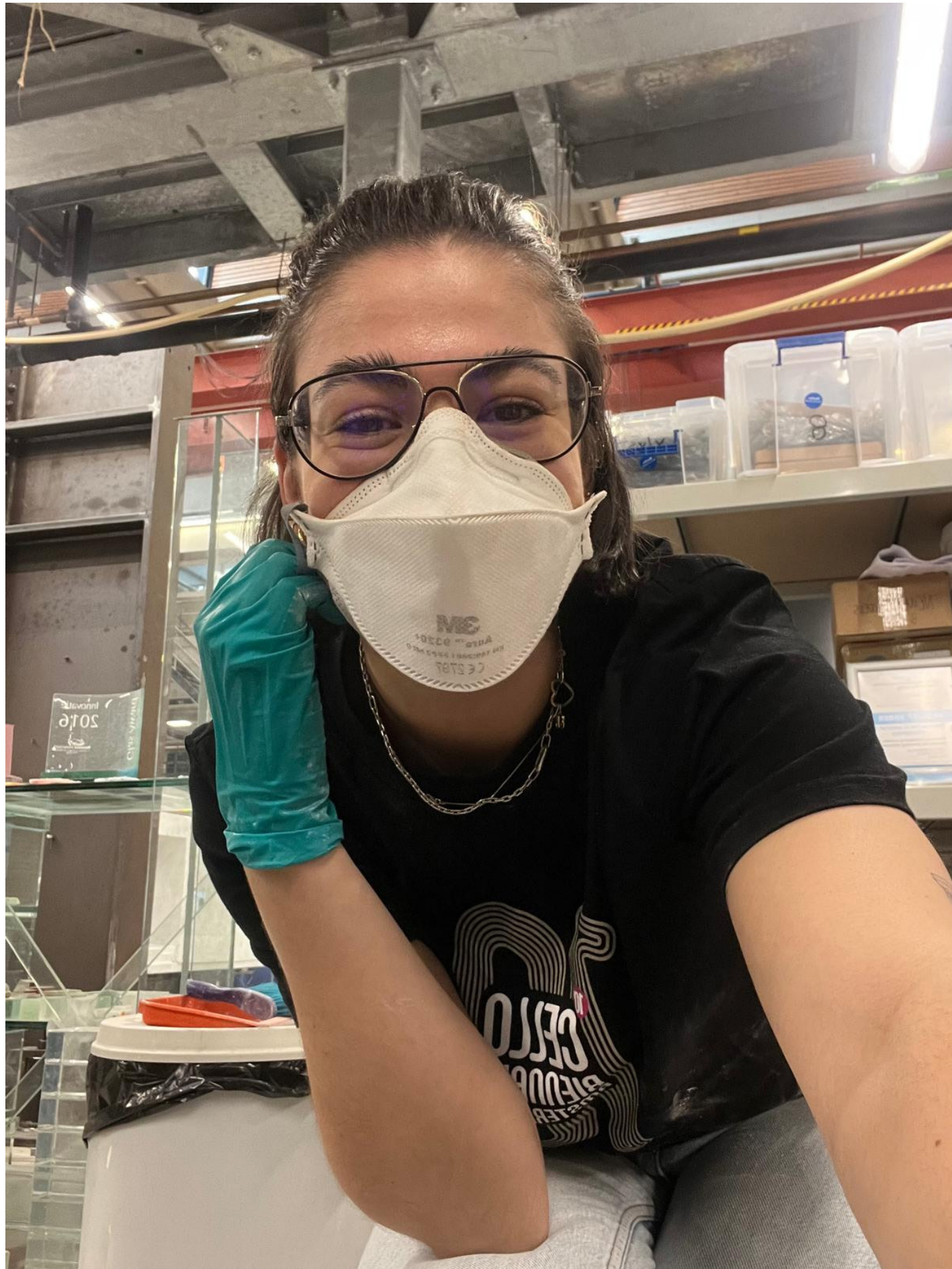


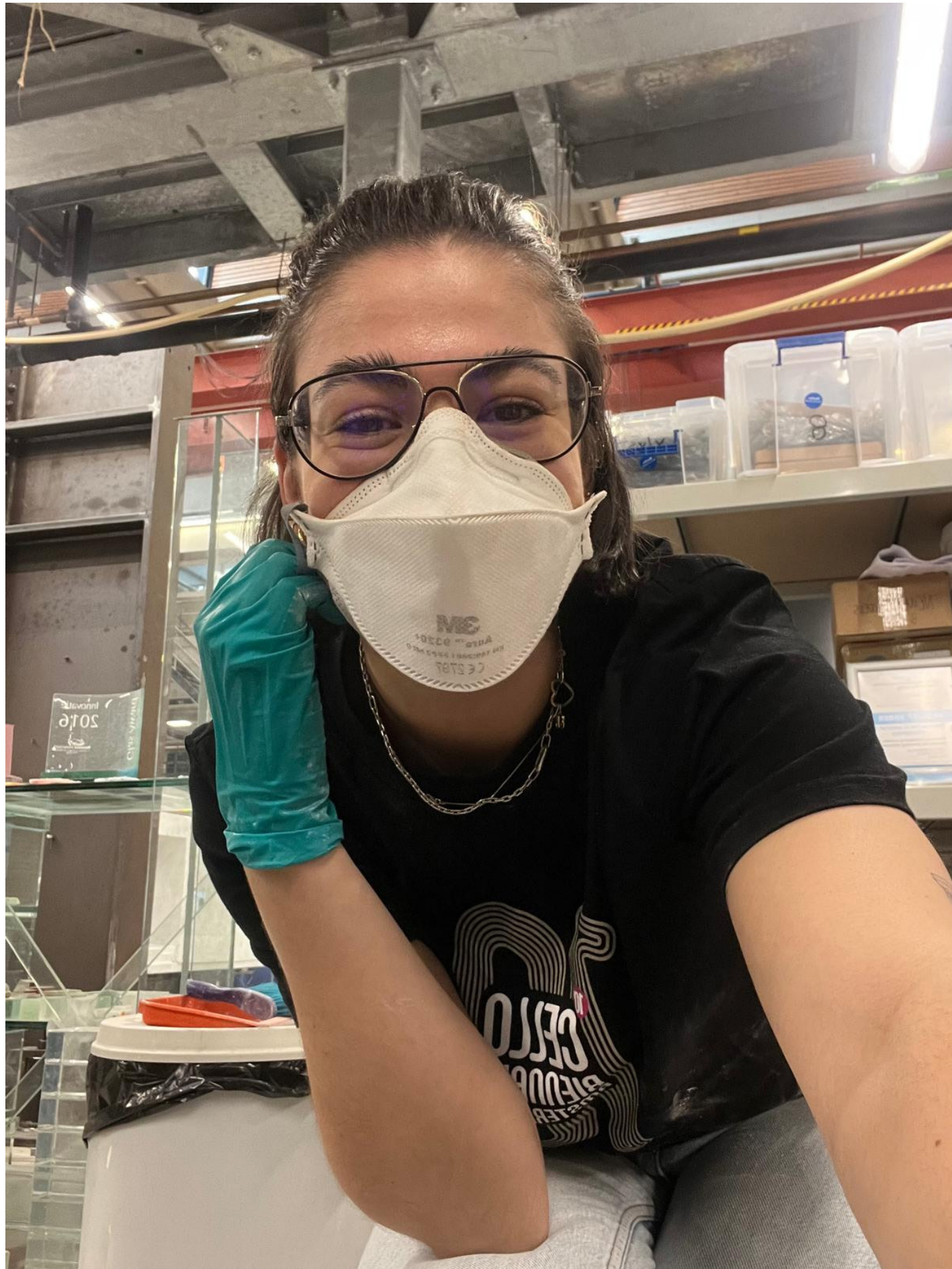
tested parameters

firing schedule

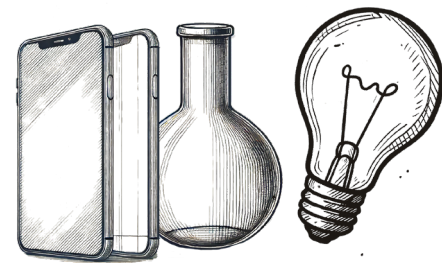
max temperature	dwel time
860°C	1h
790°C	2h
720°C	3h







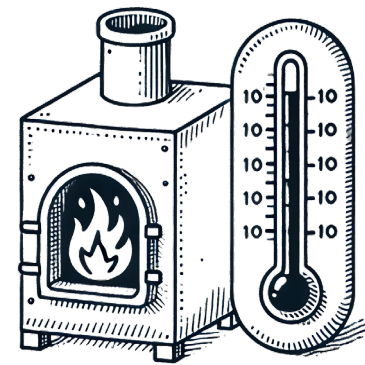
(How) do different fabrication parameters impact the porosity of the material?



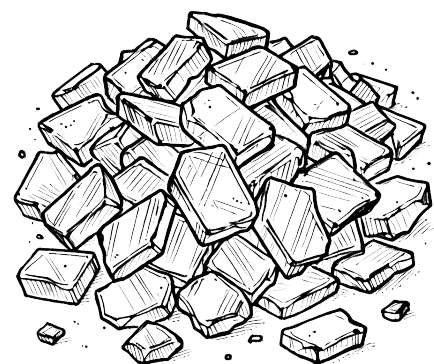
glass waste type



foaming agent



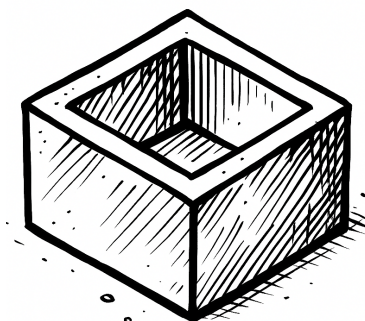
firing schedule



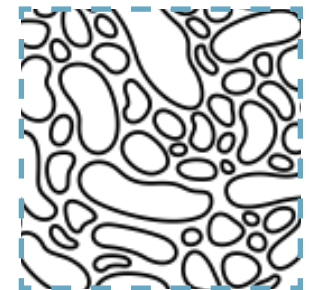
glass cullet size



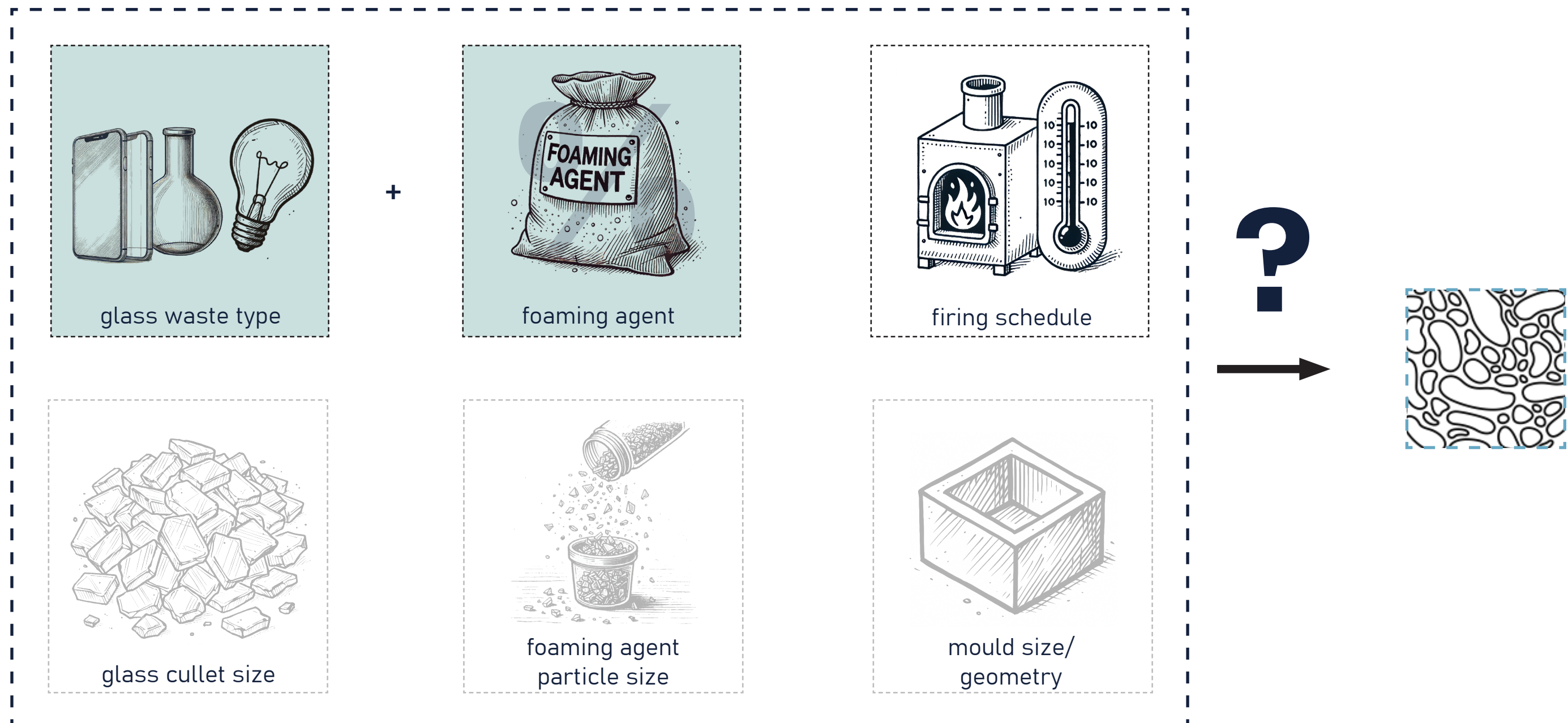
foaming agent
particle size



mould size/
geometry

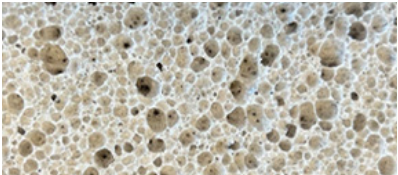
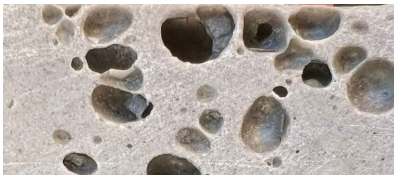
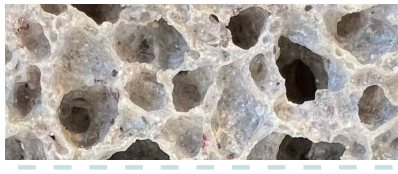
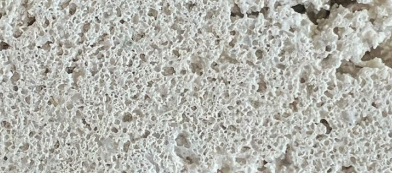


(How) do different fabrication parameters impact the porosity of the material?

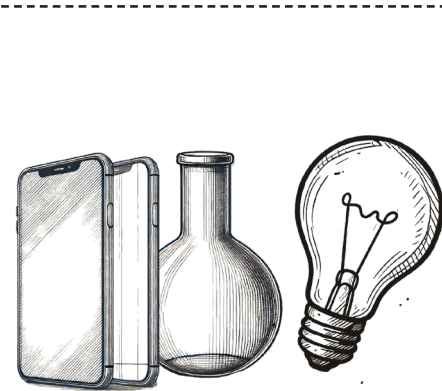


		foaming agent			
		calcium carbonate	eggshells	carbon black + dicalcium phosphate	manganese dioxide
glass type	low-iron soda lime	✓	✓	✗	✓
	automotive	✓	✓		
	Cyclon mix	✗		✗	
	light bulbs		✓		
	mixed cullet	✓	✓		
	mobile phone screens	✗			✗

		foaming agent			
		calcium carbonate	eggshells	carbon black + dicalcium phosphate	manganese dioxide
glass type	low-iron soda lime	✓	✓		✓
	automotive	✓	✓		
	Cyclon mix				
	light bulbs		✓		
	mixed cullet	✓	✓		
	mobile phone screens				

		foaming agent			
		calcium carbonate	eggshells	carbon black + dicalcium phosphate	manganese dioxide
glass type	low-iron soda lime				
	automotive				
	Cyclon mix				
	light bulbs				
	mixed cullet				
	mobile phone screens				

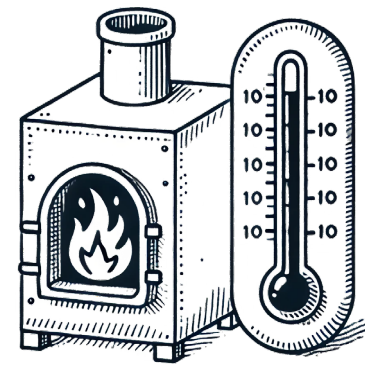
(How) do different fabrication parameters impact the porosity of the material?



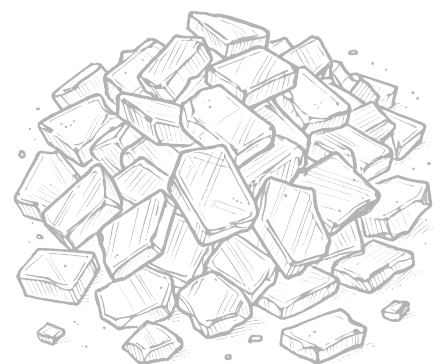
glass waste type



foaming agent



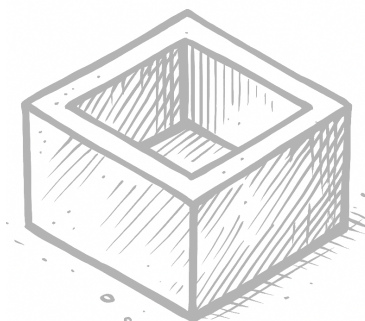
firing schedule



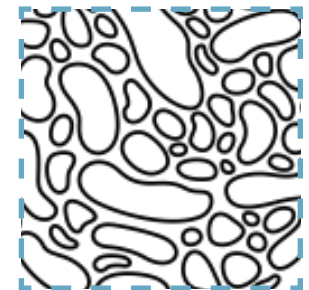
glass cullet size



foaming agent
particle size



mould size/
geometry



(How) do different fabrication parameters impact the porosity of the material?

foaming agent concentration

soda lime + calcium carbonate

790°C



1 wt %



2.5 wt %



3.5 wt %



5 wt %



foaming agent concentration

5 cm

(How) do different fabrication parameters impact the porosity of the material?

foaming agent concentration

soda lime + calcium carbonate

790°C



1 wt %



2.5 wt %



3.5 wt %



5 wt %



2 mm

3 mm

7 mm

15 mm



5 cm

(How) do different fabrication parameters impact the porosity of the material?

foaming agent concentration

light bulbs + eggshells

790°C



1 wt %



2.5 wt %

foaming agent concentration

5 cm

(How) do different fabrication parameters impact the porosity of the material?

foaming agent concentration

light bulbs + eggshells

790°C



1 wt %



2.5 wt %



foaming agent concentration

14 mm

11 mm



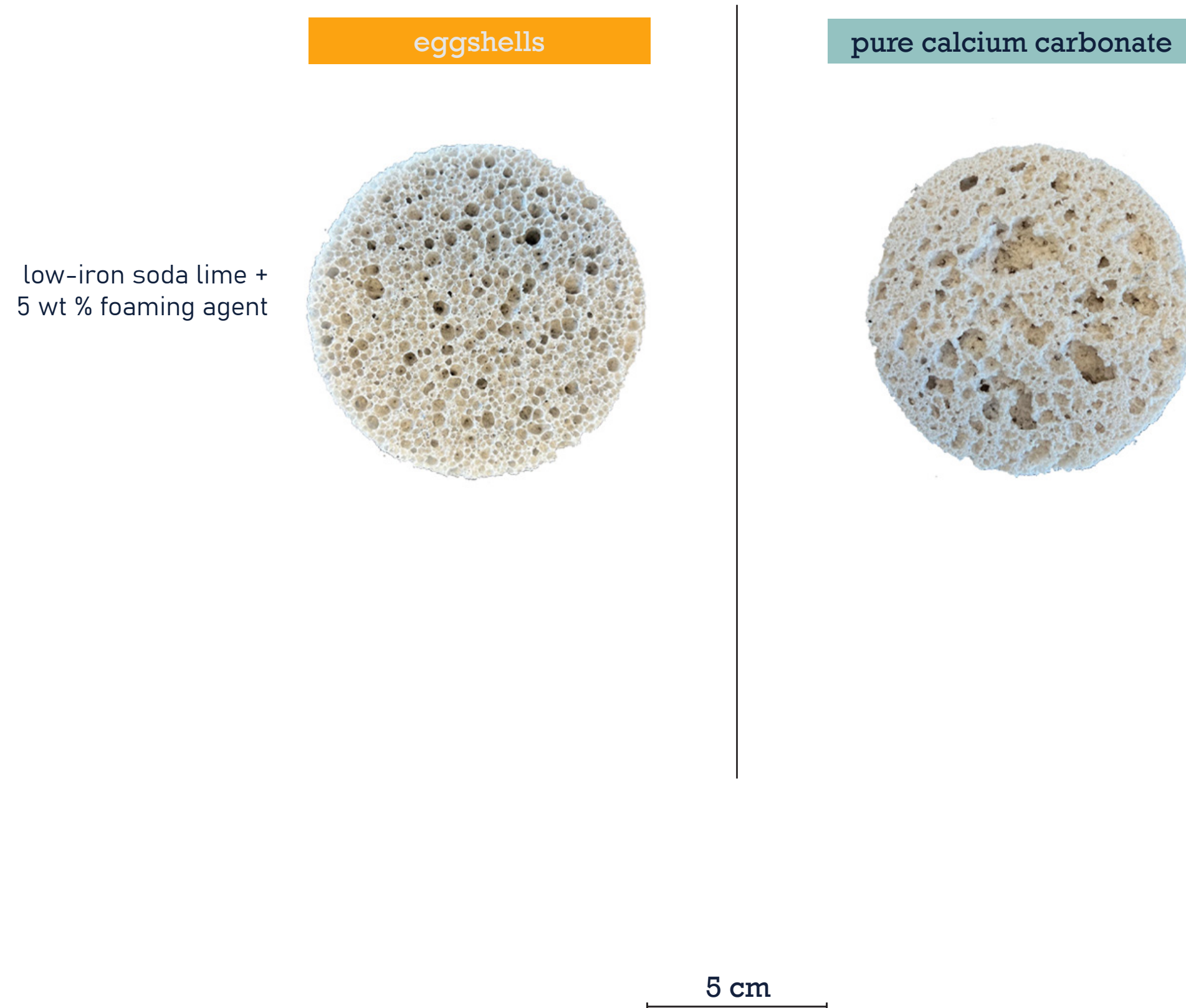
pore size

5 cm

(How) do different fabrication parameters impact the porosity of the material?

foaming agent type

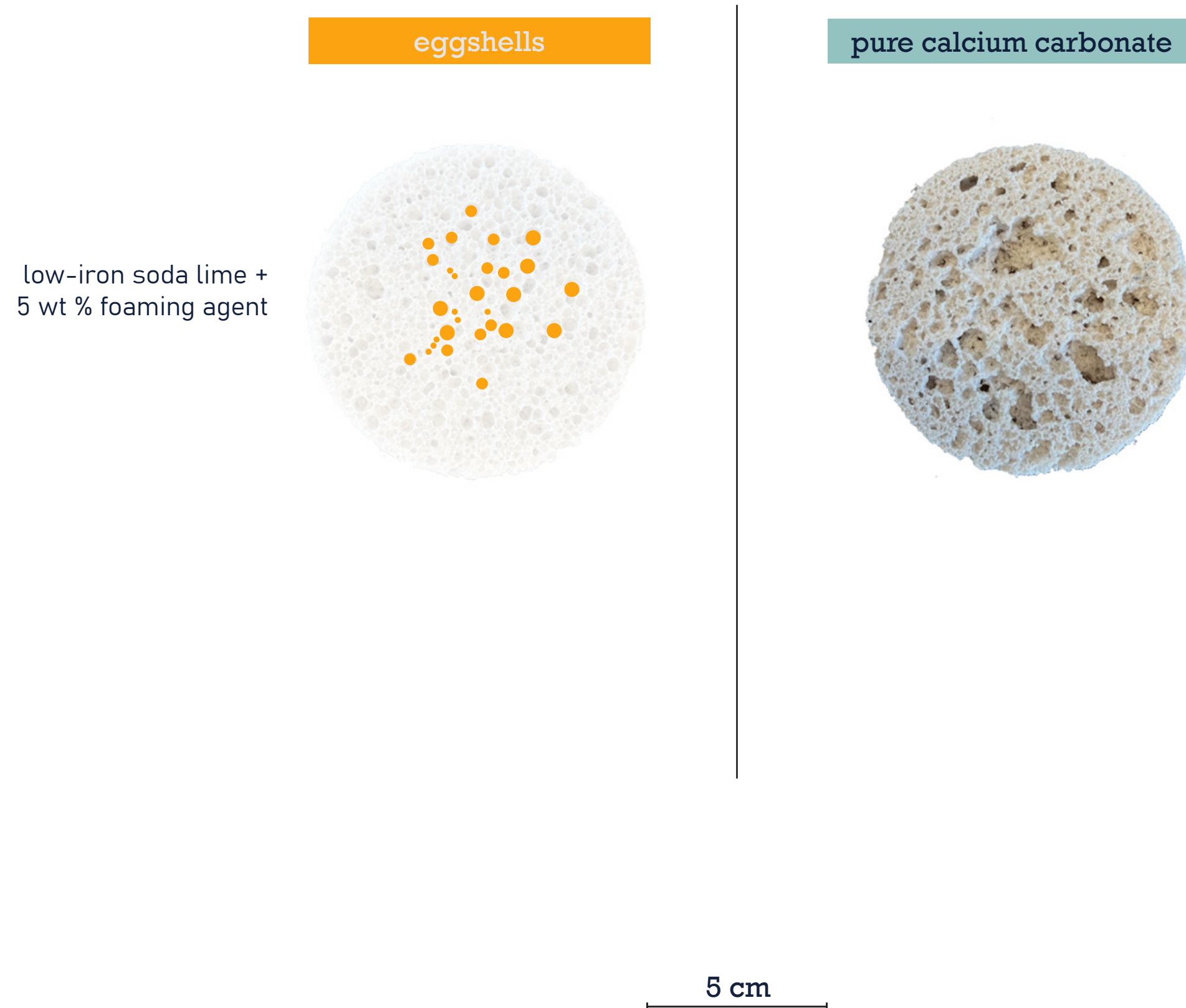
calcium carbonate vs. eggshells



(How) do different fabrication parameters impact the porosity of the material?

foaming agent type

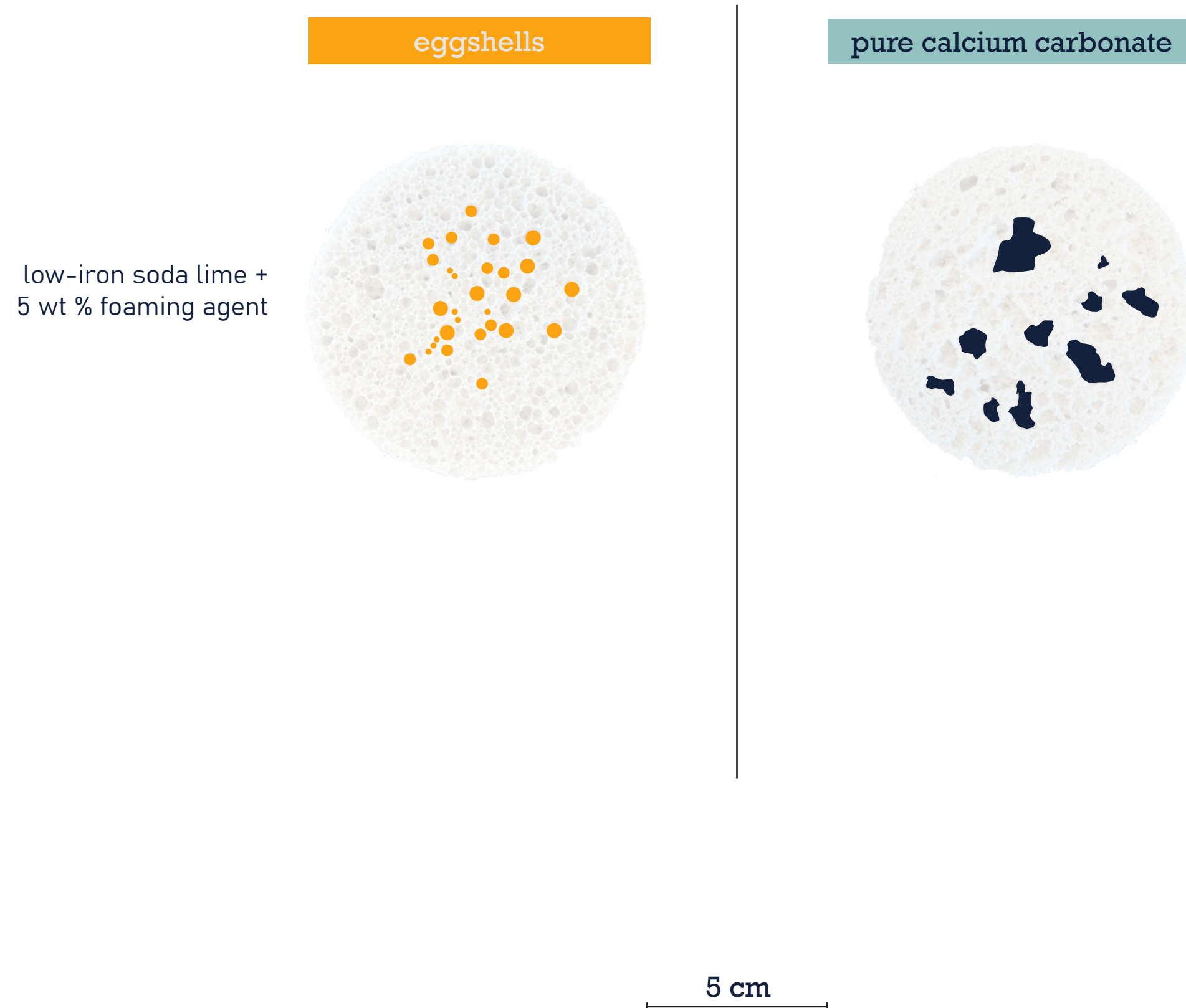
calcium carbonate vs. eggshells



(How) do different fabrication parameters impact the porosity of the material?

foaming agent type

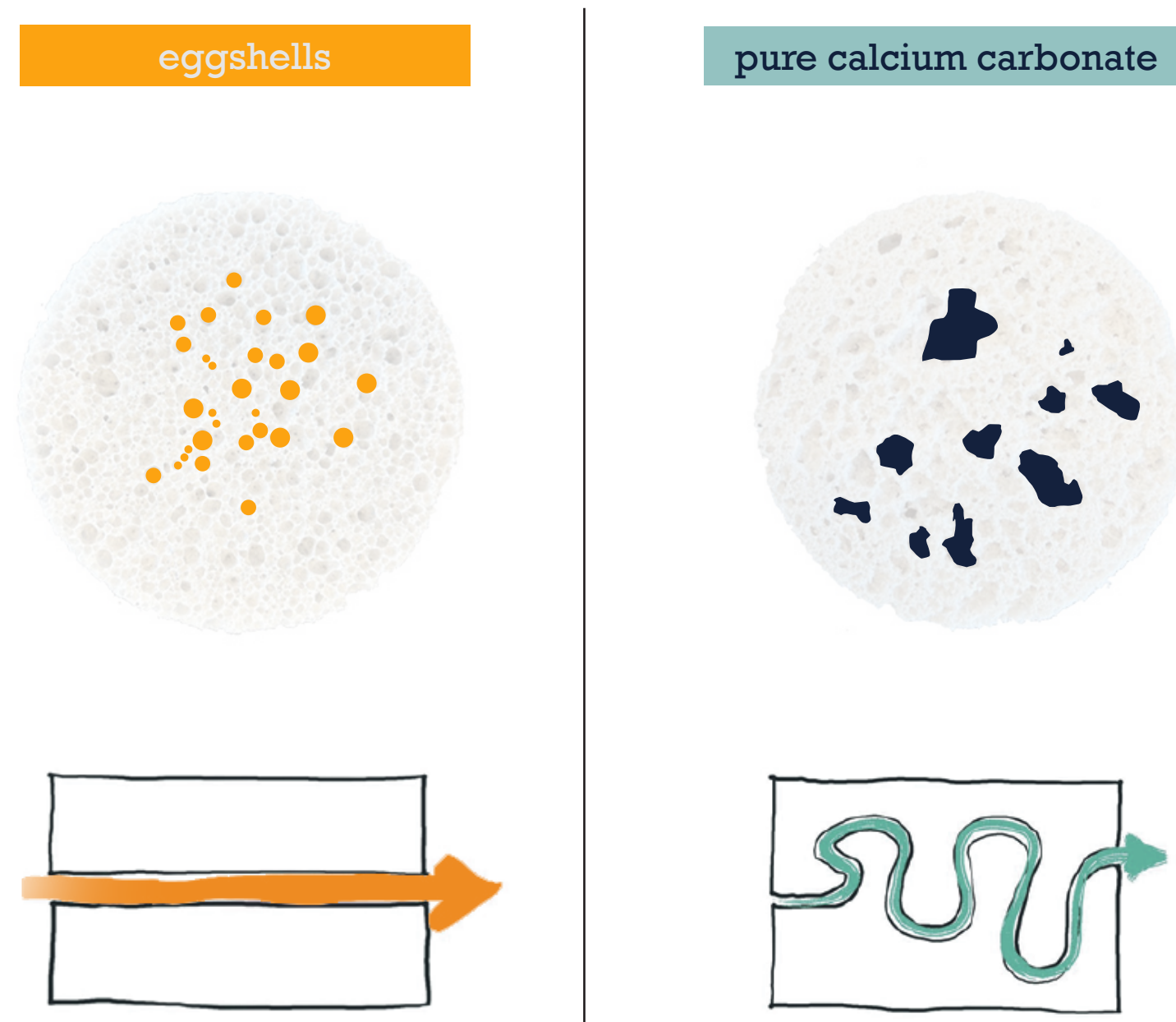
calcium carbonate vs. eggshells



(How) do different fabrication parameters impact the porosity of the material?

foaming agent type

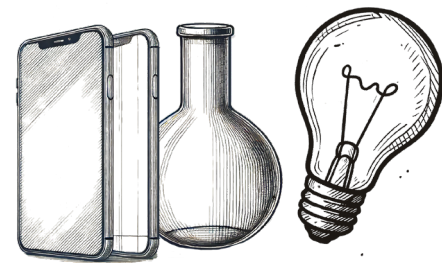
calcium carbonate vs. eggshells



tortuosity

5 cm

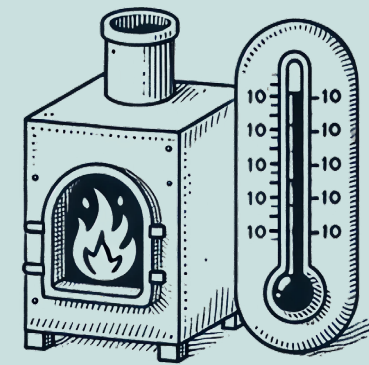
(How) do different fabrication parameters impact the porosity of the material?



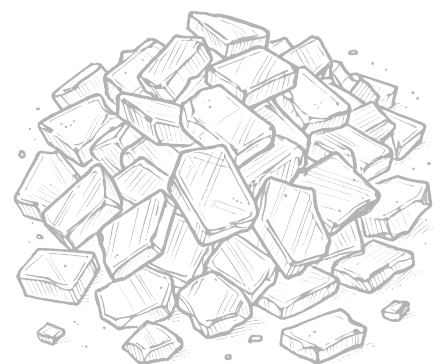
glass waste type



foaming agent



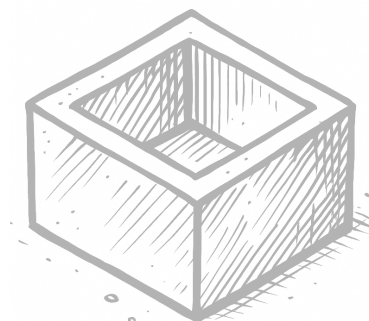
firing schedule



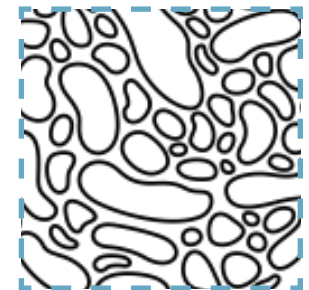
glass cullet size



foaming agent
particle size

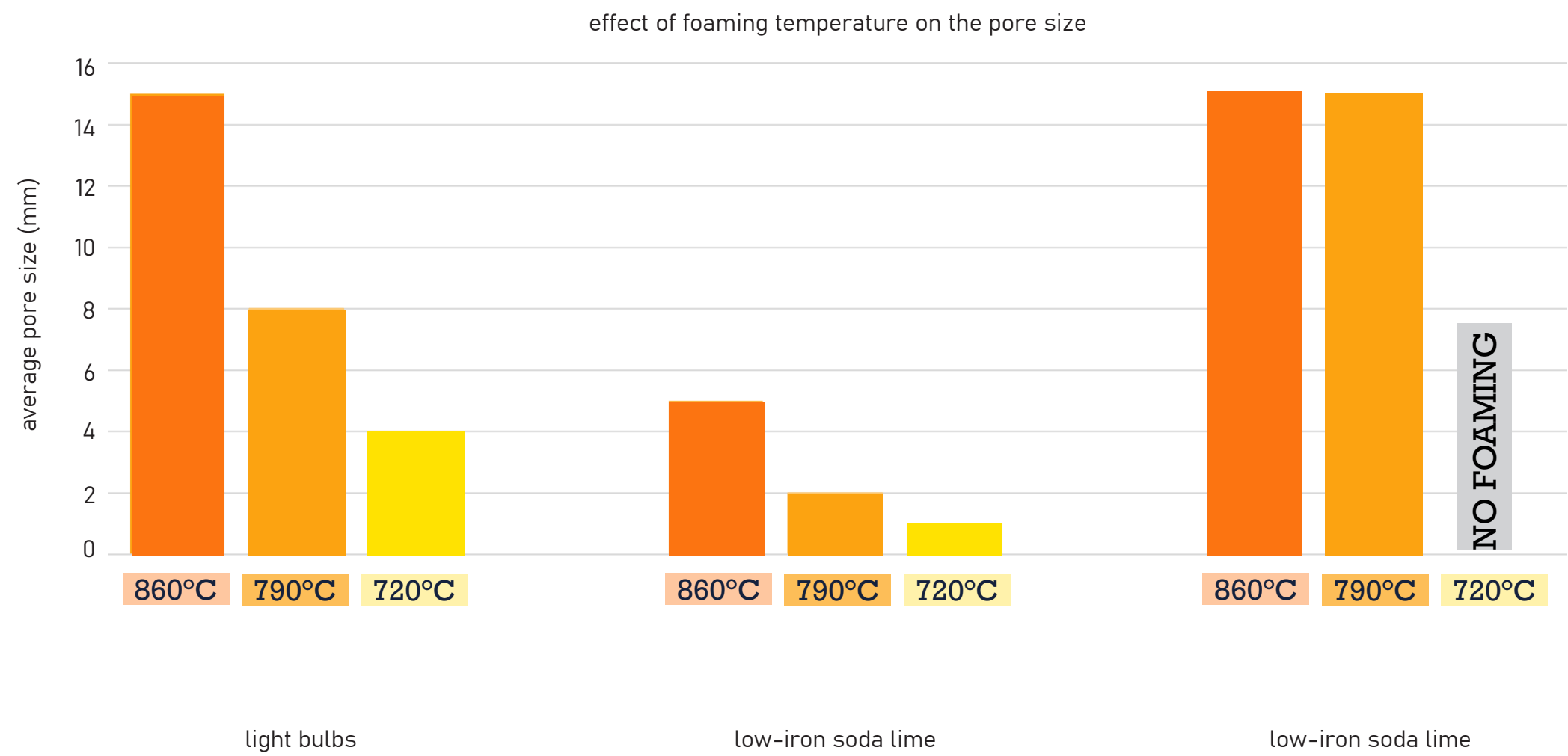


mould size/
geometry



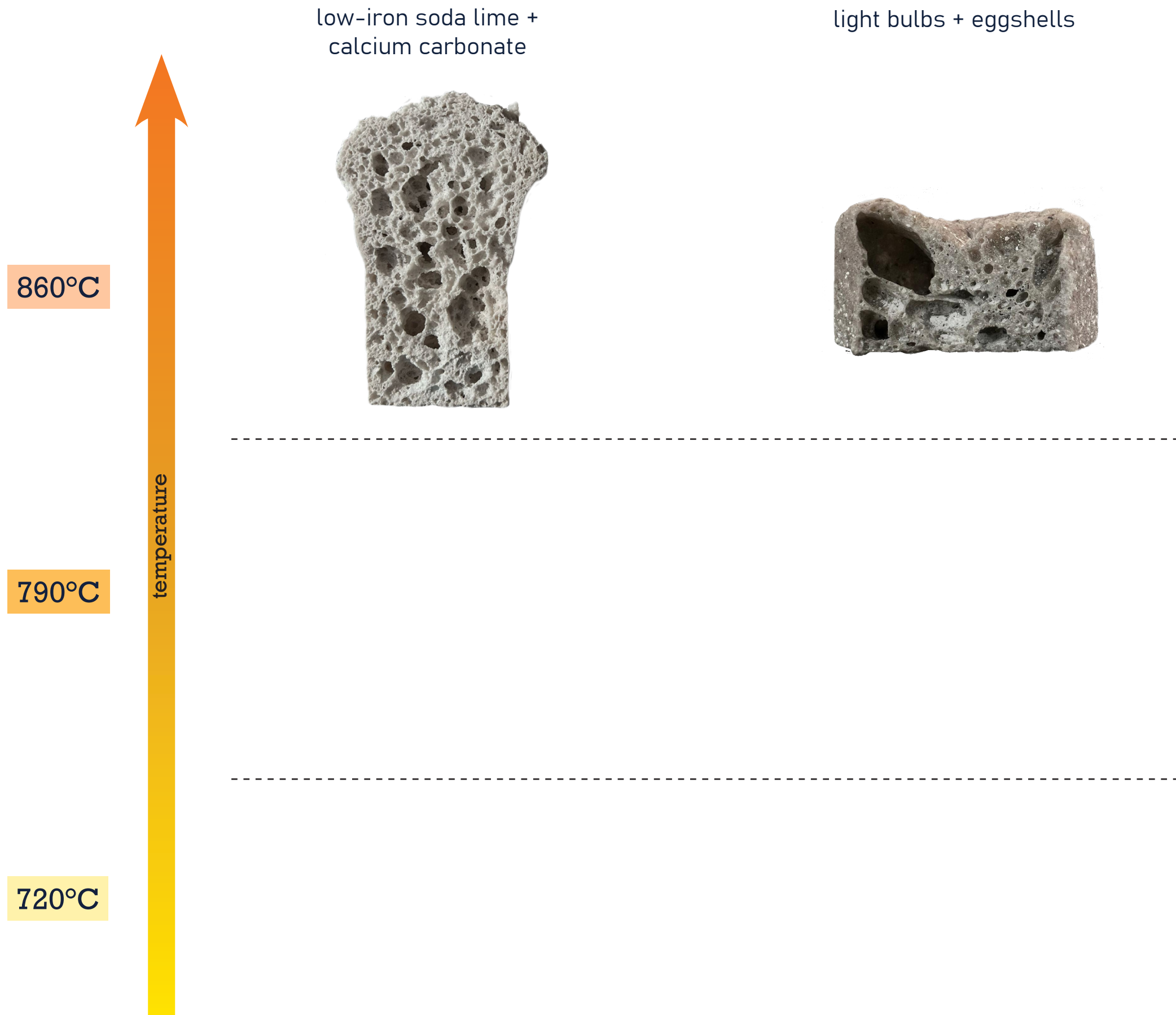
(How) do different fabrication parameters impact the porosity of the material?

temperature



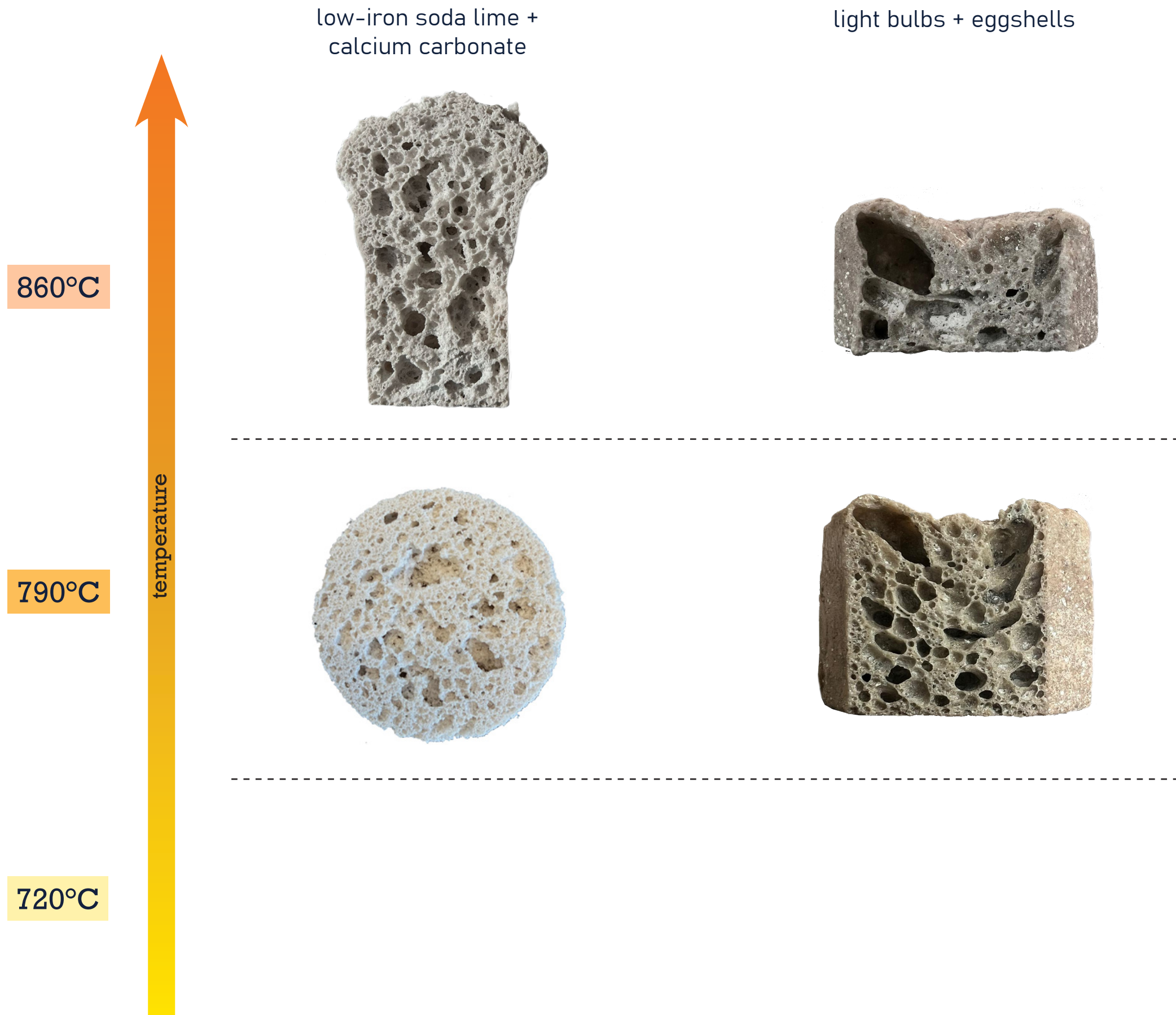
(How) do different fabrication parameters impact the porosity of the material?

temperature



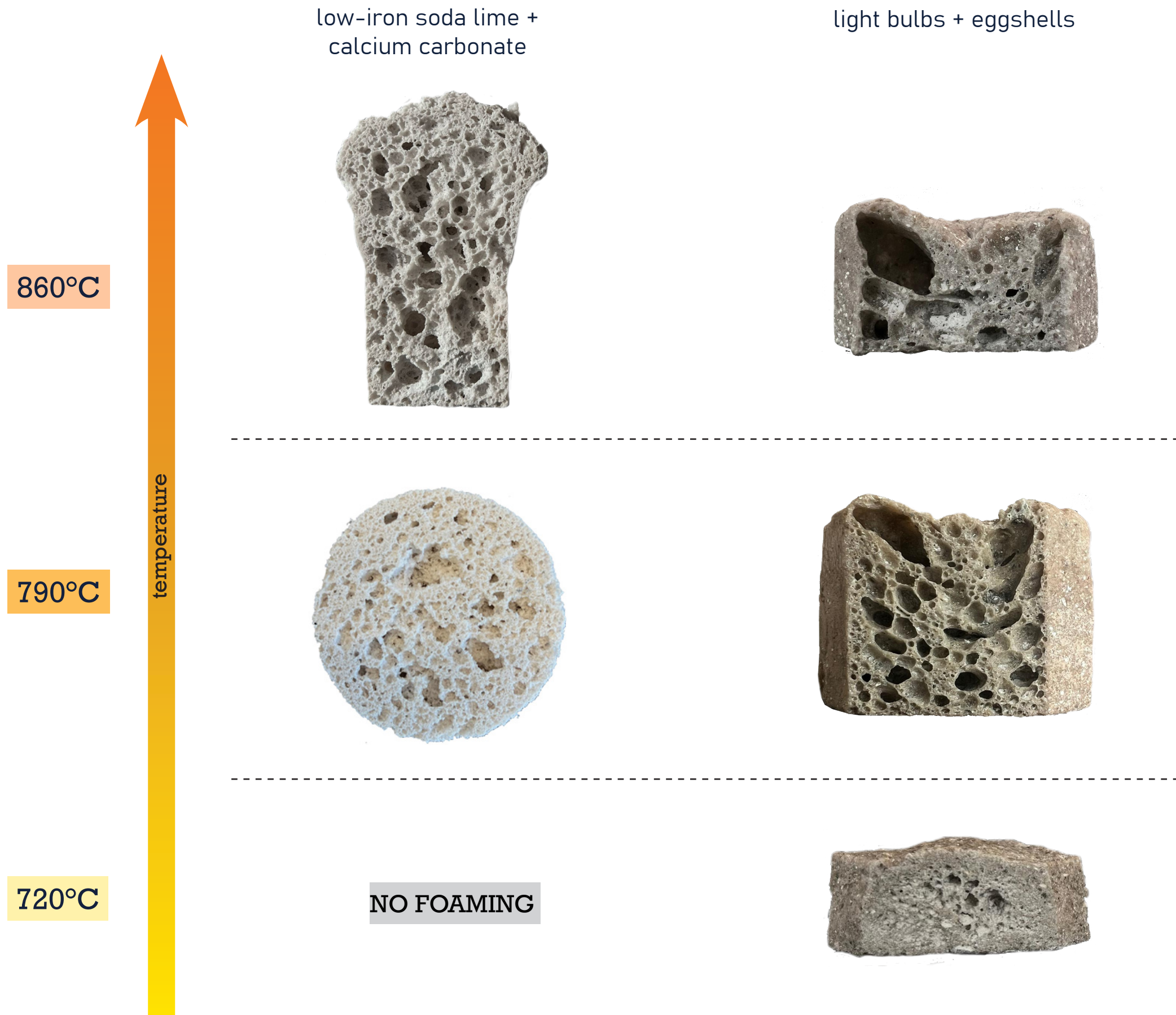
(How) do different fabrication parameters impact the porosity of the material?

temperature



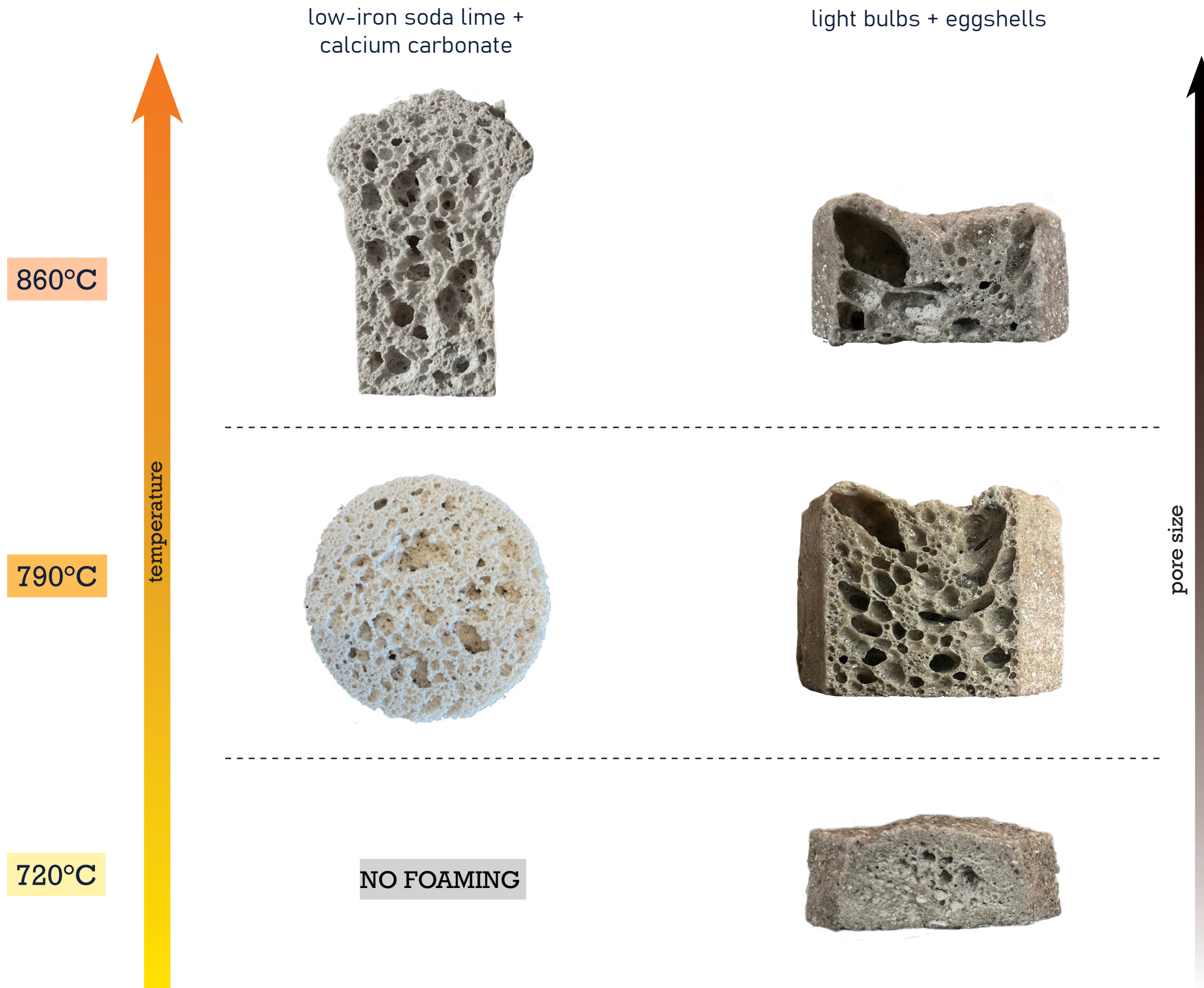
(How) do different fabrication parameters impact the porosity of the material?

temperature

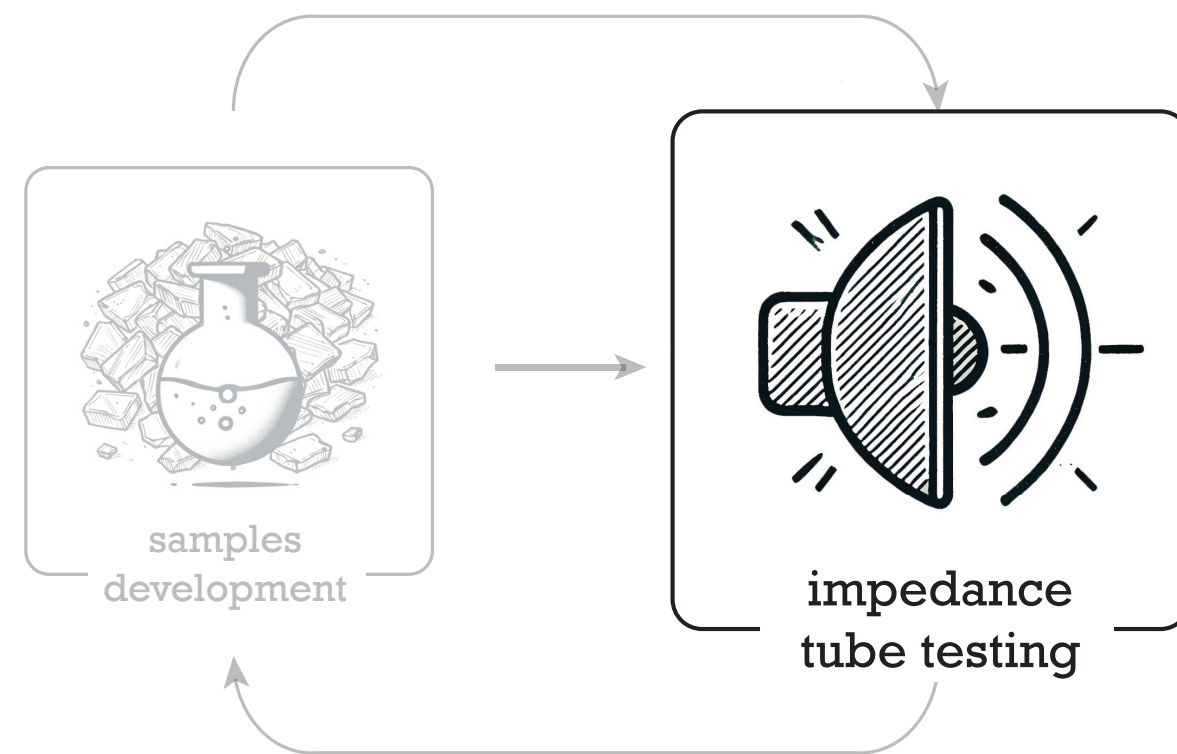


(How) do different fabrication parameters impact the porosity of the material?

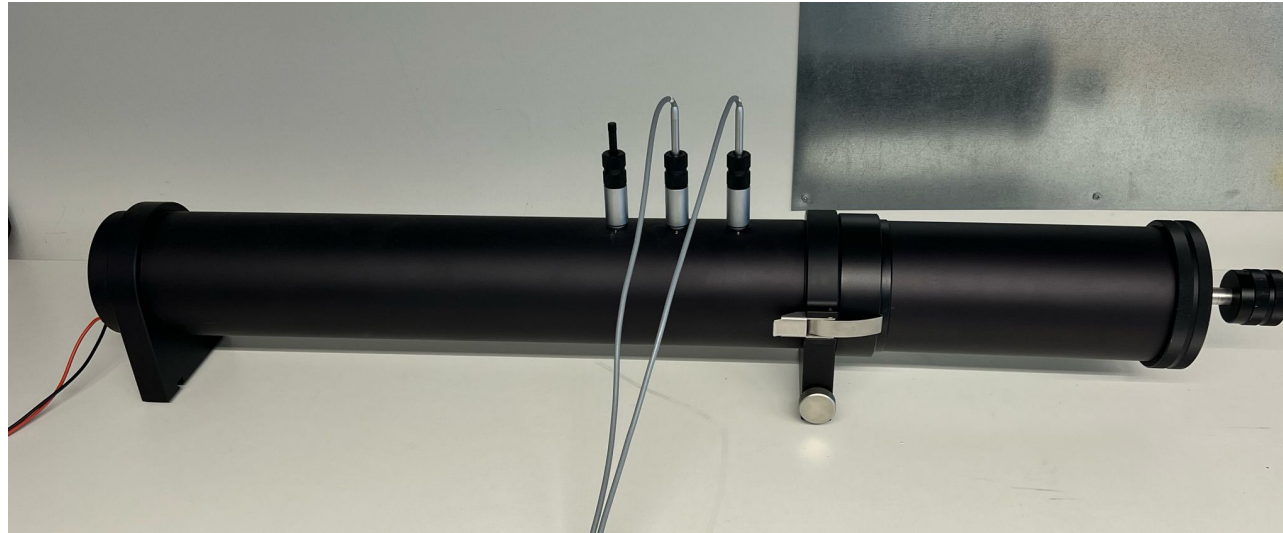
temperature



performance

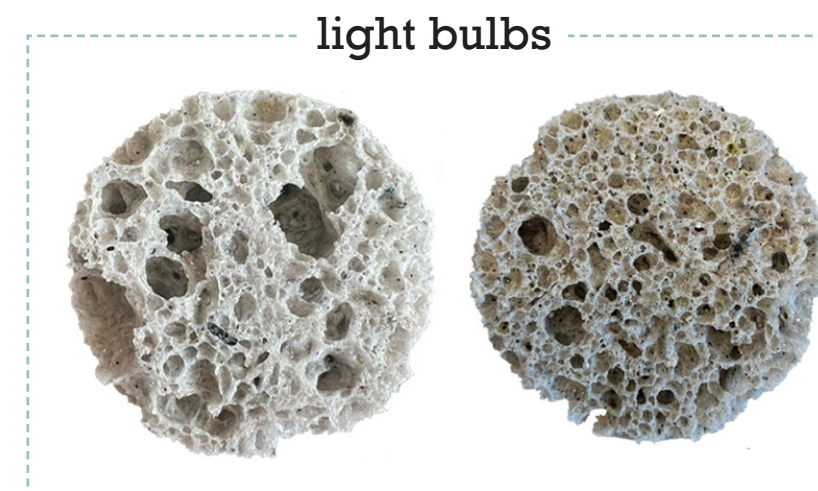
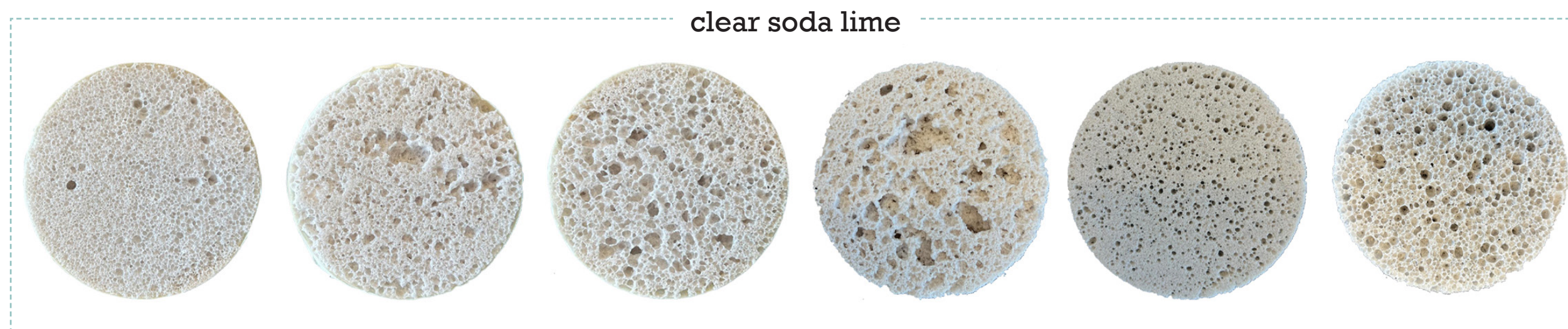


50 - 1600 Hz

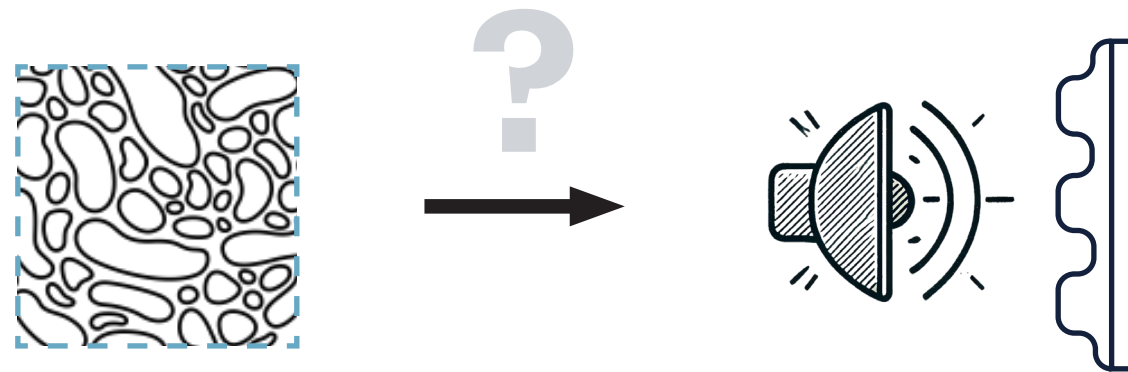


1600 - 6400 Hz



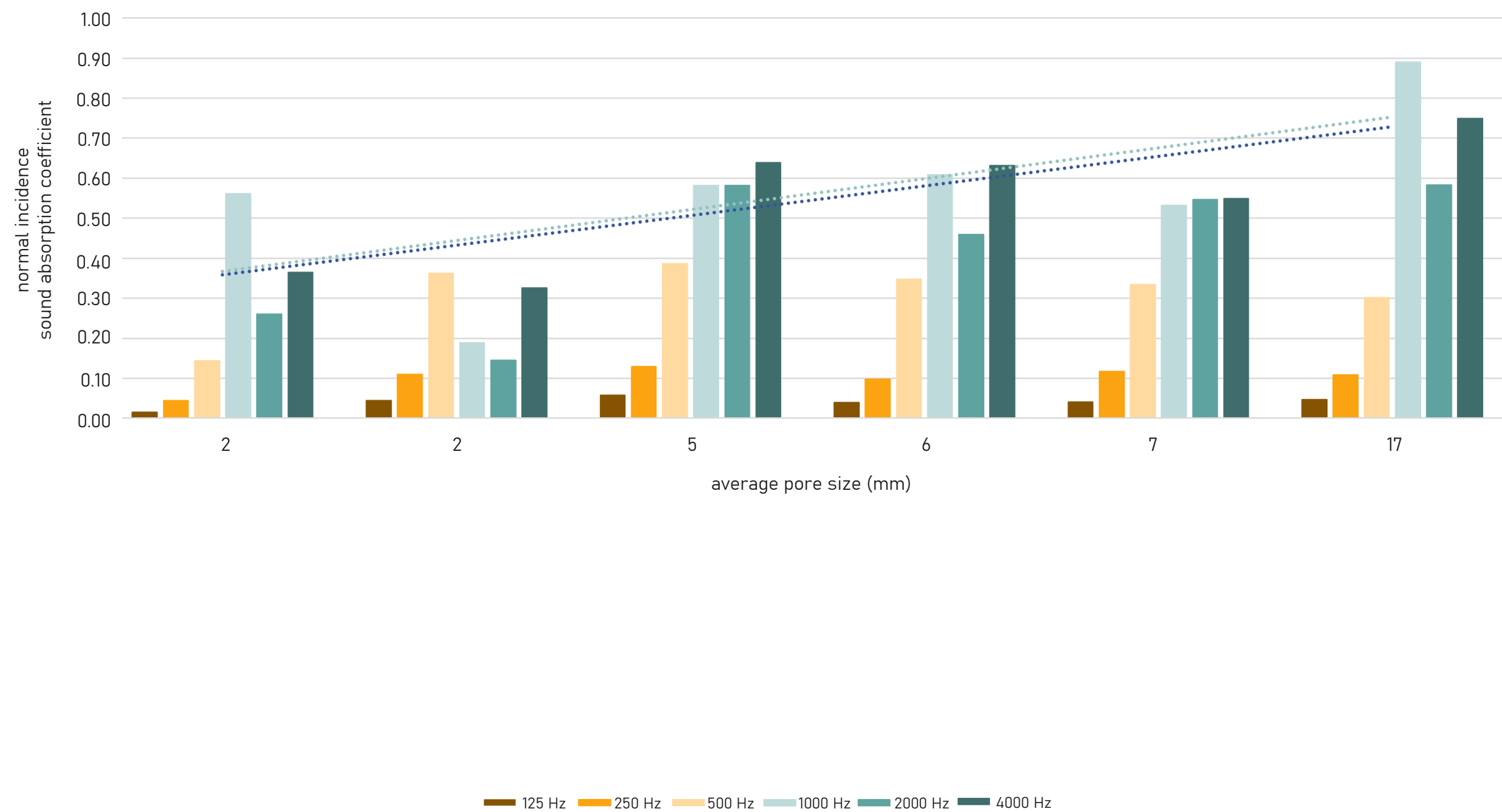


What are the effects of the material's **porosity** on its acoustic properties?



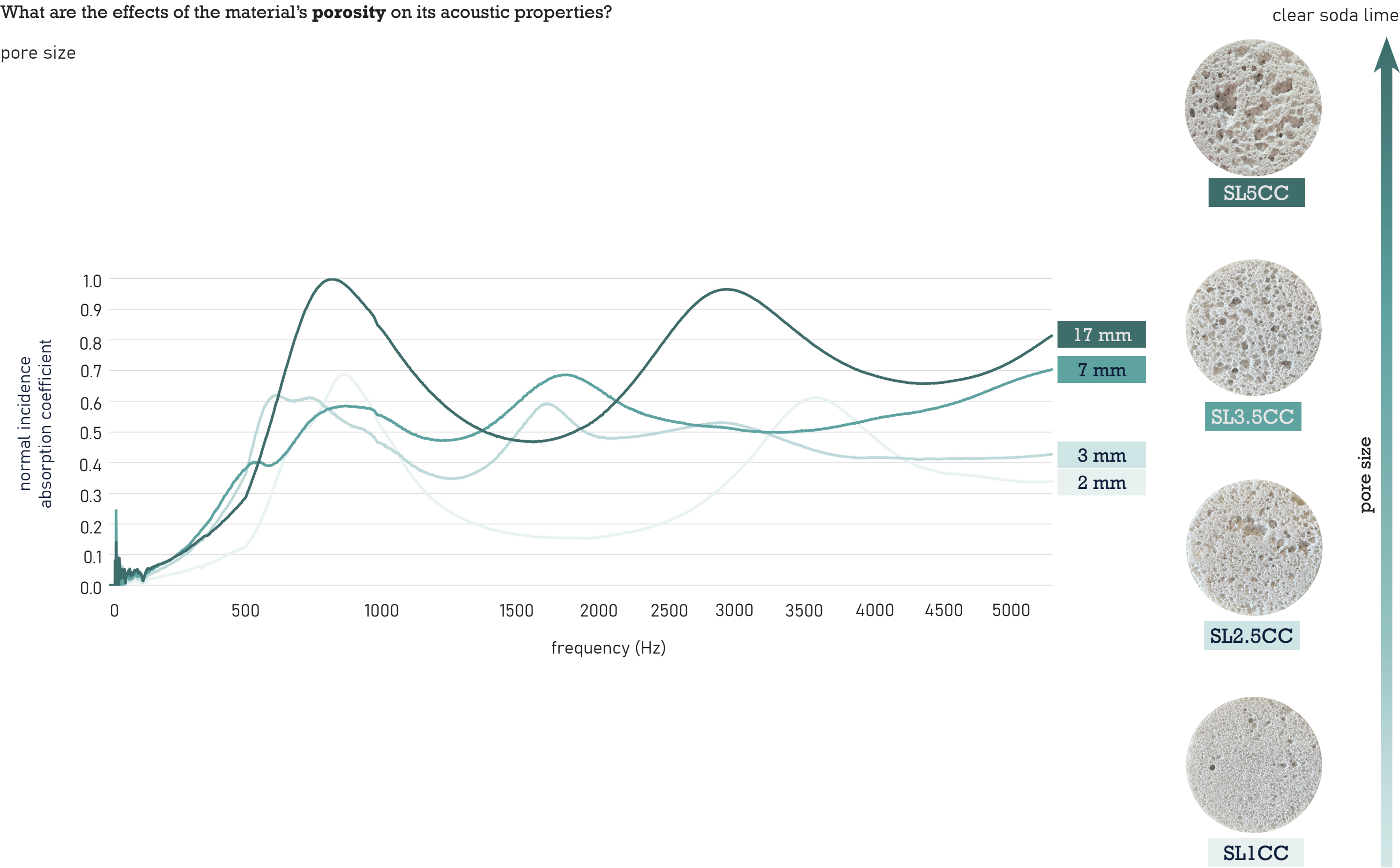
What are the effects of the material's **porosity** on its acoustic properties?

pore size



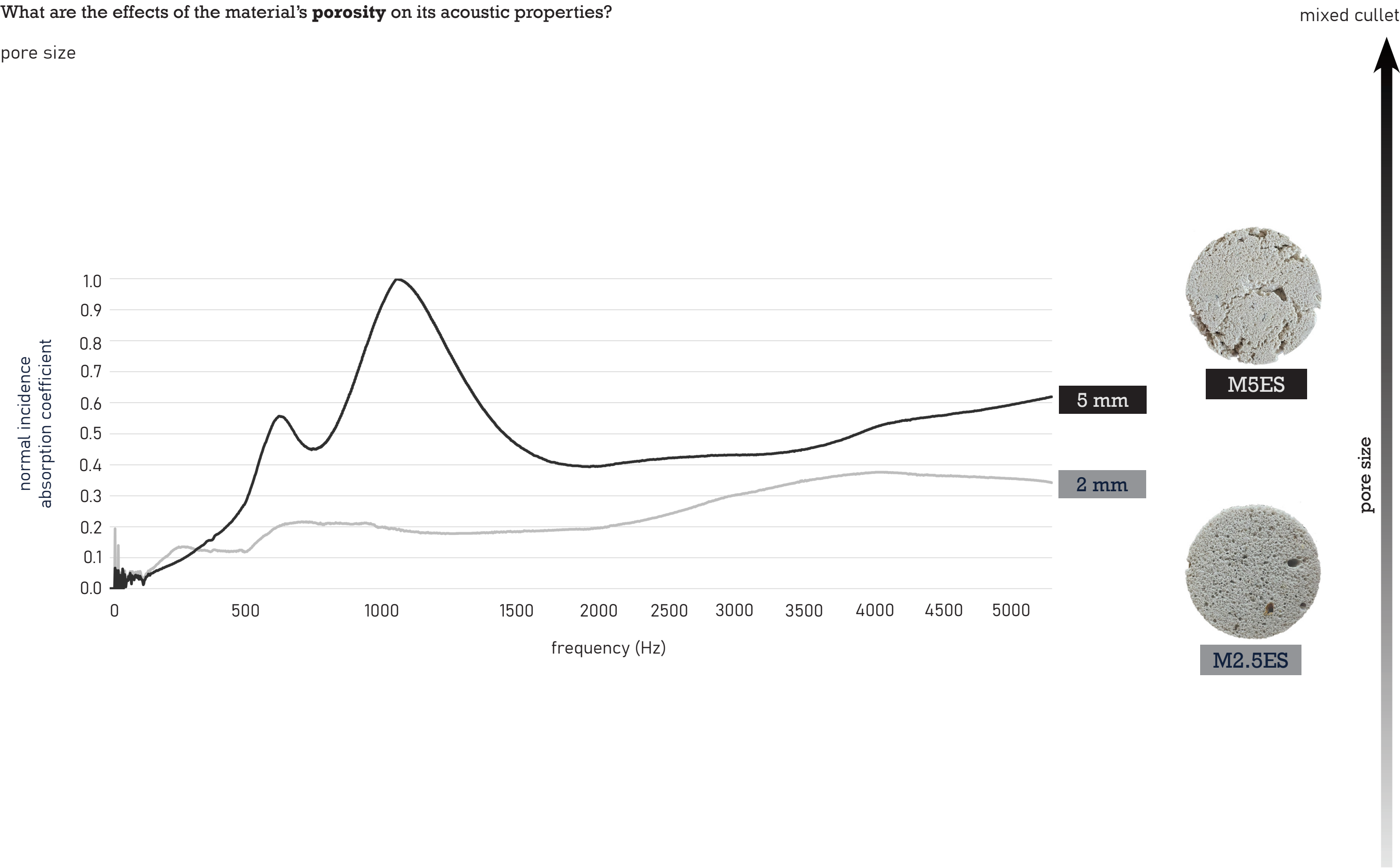
What are the effects of the material's **porosity** on its acoustic properties?

pore size



What are the effects of the material's **porosity** on its acoustic properties?

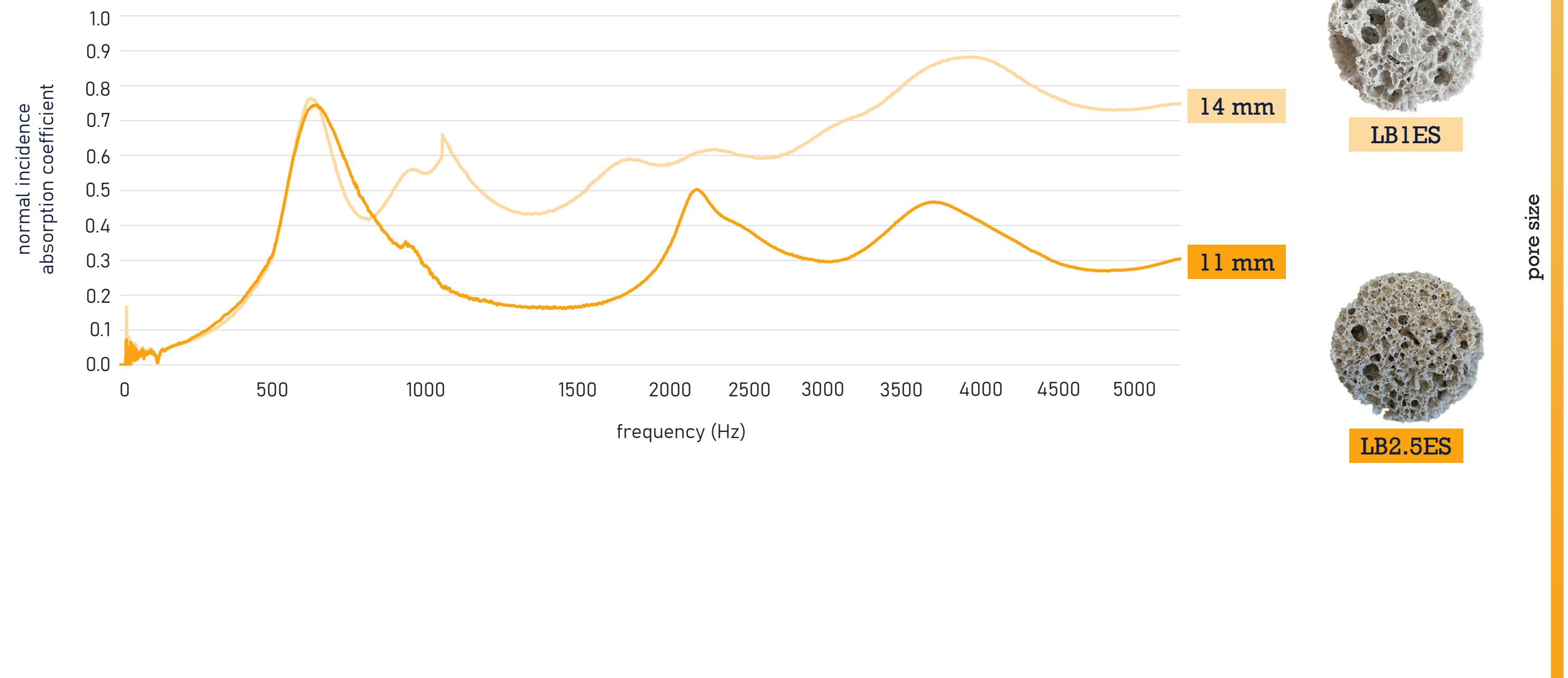
pore size



What are the effects of the material's **porosity** on its acoustic properties?

pore size

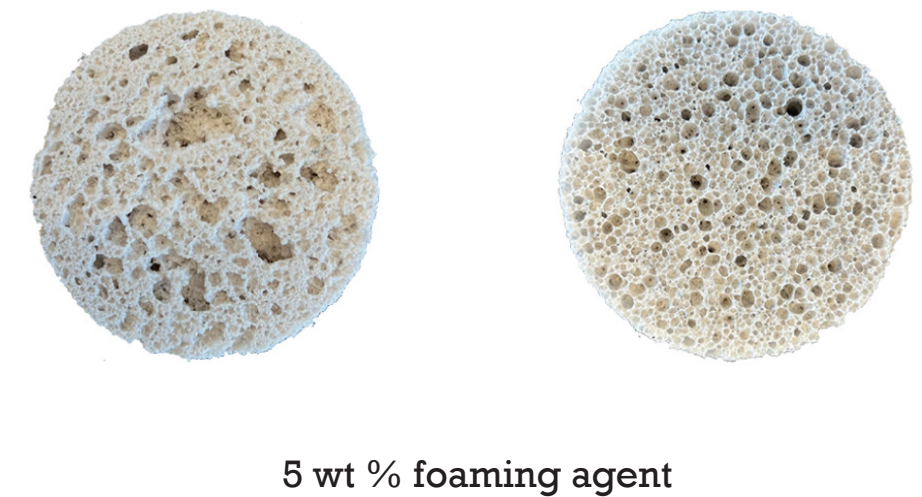
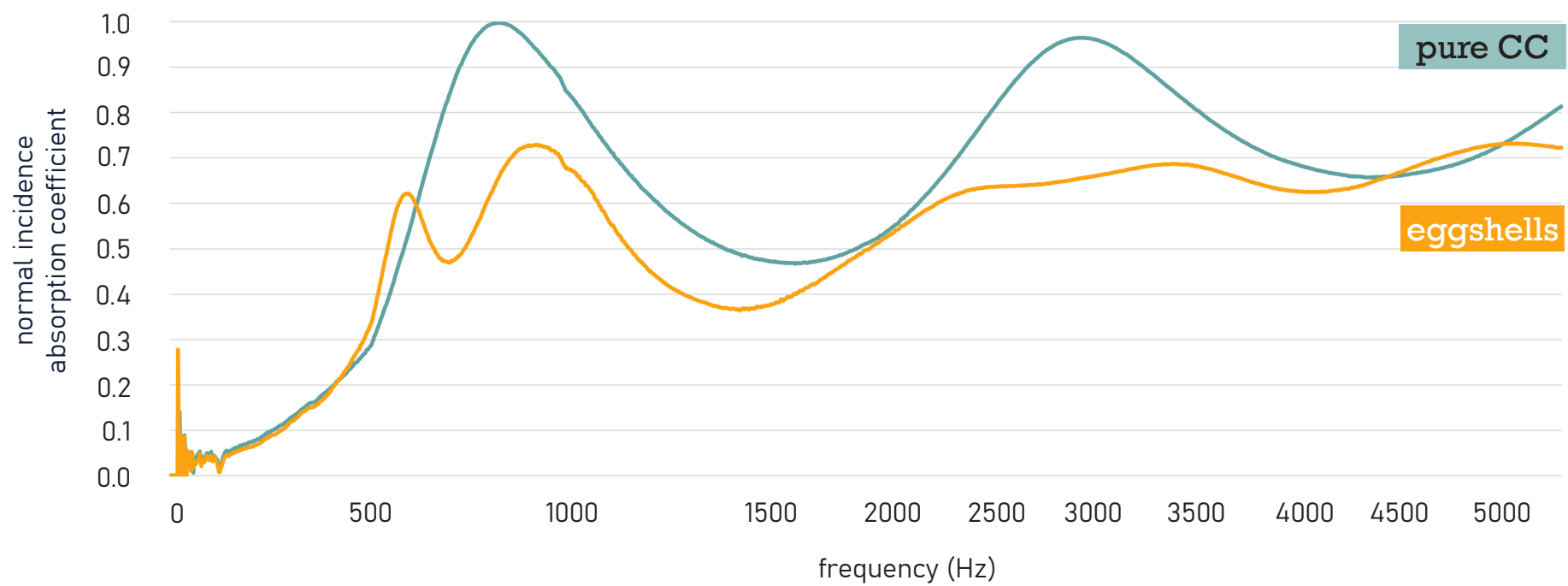
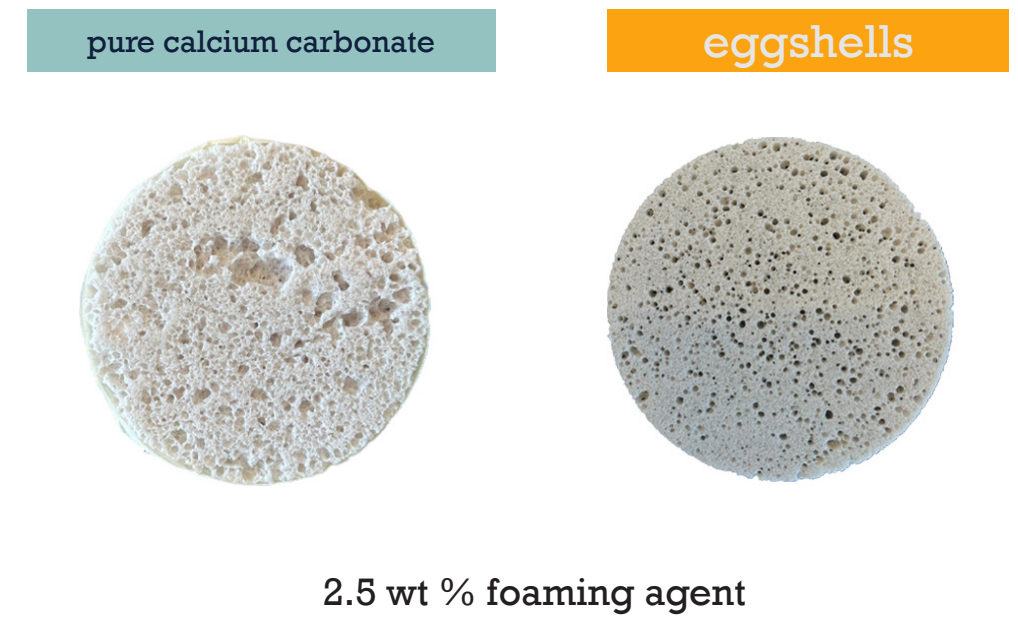
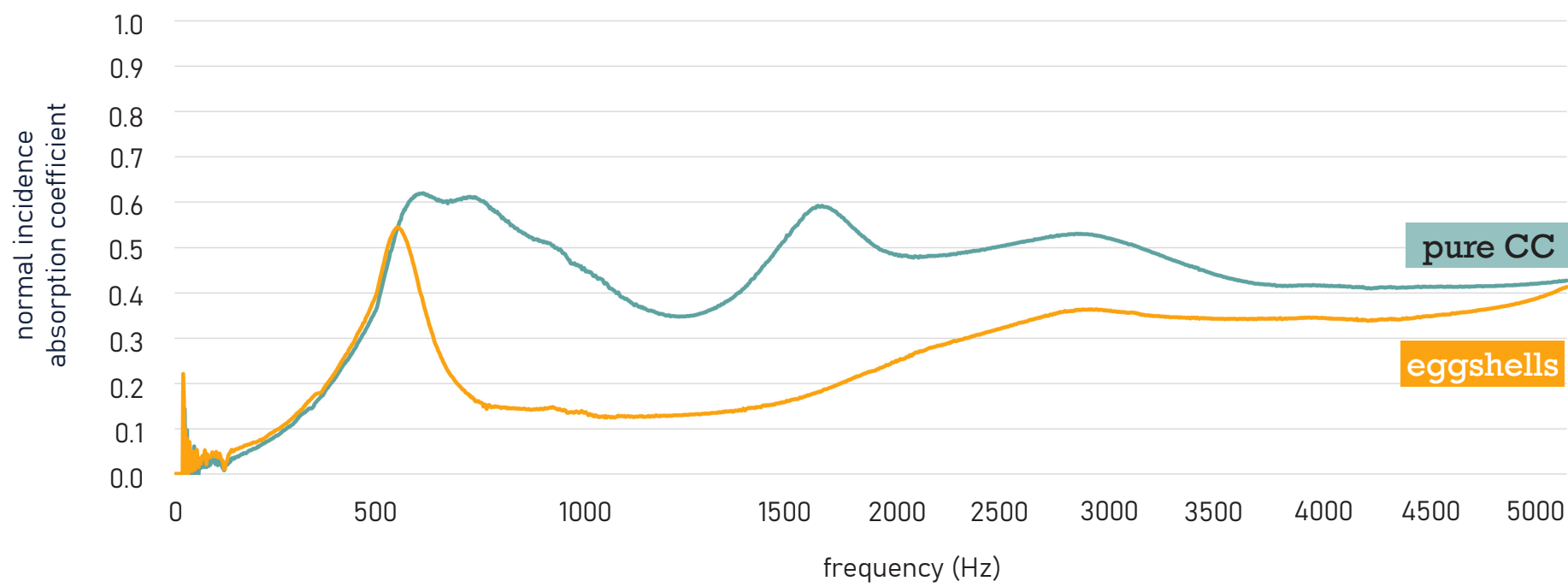
light bulbs



What are the effects of the material's **porosity** on its acoustic properties?

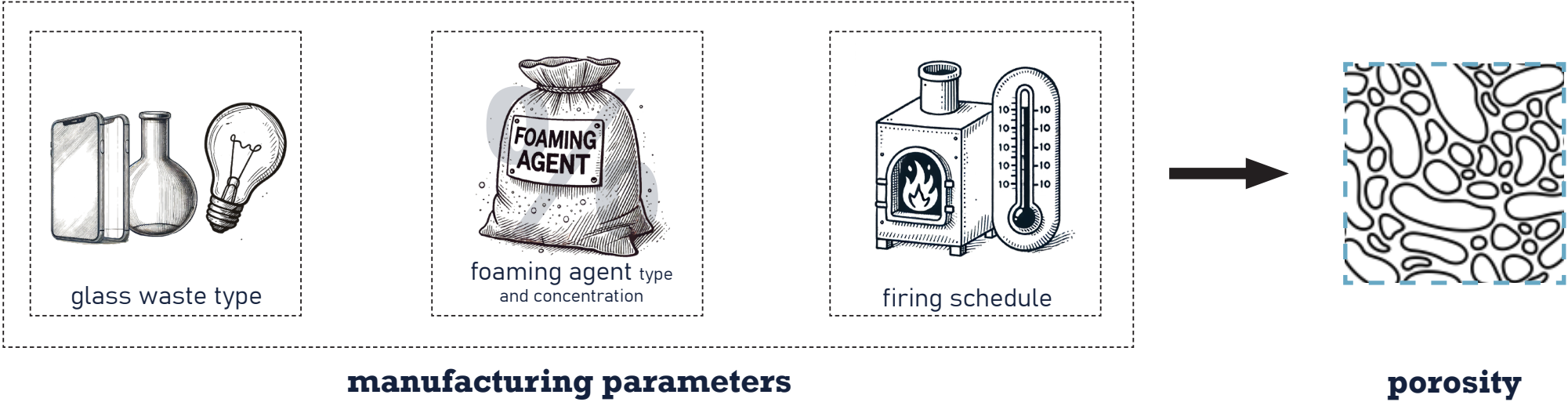
clear soda lime

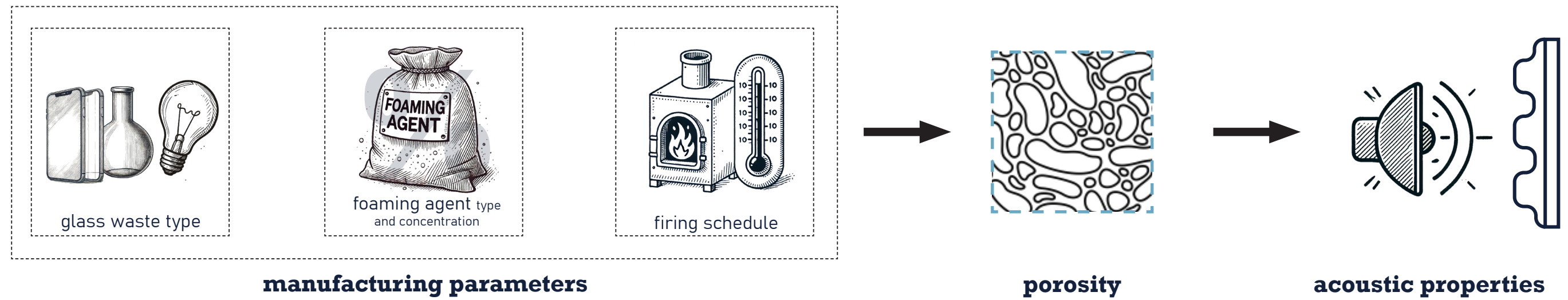
tortuosity



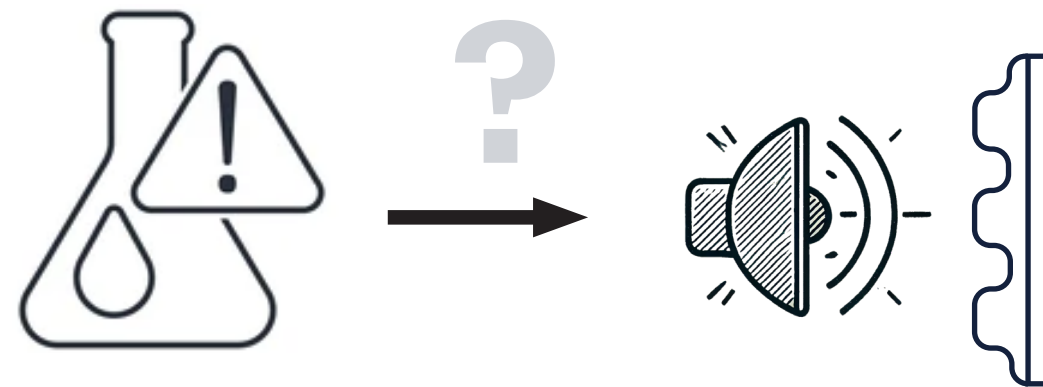


manufacturing parameters





What are the effects of **impurities** on the panel's acoustic properties?



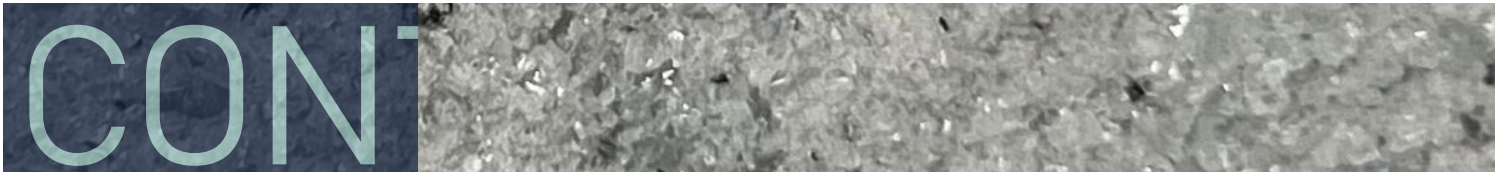
What are the effects of **impurities** on the panel's acoustic properties?

SODA LIME

low-iron soda lime



automotive



Cyclon mix



light bulbs



mixed cullet

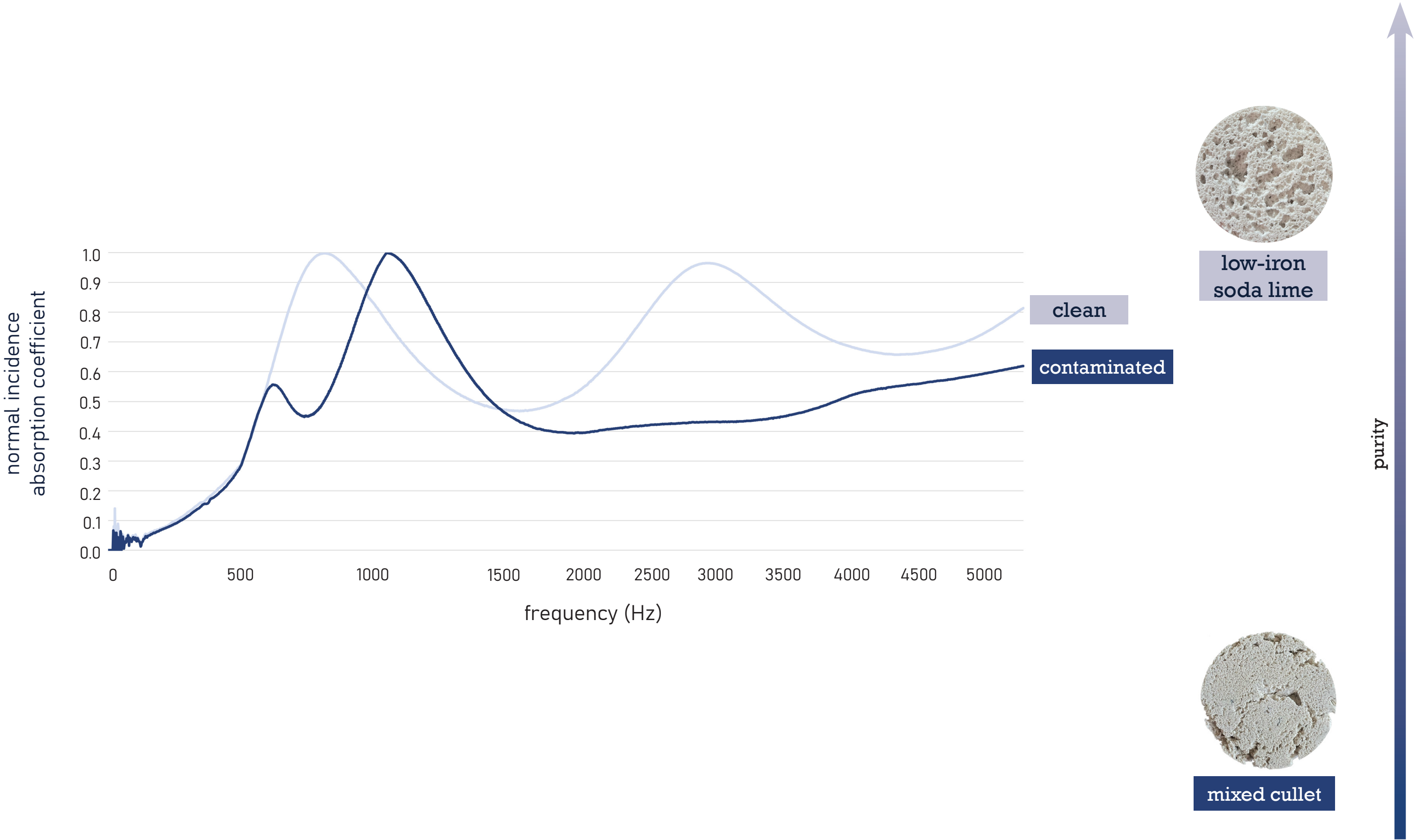


What are the effects of **impurities** on the panel’s acoustic properties?

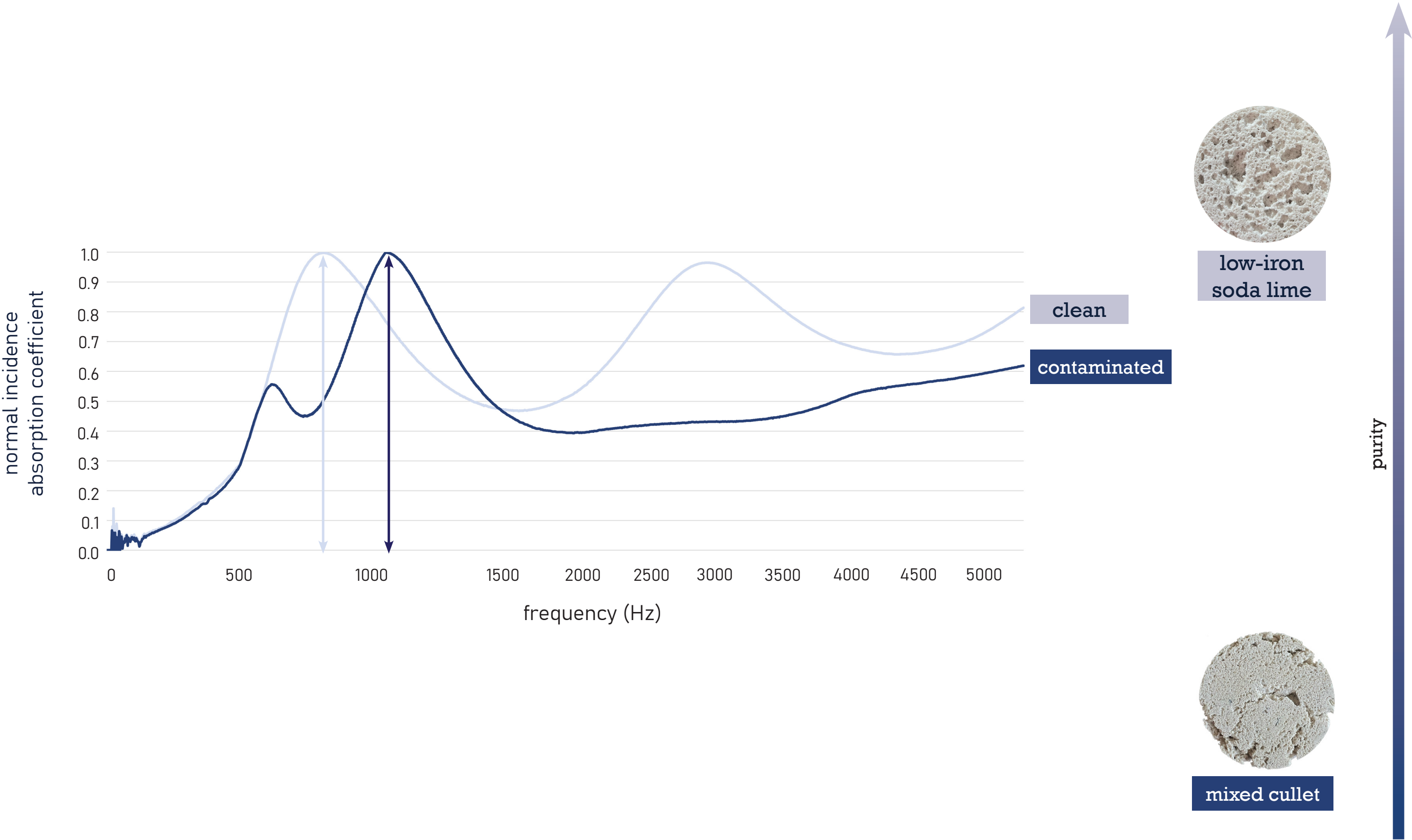
SODA LIME



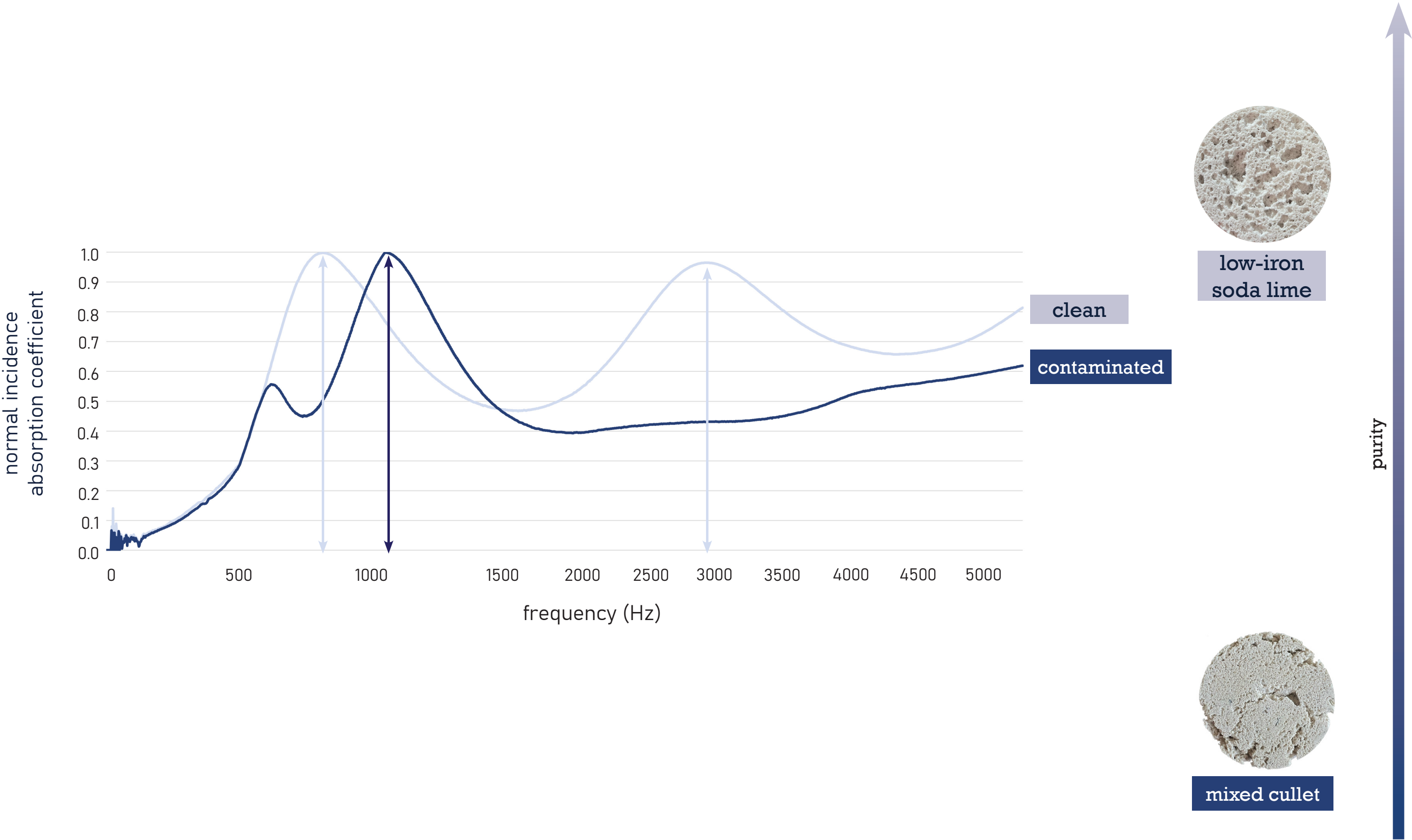
What are the effects of **impurities** on the panel's acoustic properties?



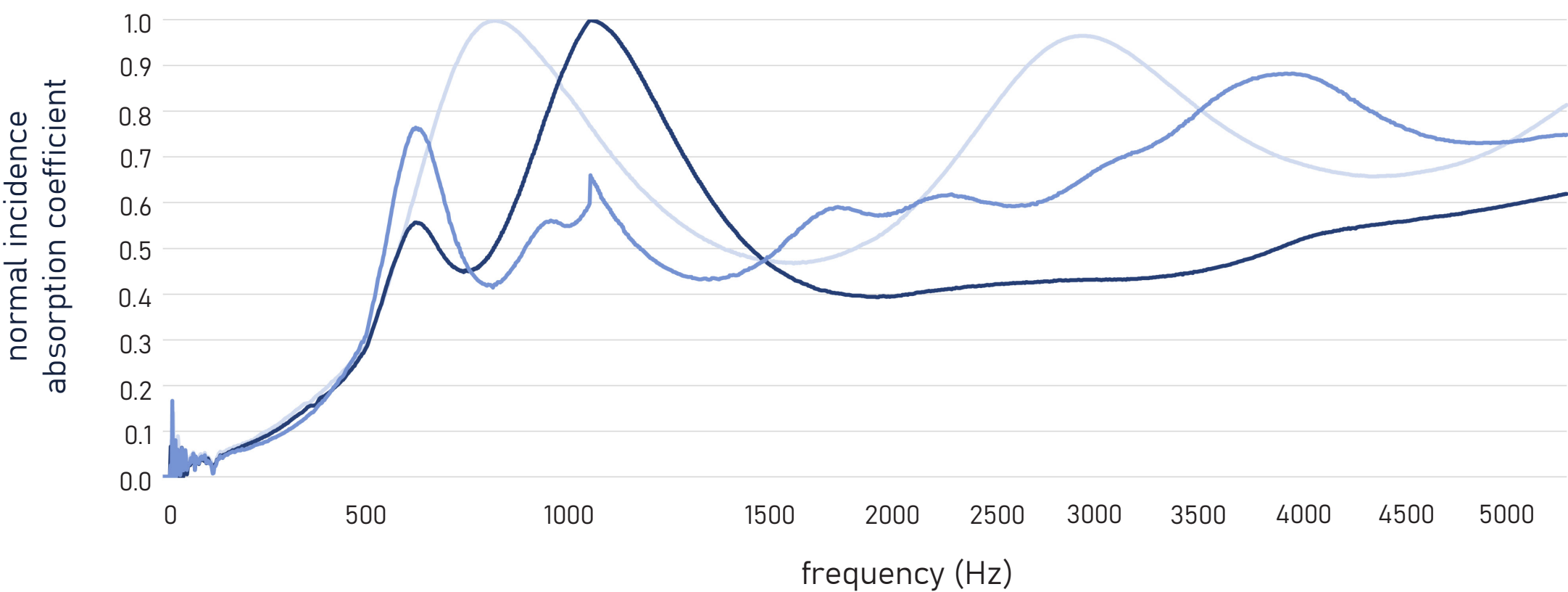
What are the effects of **impurities** on the panel's acoustic properties?



What are the effects of **impurities** on the panel's acoustic properties?



What are the effects of **impurities** on the panel’s acoustic properties?



low-iron
soda lime



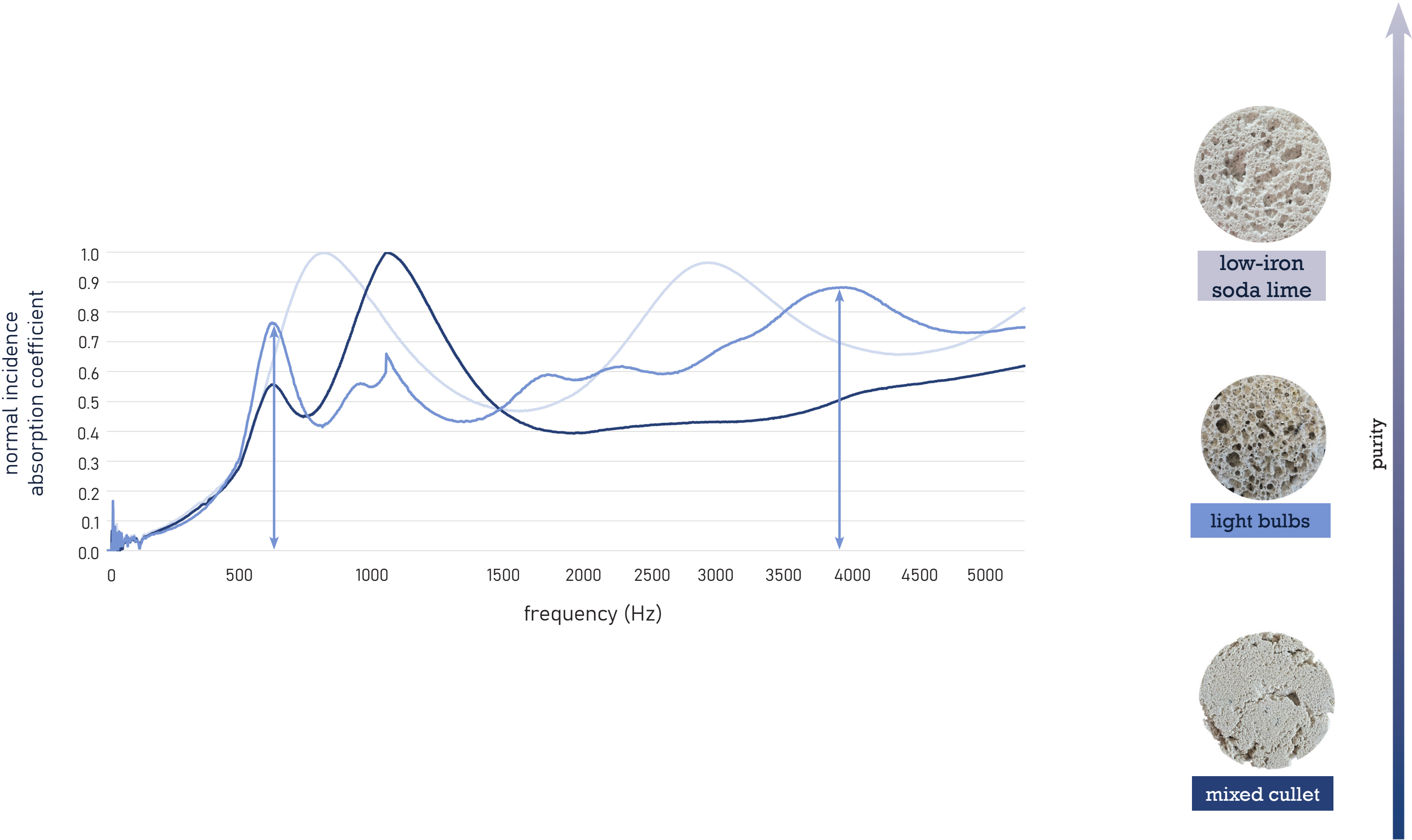
light bulbs



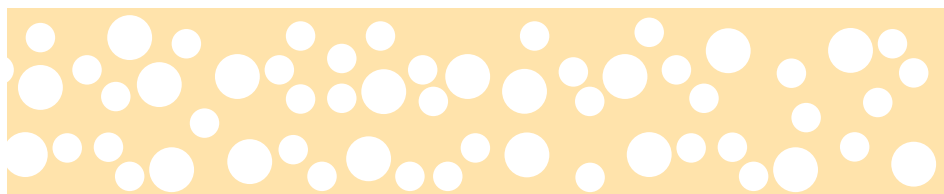
mixed cullet

purity

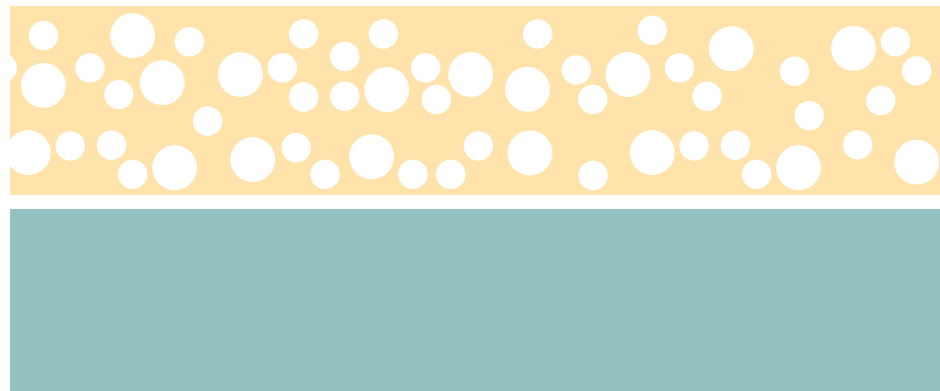
What are the effects of **impurities** on the panel's acoustic properties?



safety

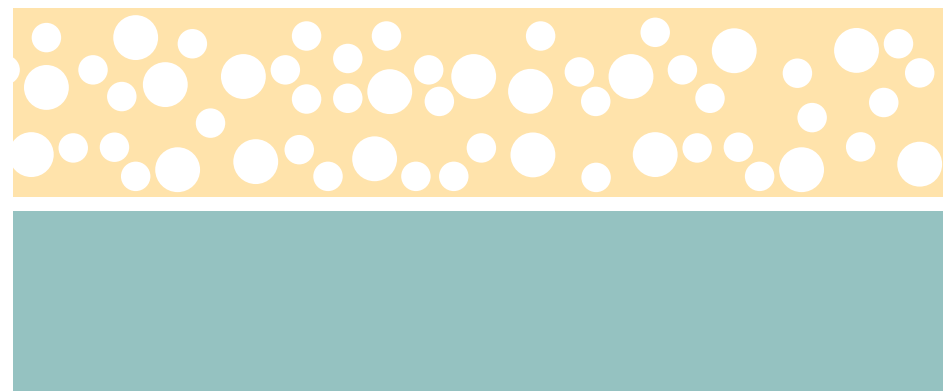


safety

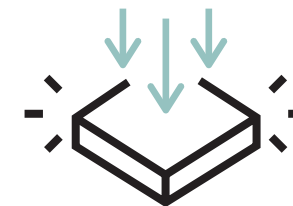


tack fusing

safety



tack fusing



rigidity

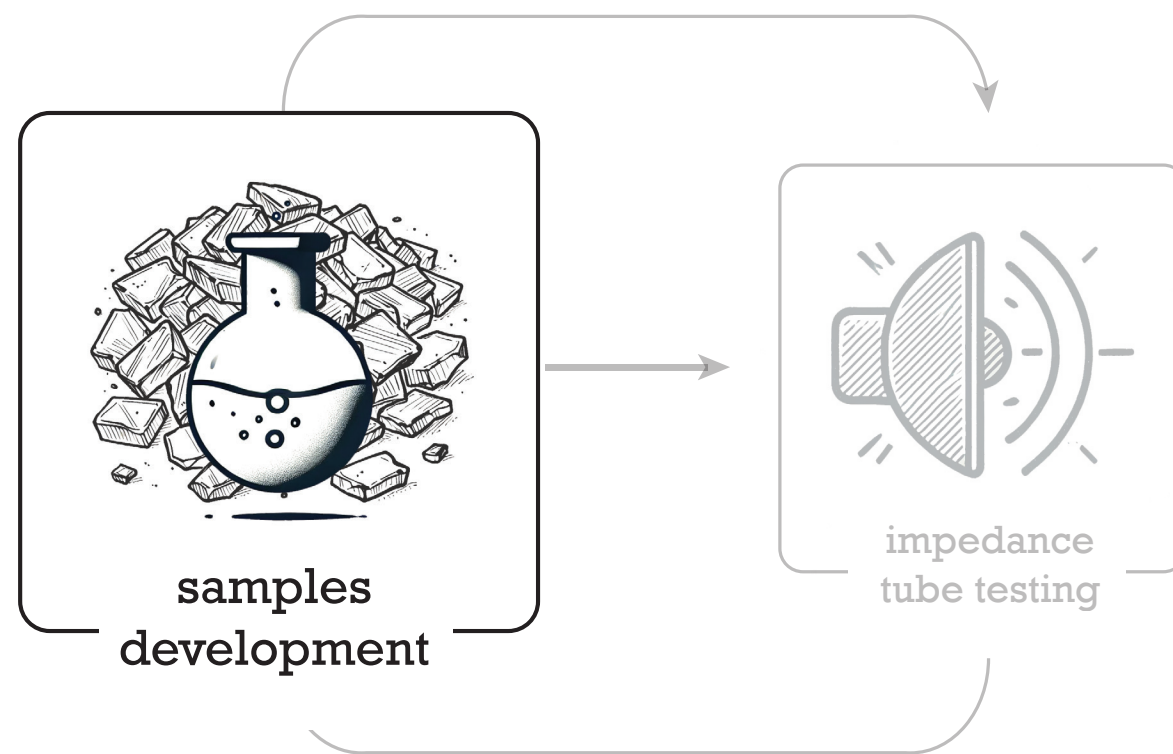


adhesive - free bonding



acoustic reflector

safety



fusing

2 - step: tack fusing

step 1: foaming



pre-foamed



fusing



2 - step: tack fusing

step 1: foaming



pre-foamed

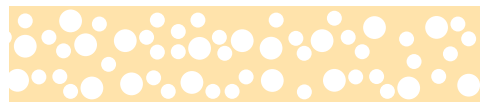


solid

fusing

2 - step: tack fusing

step 1: foaming



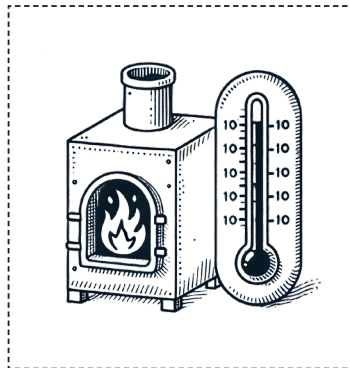
pre-foamed



solid



step 2: fusing



fusing

2 - step: tack fusing

step 1: foaming

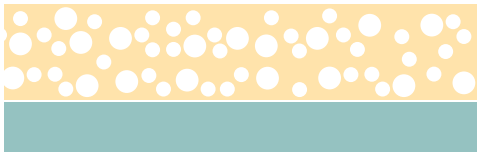
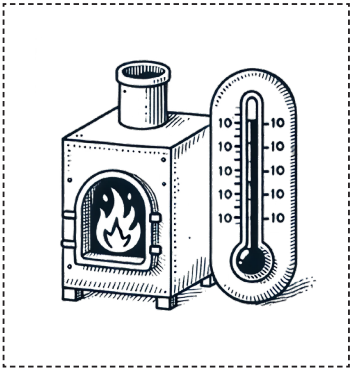


pre-foamed



solid

step 2: fusing



bonded

fusing

2 - step: tack fusing

1 step

step 1: foaming



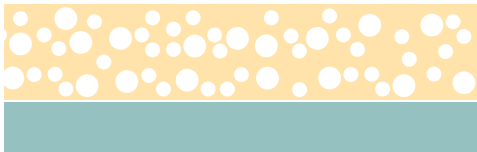
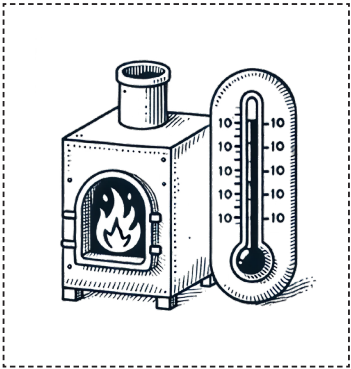
pre-foamed



solid



step 2: fusing



bonded



fusing

2 - step: tack fusing

1 step

step 1: foaming



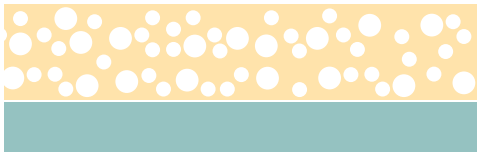
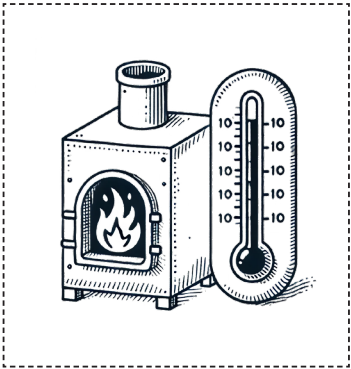
pre-foamed



solid



step 2: fusing



bonded

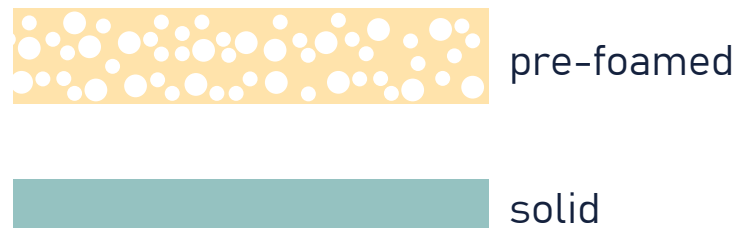


solid

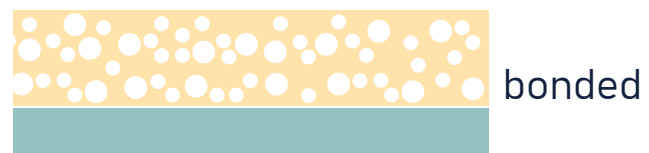
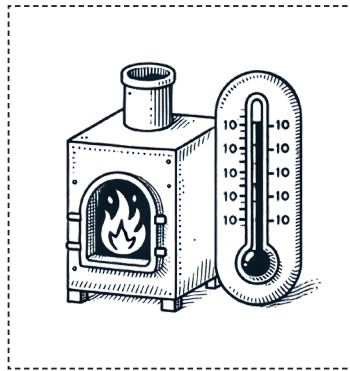
fusing

2 - step: tack fusing

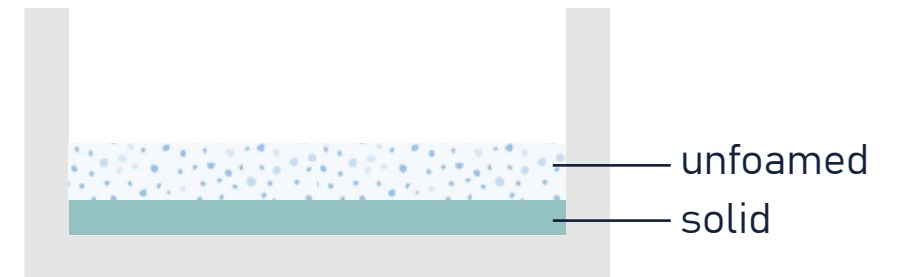
step 1: foaming



step 2: fusing



1 step



fusing

2 - step: tack fusing

1 step

step 1: foaming



pre-foamed

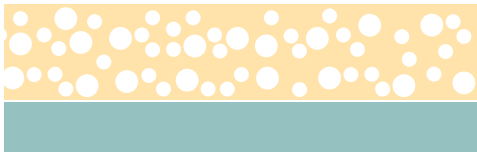
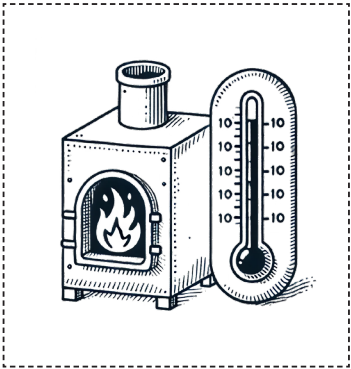


solid



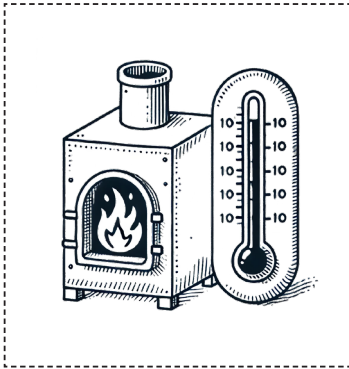
unfoamed
solid

step 2: fusing



bonded

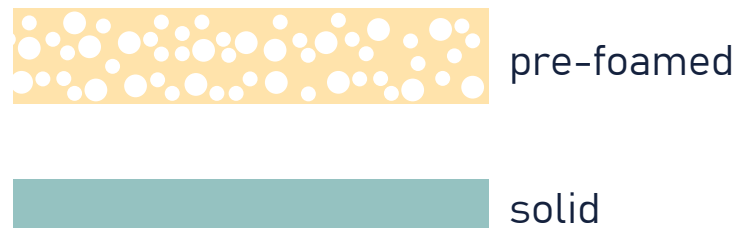
step 1:
simultaneous
foaming and
fusing



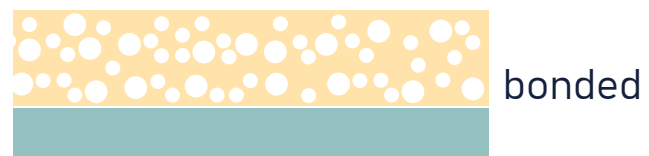
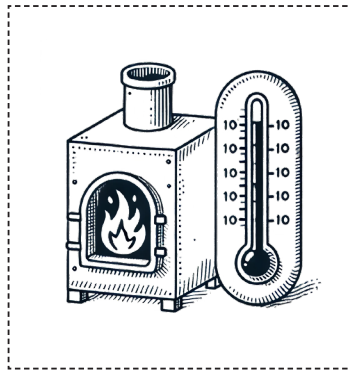
fusing

2 - step: tack fusing

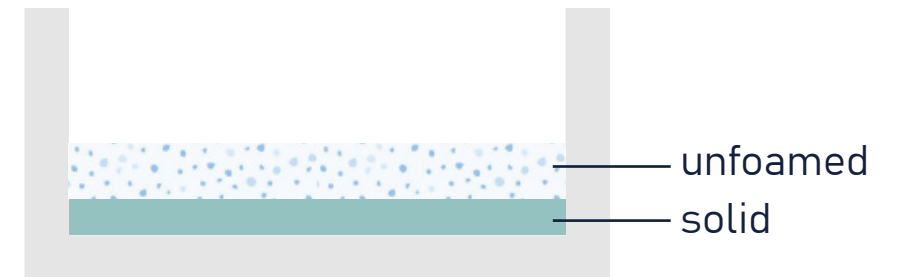
step 1: foaming



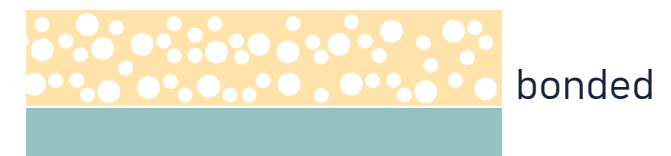
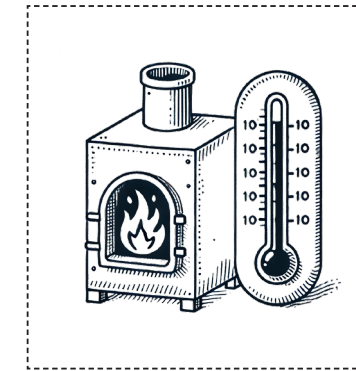
step 2: fusing

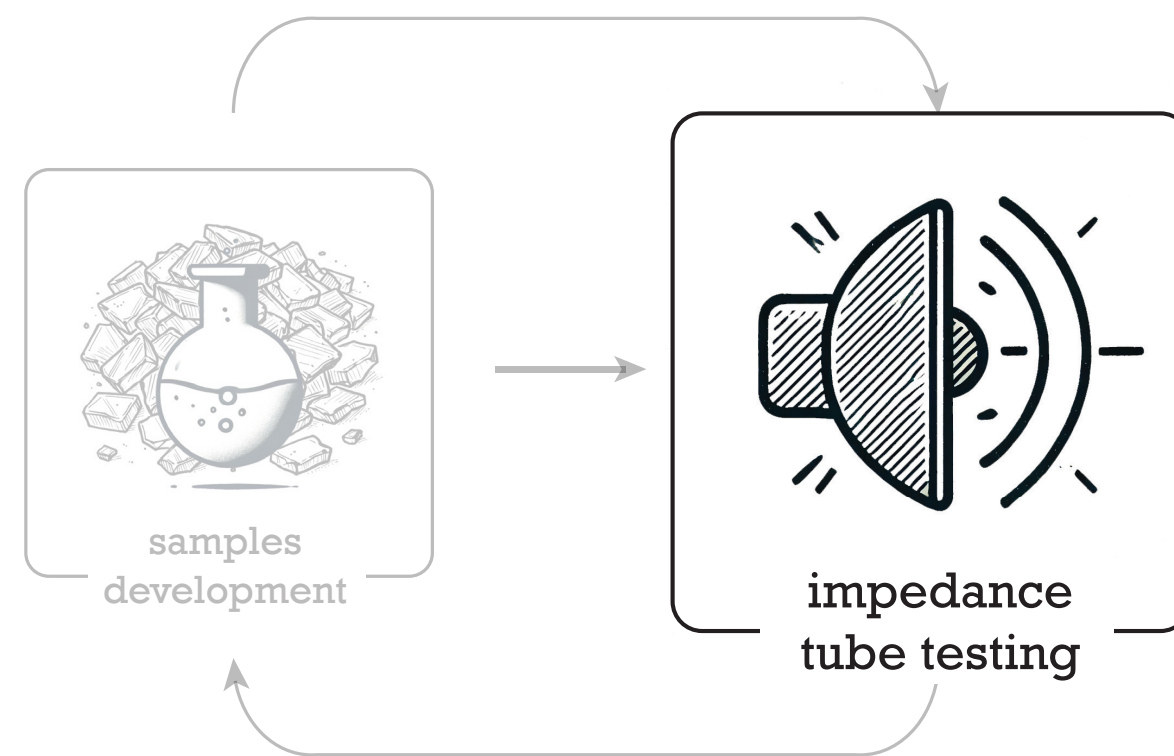


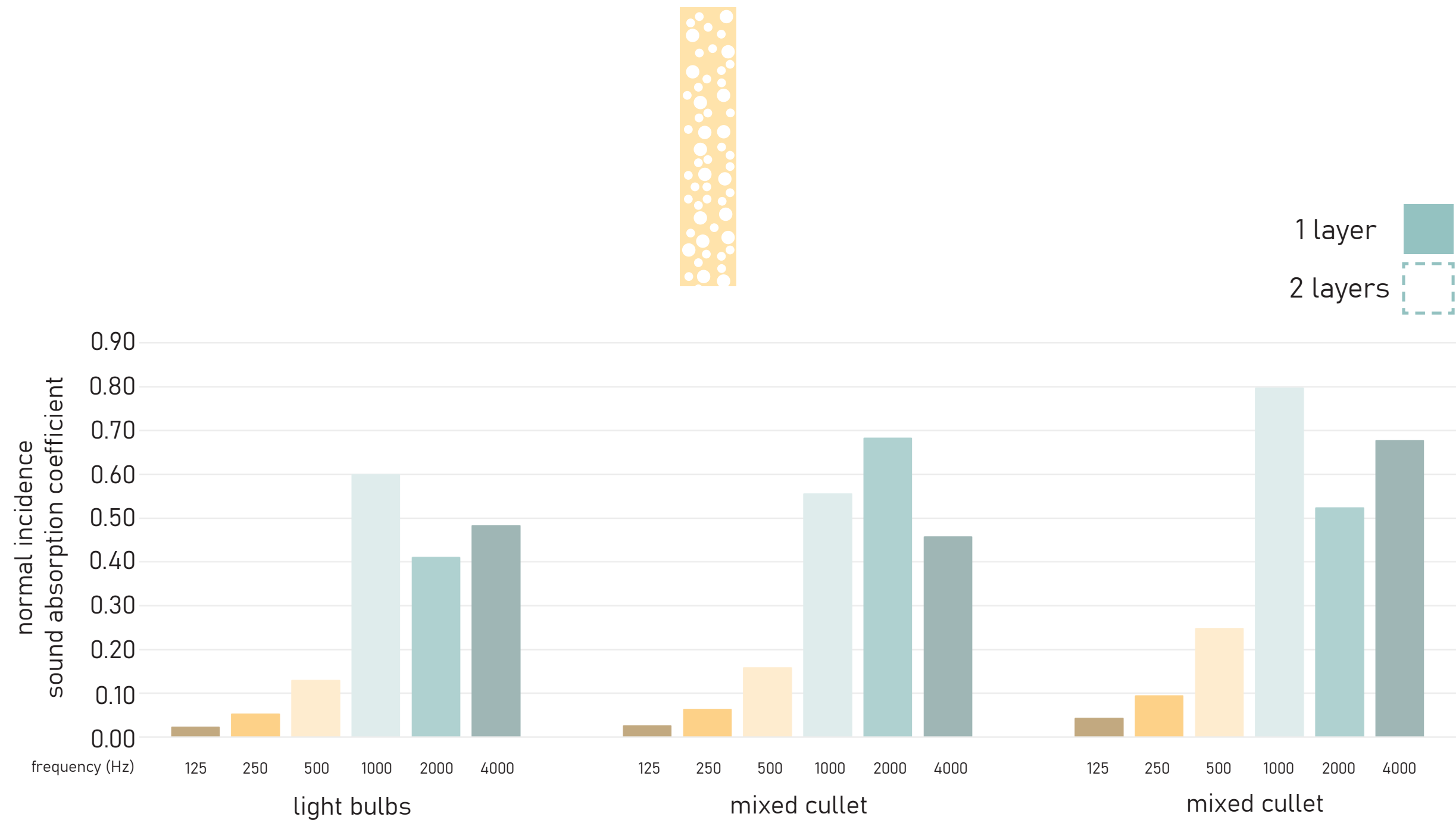
1 step

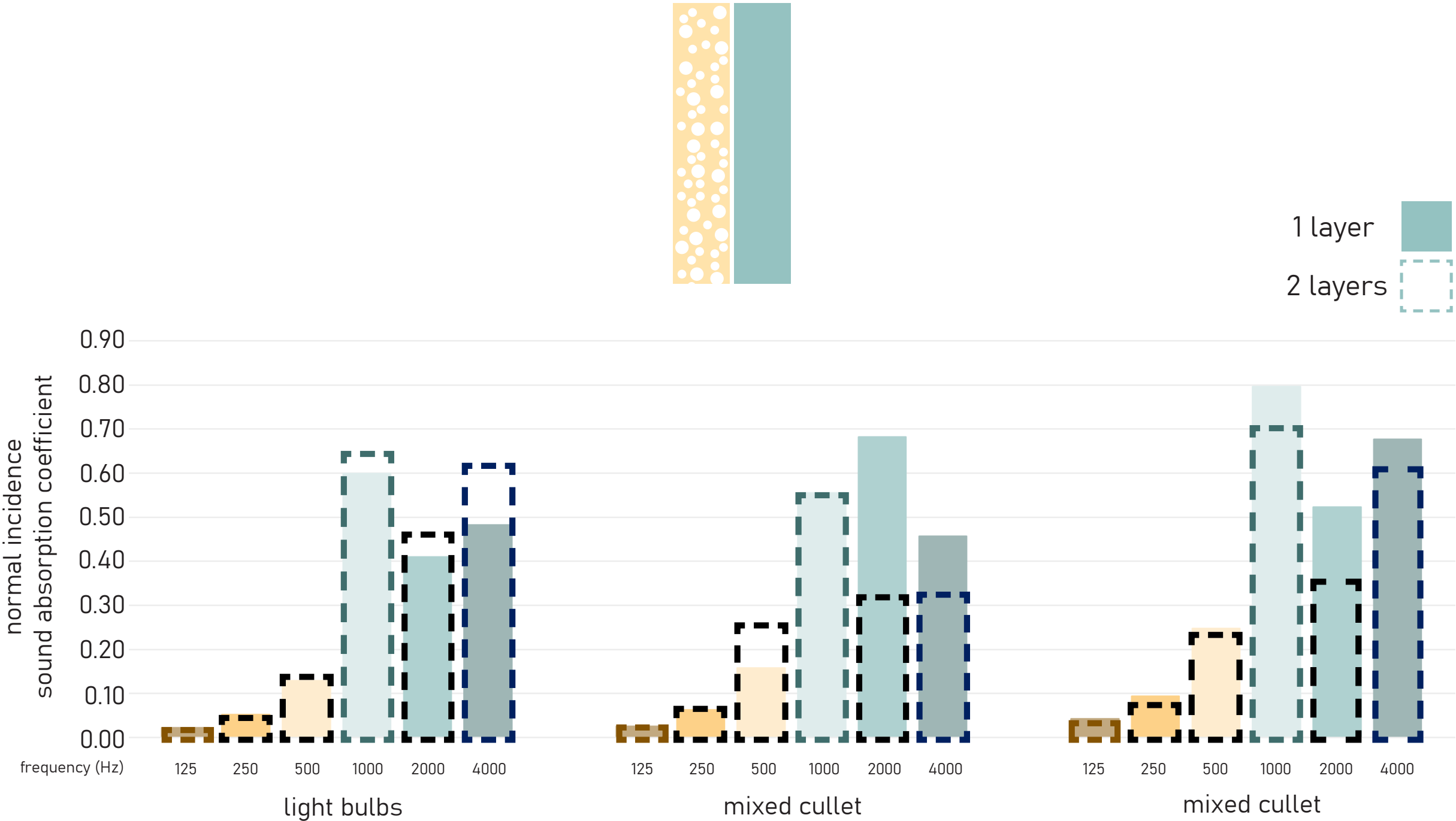


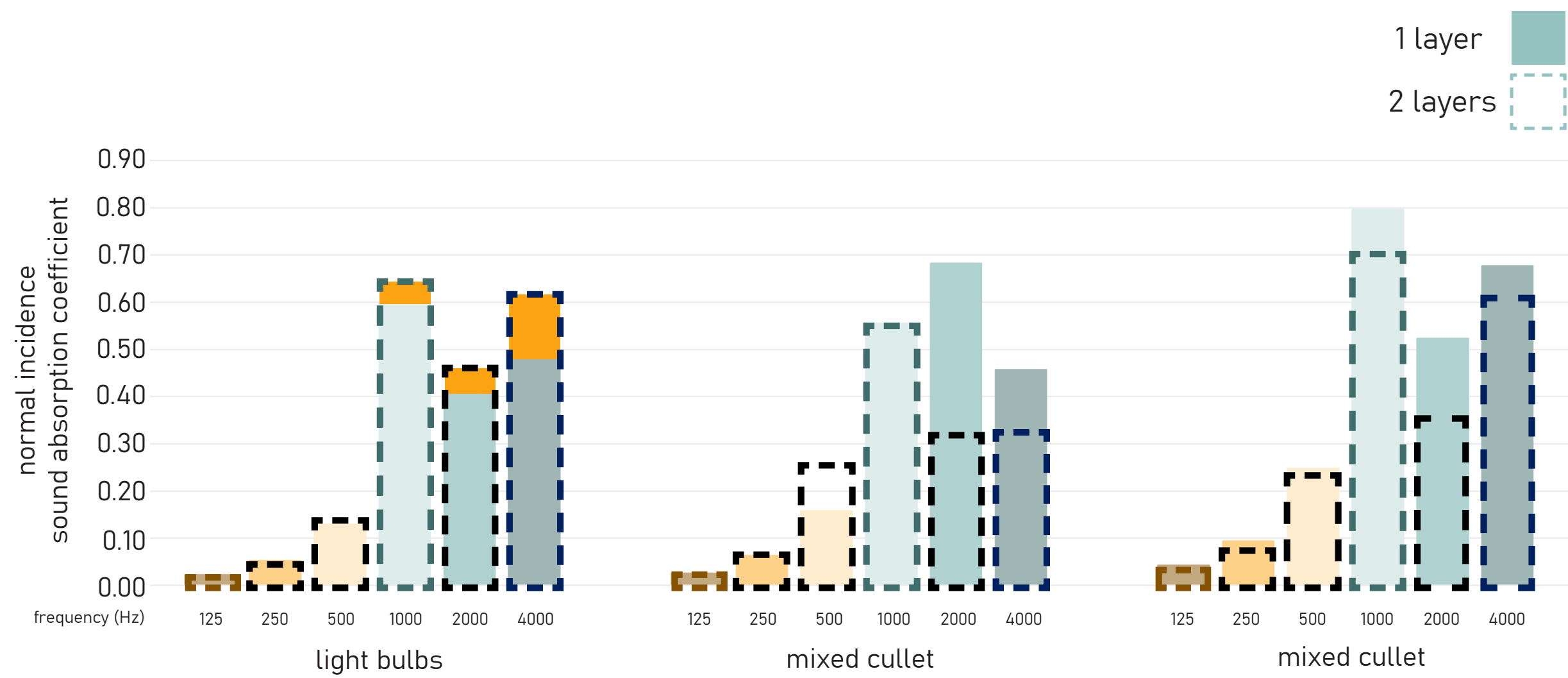
**step 1:
simultaneous
foaming and
fusing**

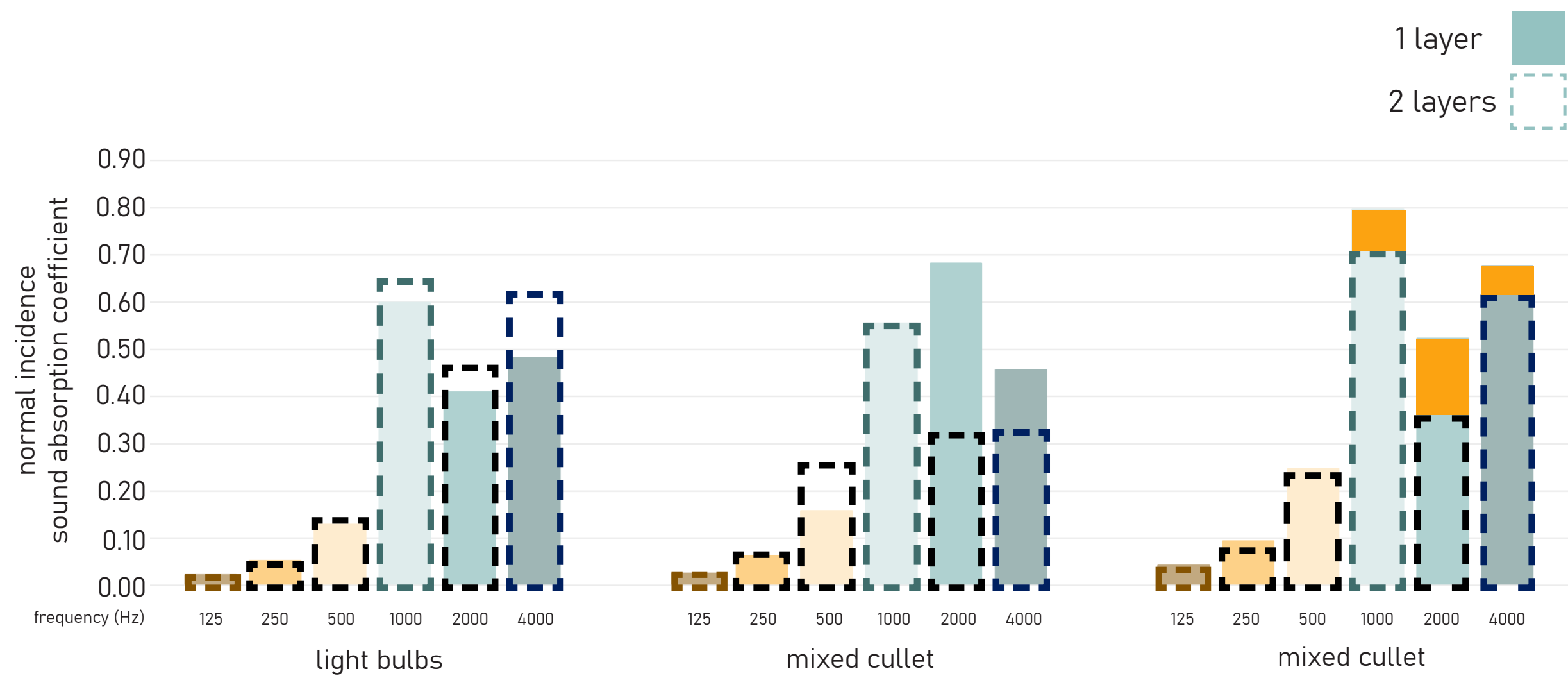










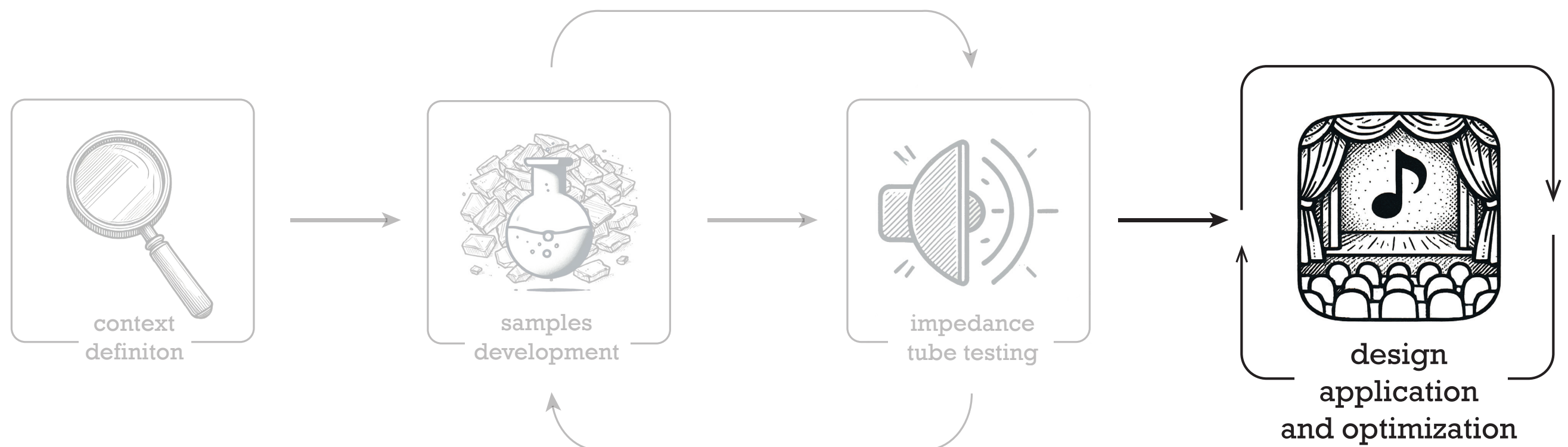


application

**context
definition**

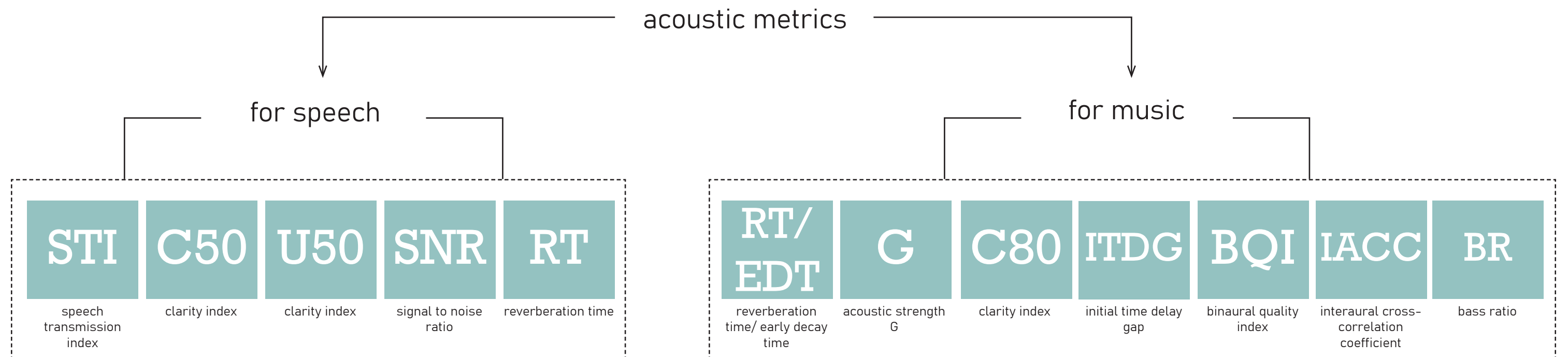
experimental research

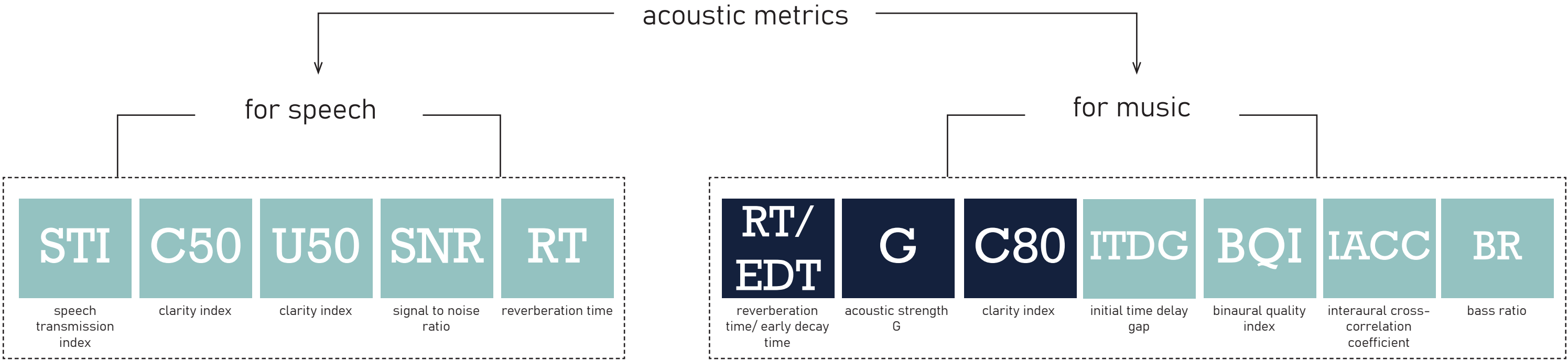
**design
application**





Theatre Hall, TU Delft X





acoustic metrics

reverberation time	clarity index (definition)	acoustic strength
RT	C80	G

acoustic metrics

reverberation time

RT

clarity index (definition)

C80

acoustic strength

G

liveness

clarity

loudness

music hall attributes

acoustic metrics

reverberation time

RT

clarity index (definition)

C80

acoustic strength

G

liveness

clarity

loudness

music hall attributes



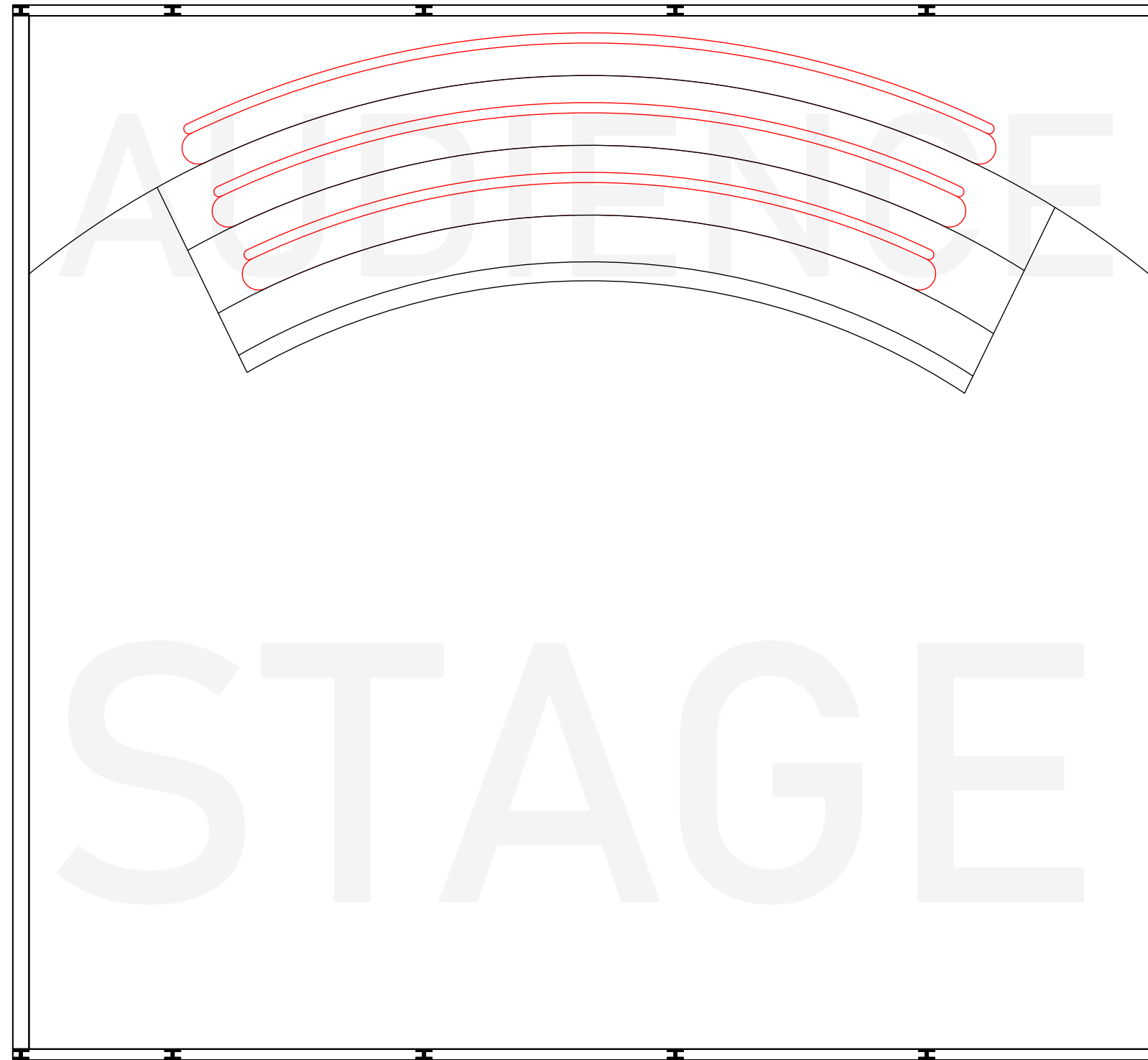
speaker



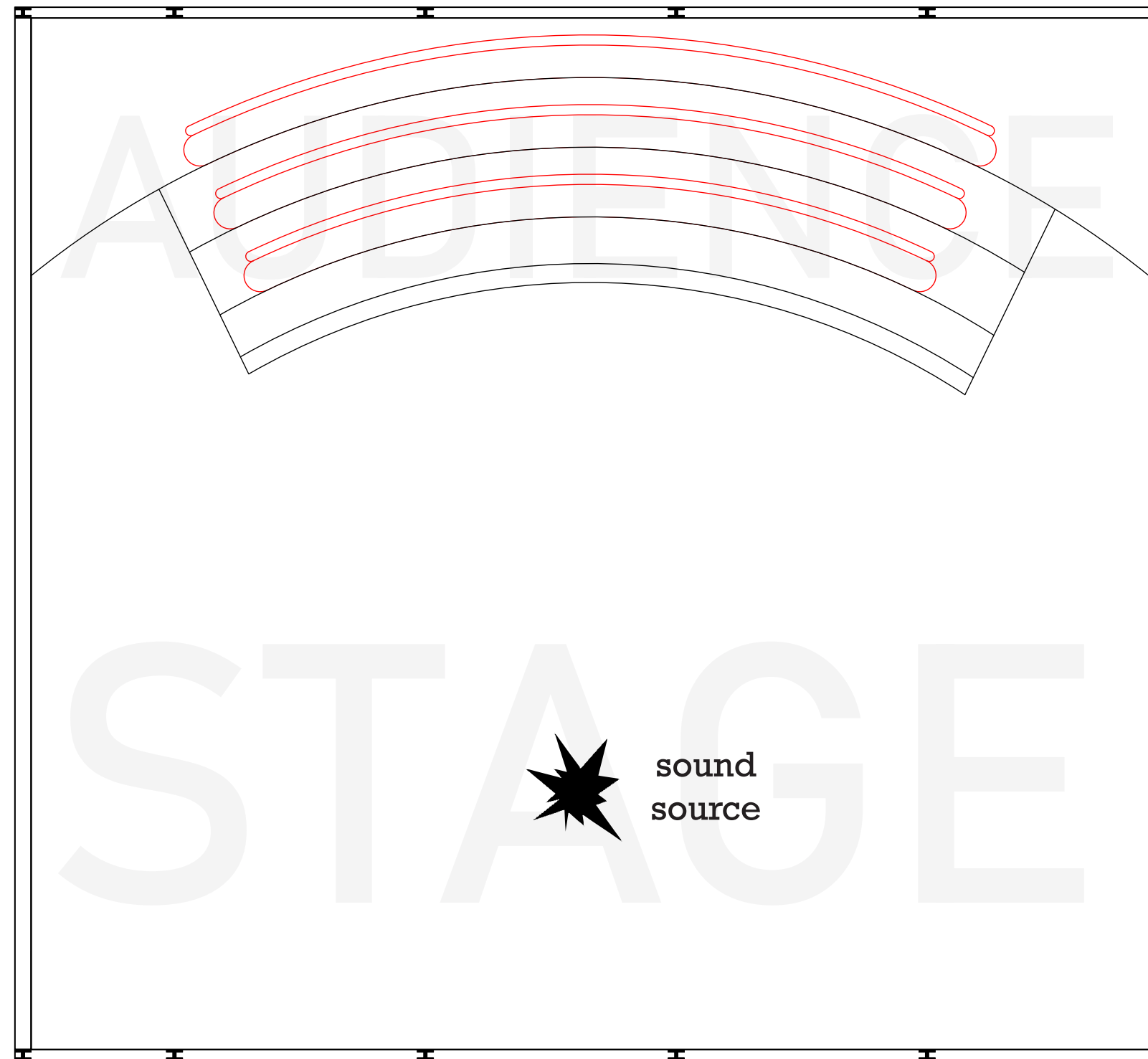
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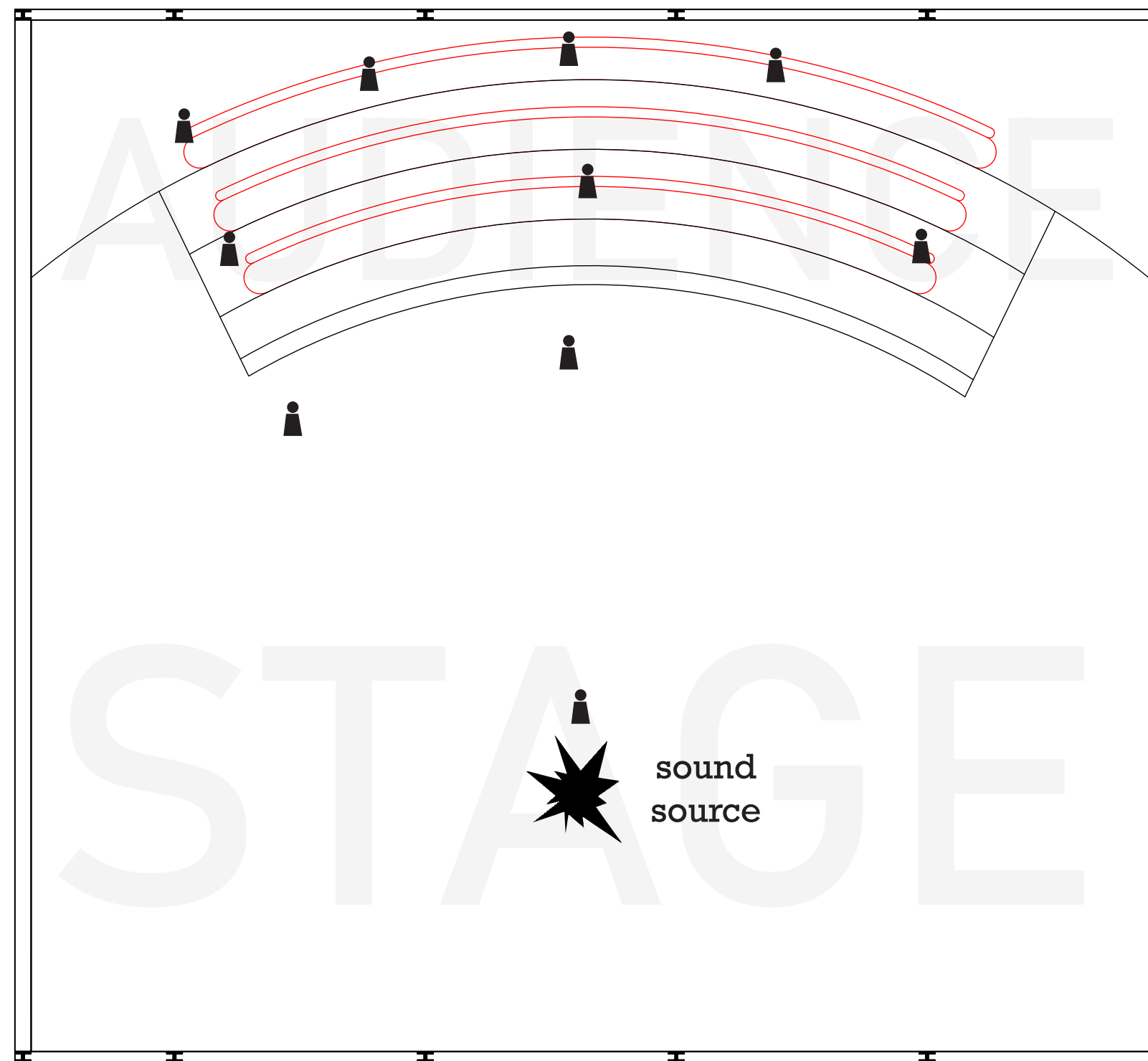
set up



Theatre Hall, top view



Theatre Hall, top view



Theatre Hall, top view

reverberation time

RT

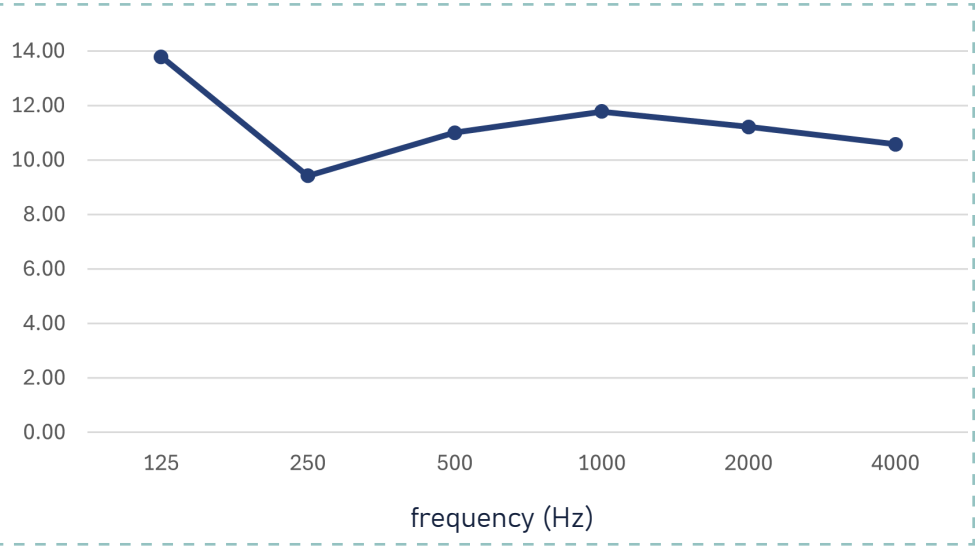
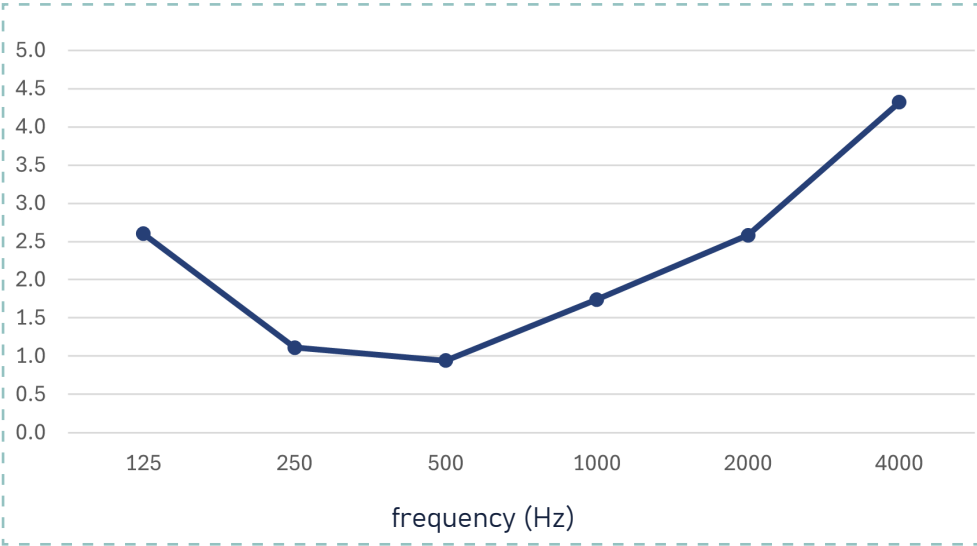
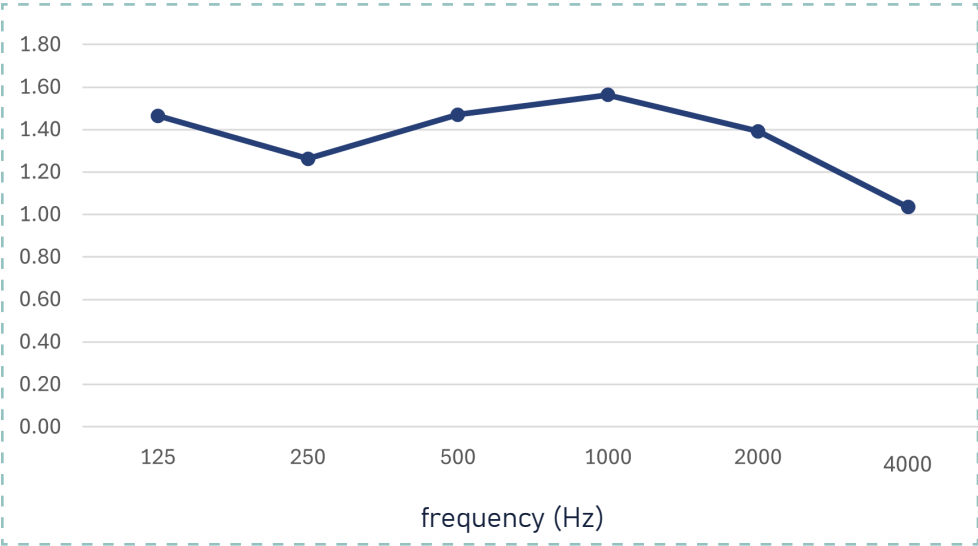
clarity index (definition)

C80

acoustic strength

G

measured values (unoccupied scenario)



reverberation time

RT

clarity index (definition)

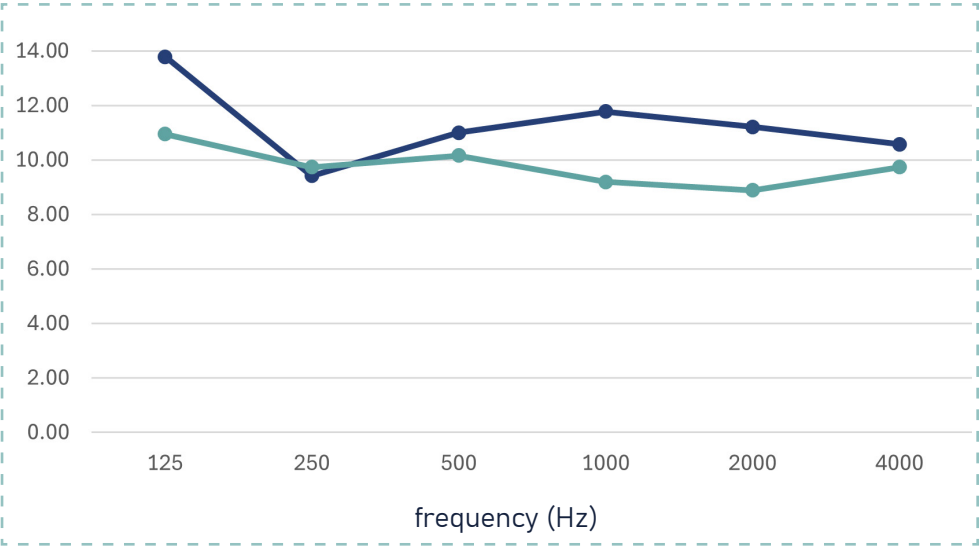
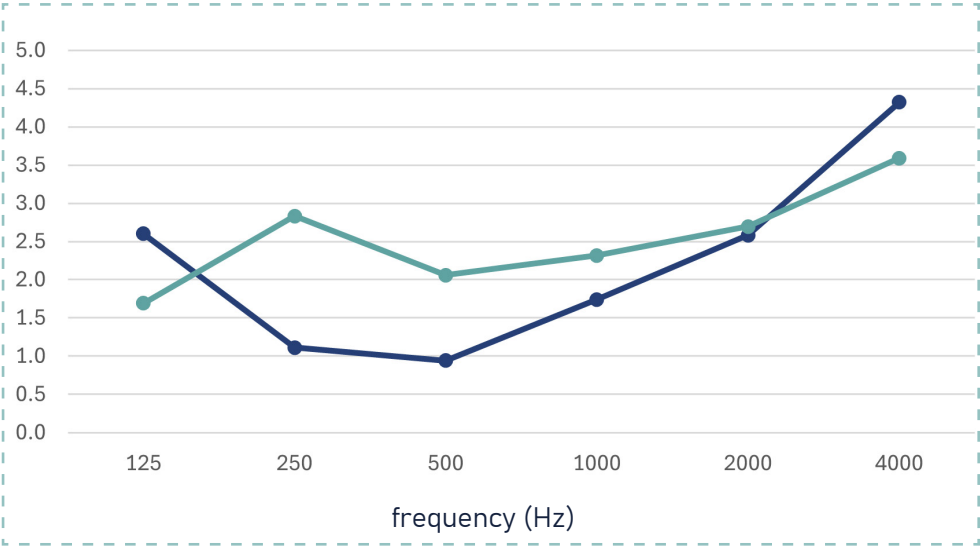
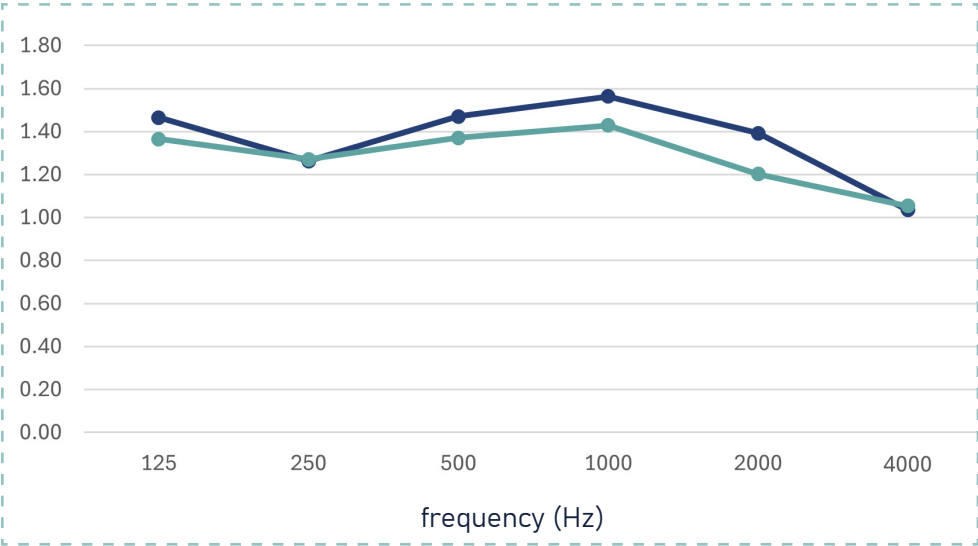
C80

acoustic strength

G

measured values (unoccupied scenario)
simulated values (occupied scenario)

VS.



reverberation time

RT

clarity index (definition)

C80

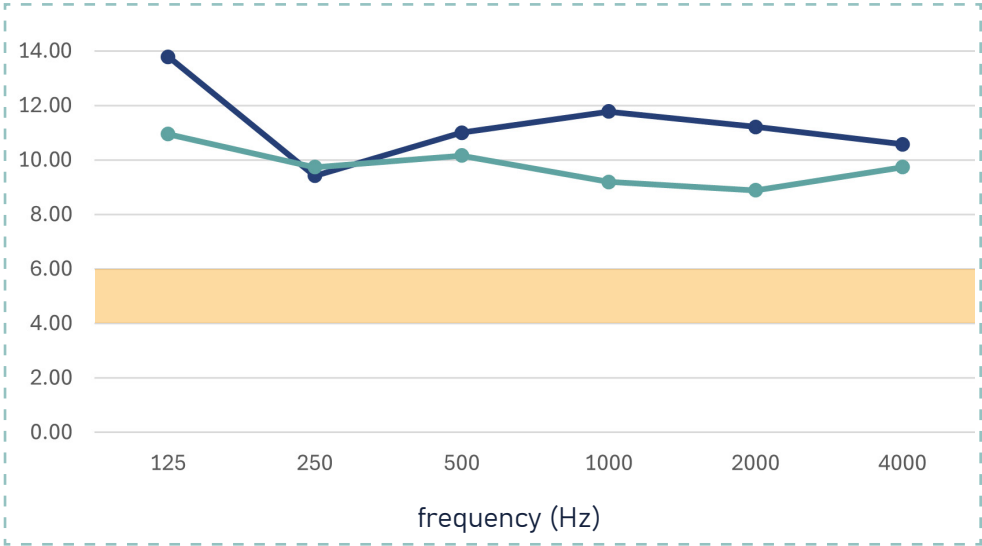
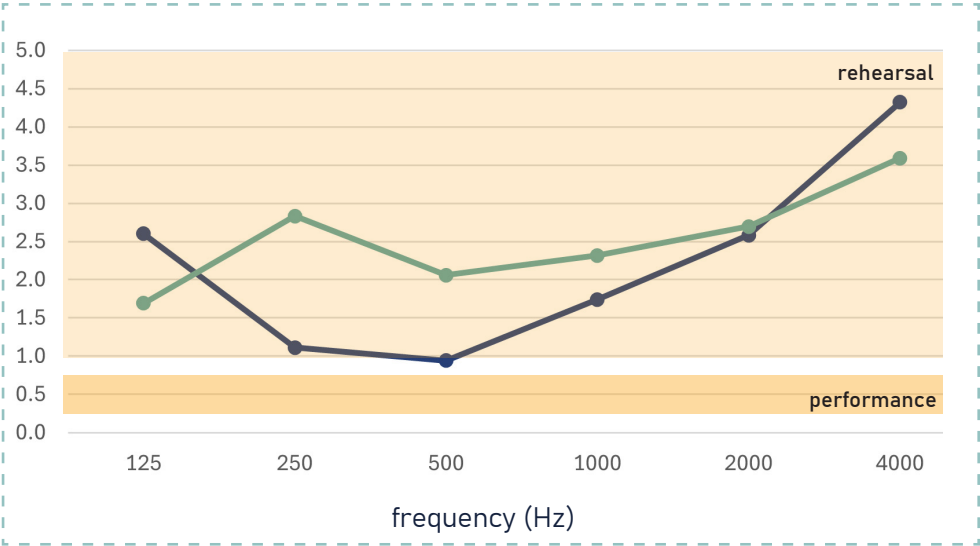
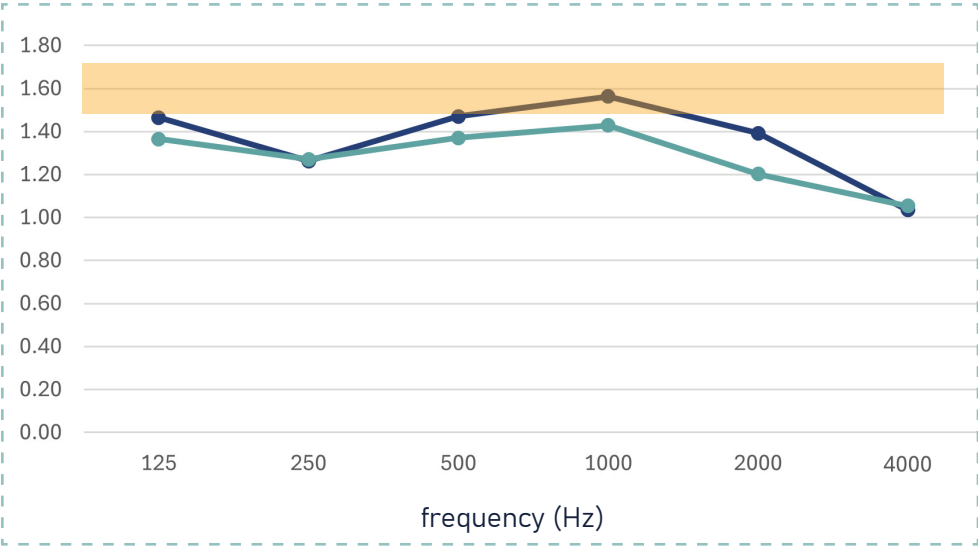
acoustic strength

G

measured values (unoccupied scenario)
simulated values (occupied scenario)

VS.

target values



reverberation time

RT

clarity index (definition)

C80

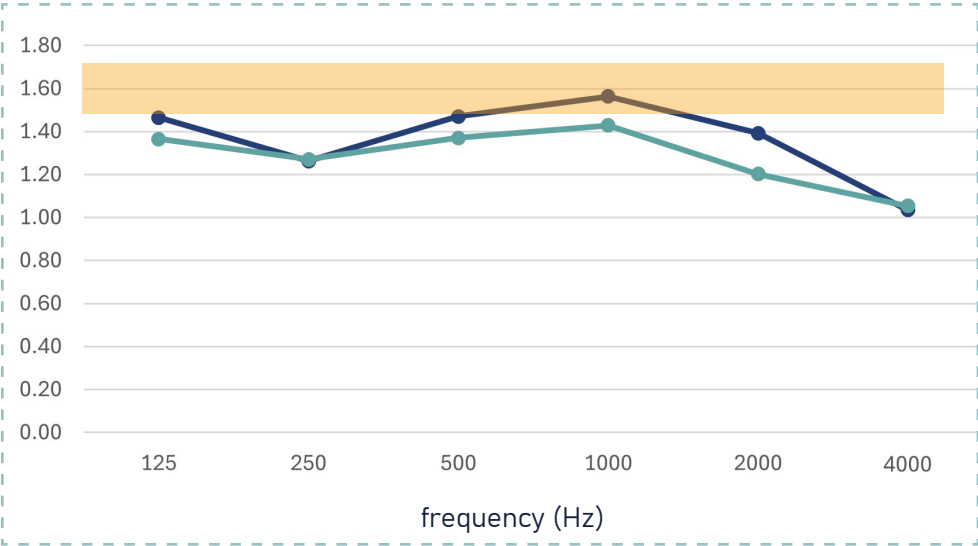
acoustic strength

G

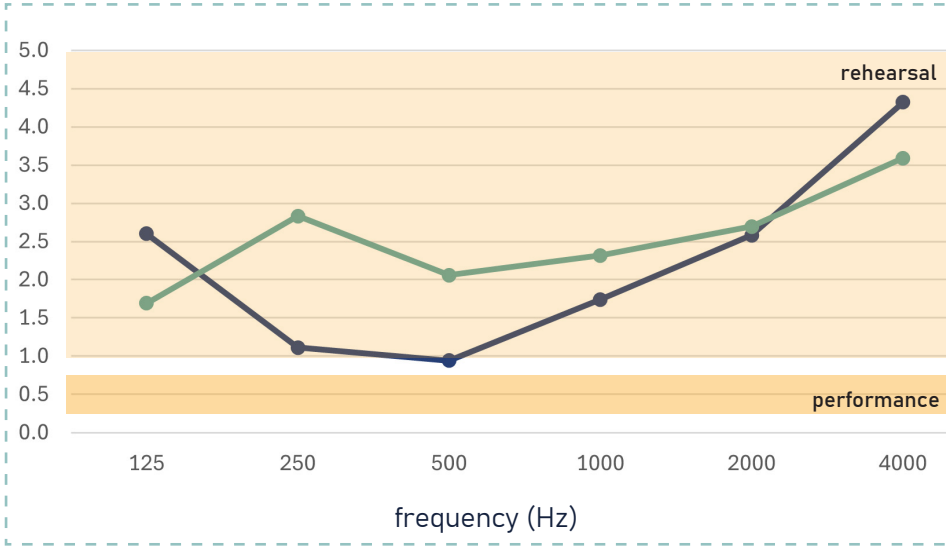
measured values (unoccupied scenario)
simulated values (occupied scenario)

VS.

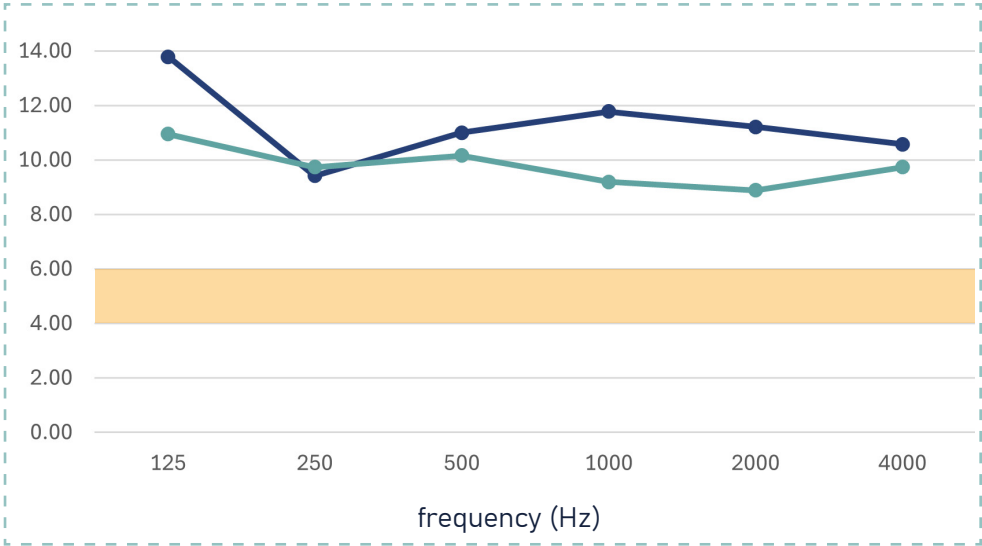
target values



(slightly) too short



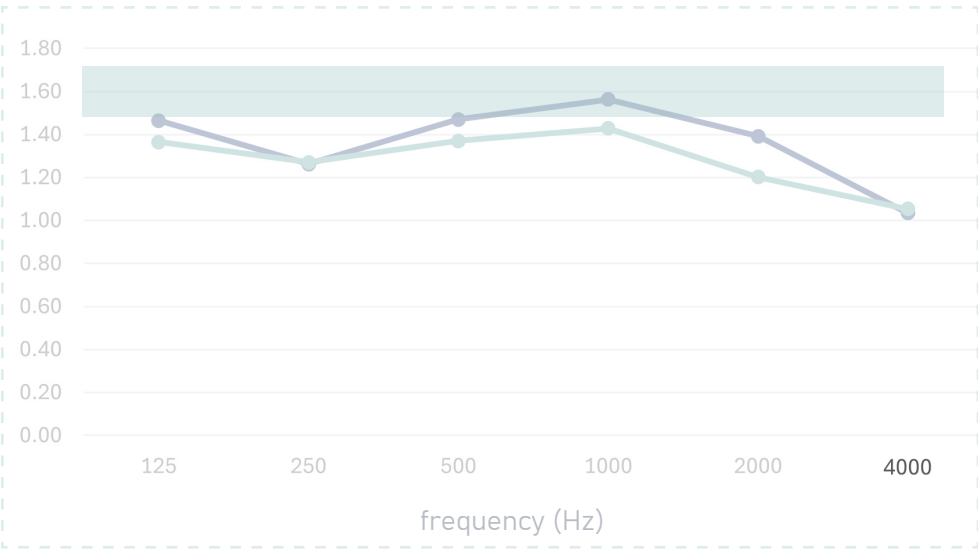
too high



too high

reverberation time

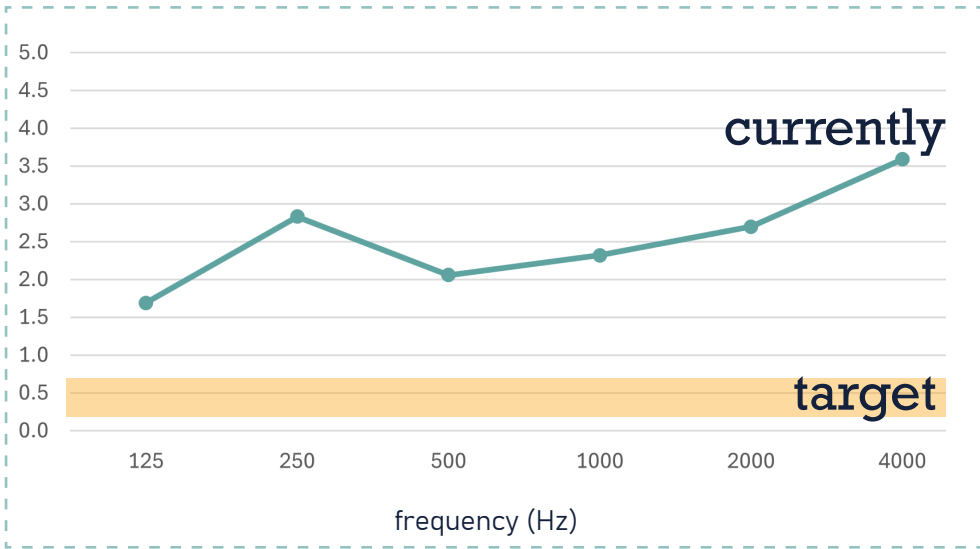
RT



(slightly) too short

clarity index (definition)

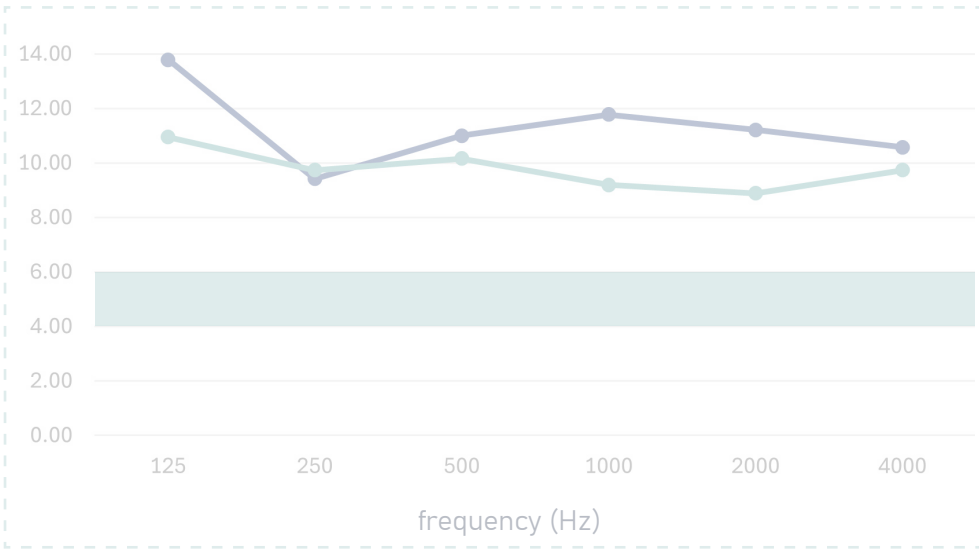
C80



too high

acoustic strength

G



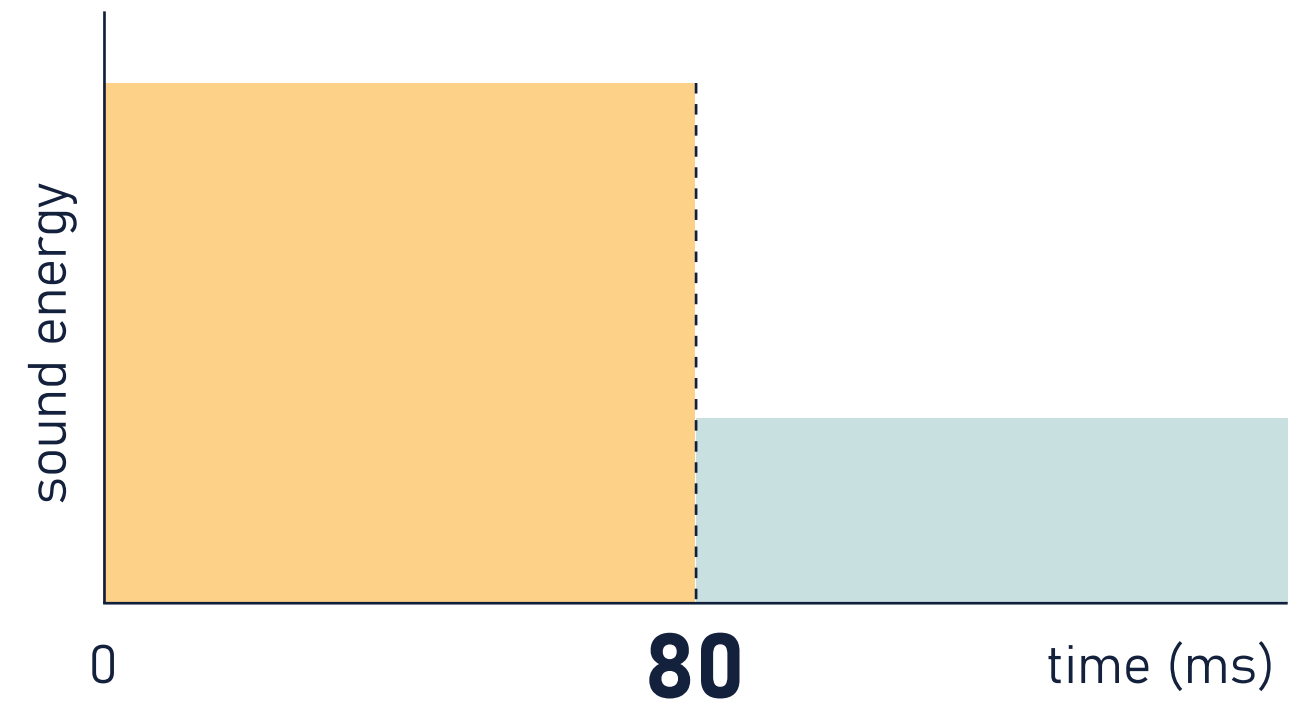
too high

clarity index (definition)

C80

=

Early
Late

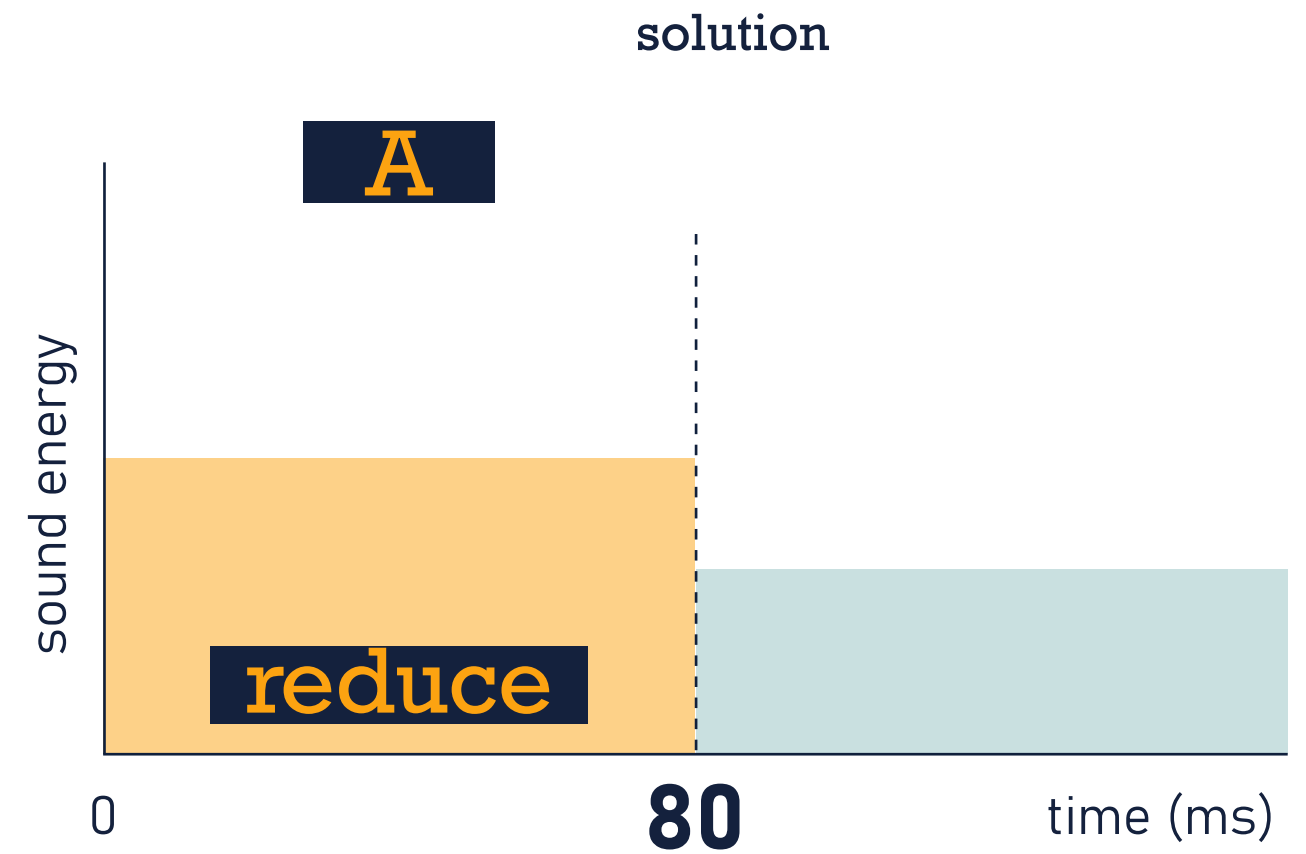


clarity index (definition)

C80

=

Early
Late

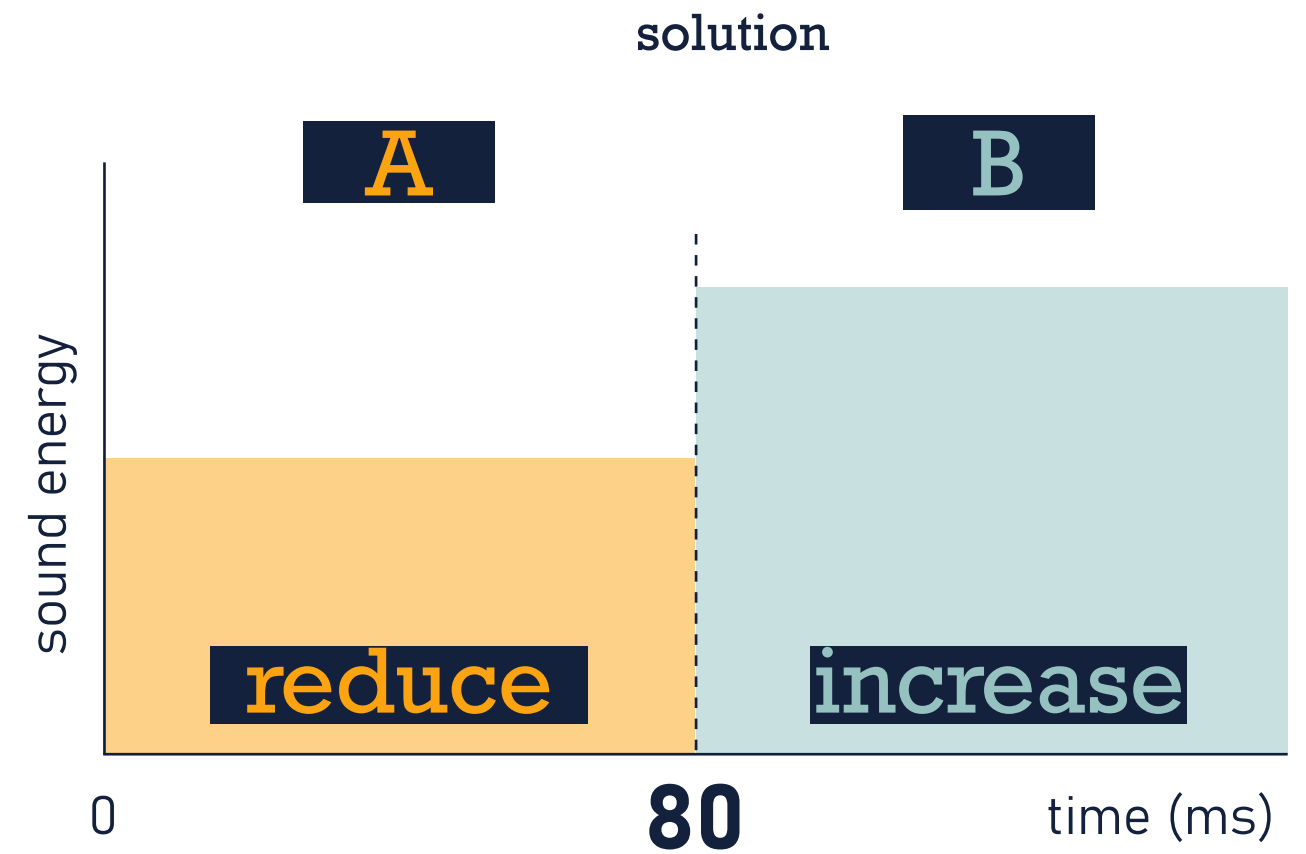


clarity index (definition)

C80

=

Early
Late

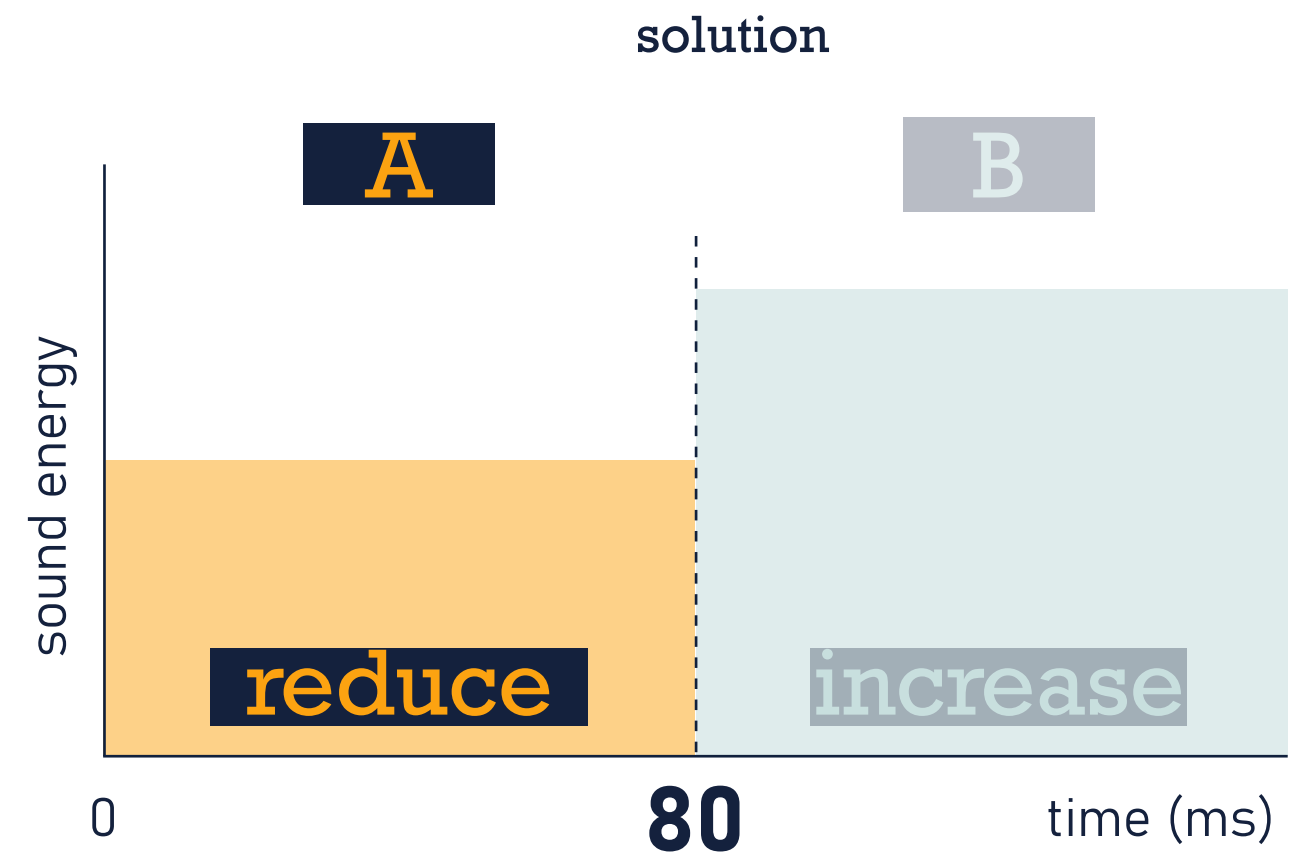


clarity index (definition)

C80

=

Early
Late

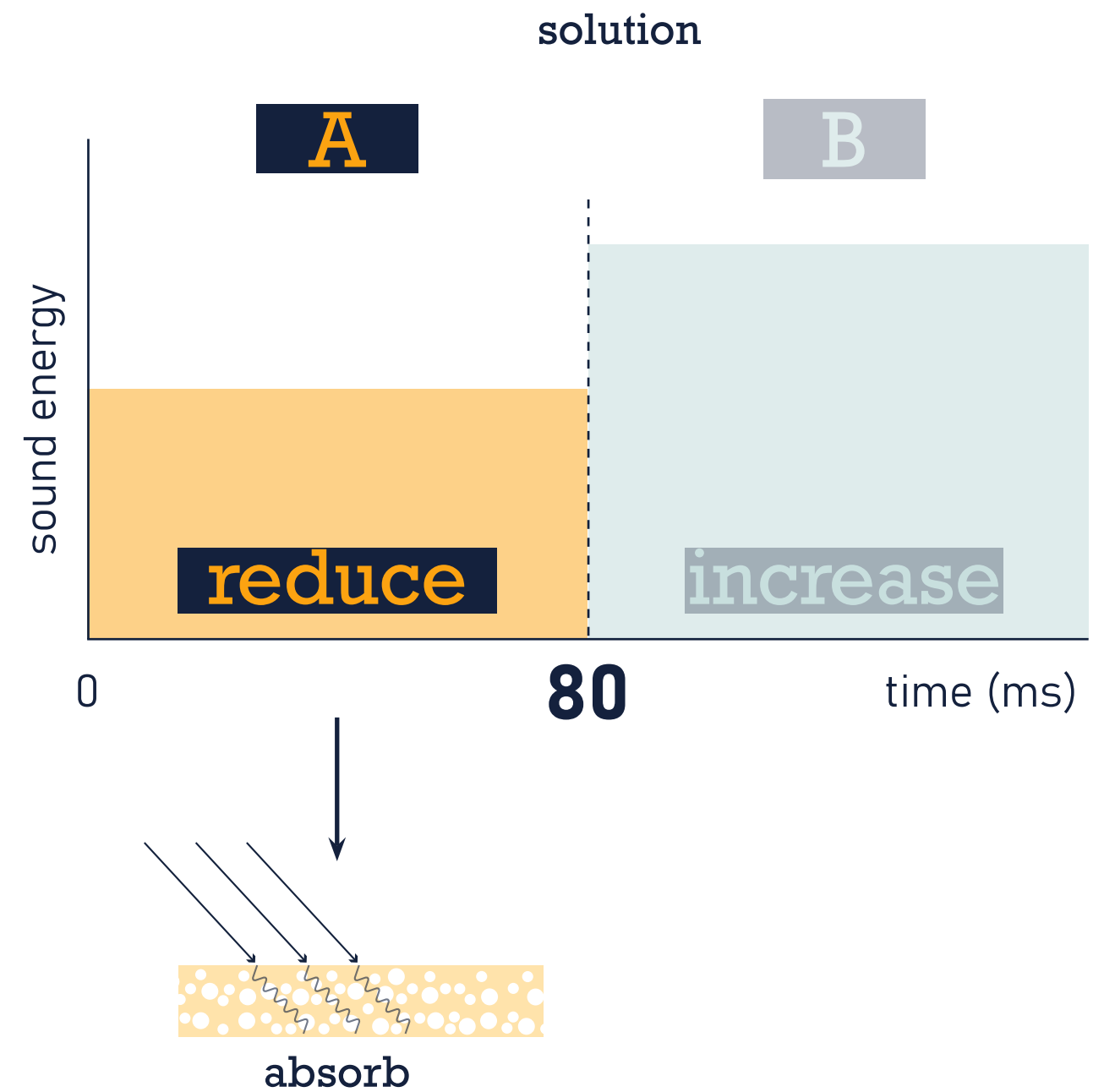


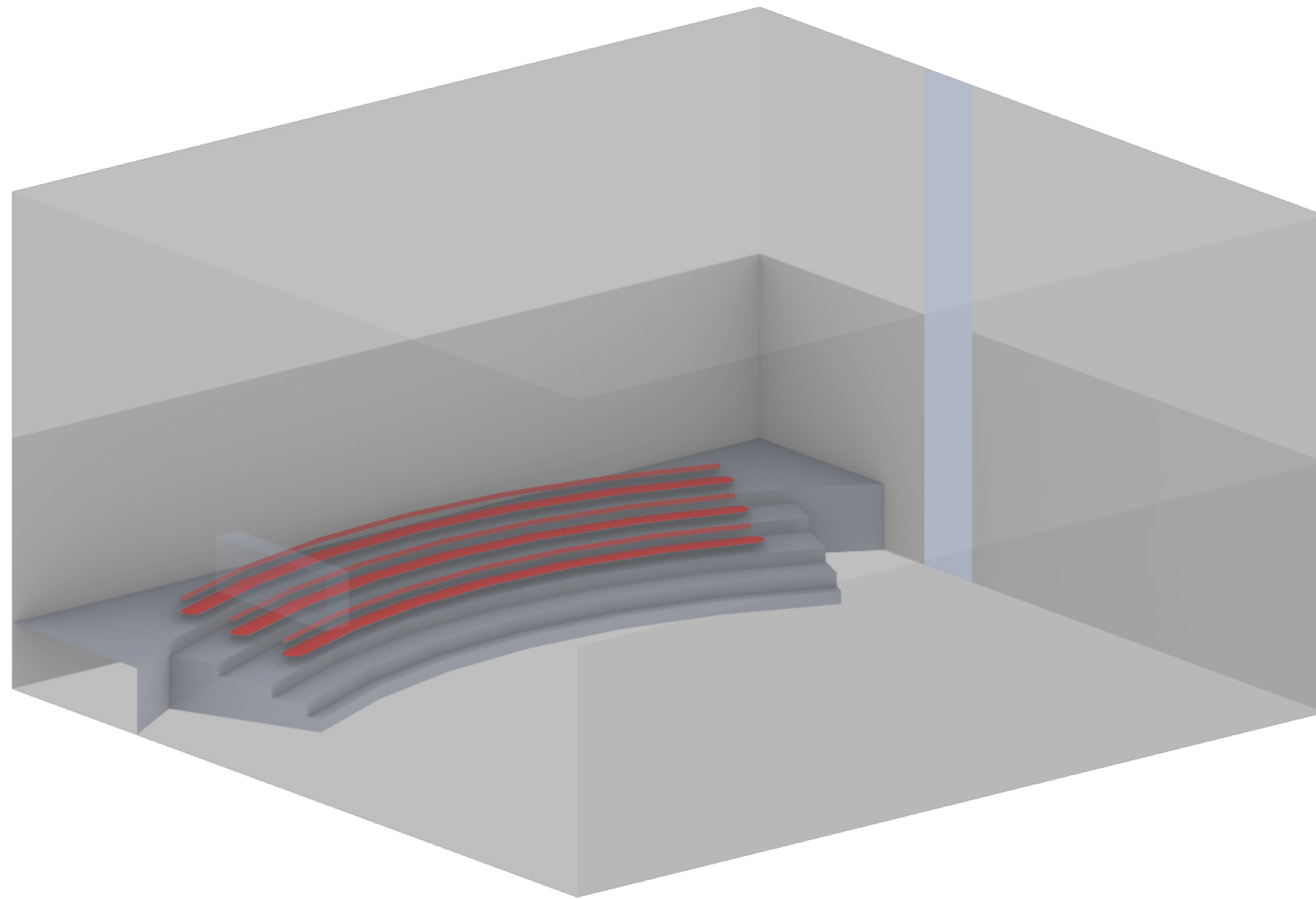
clarity index (definition)

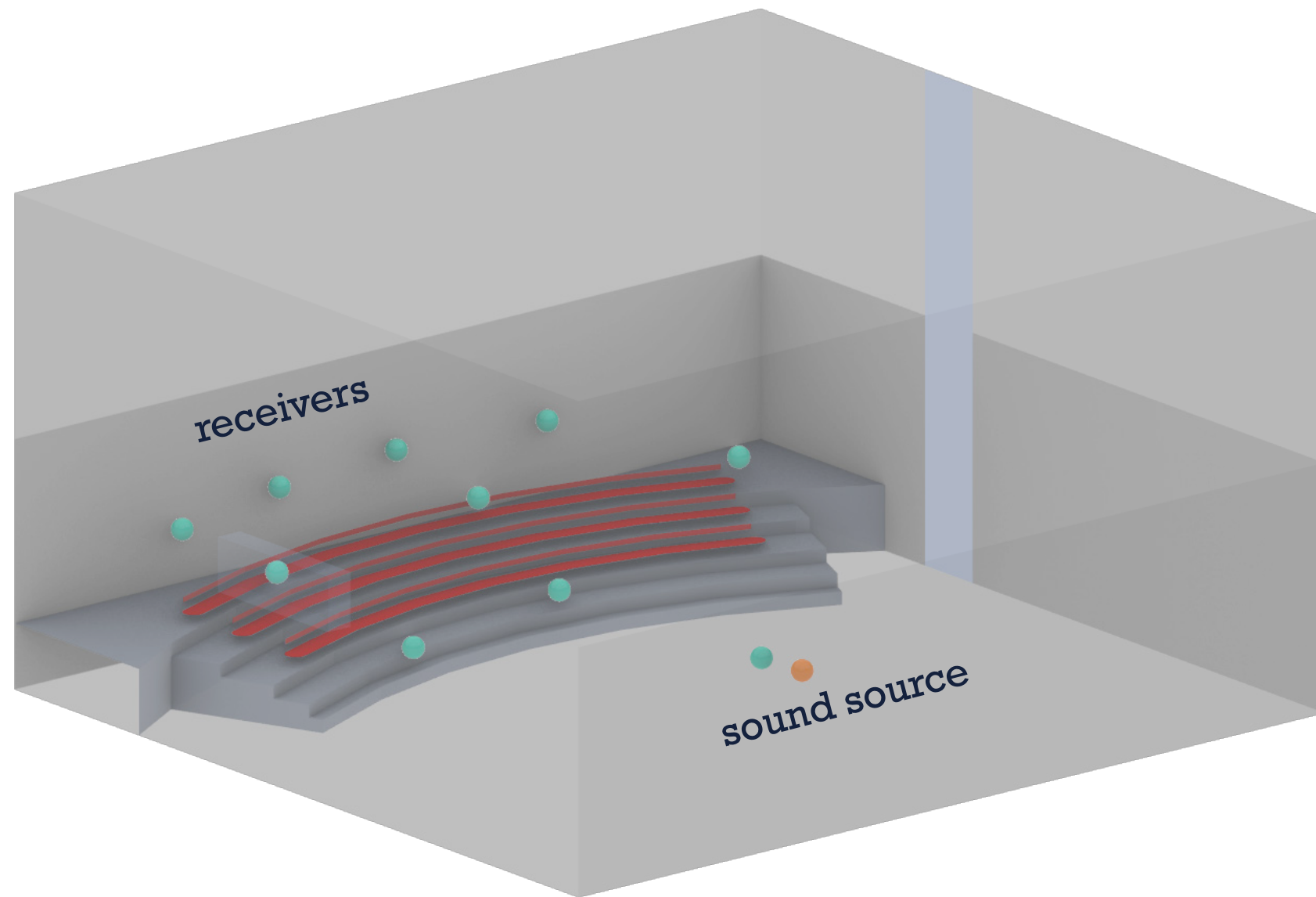
C80

=

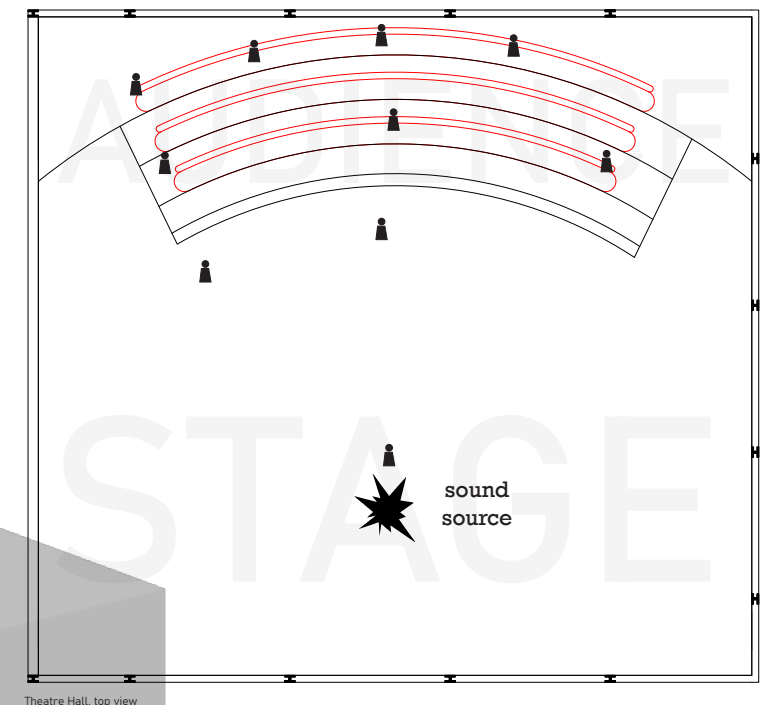
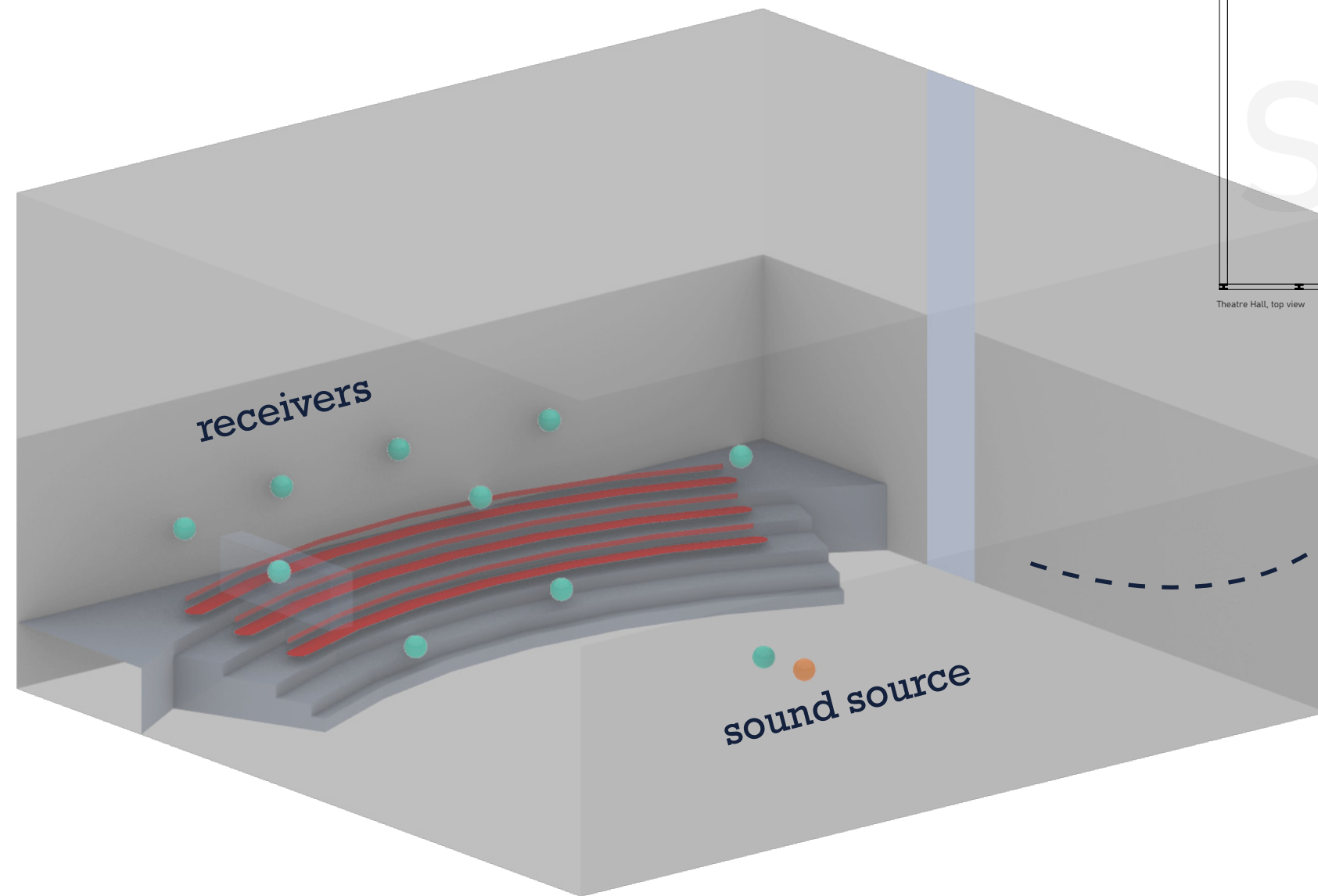
Early
Late

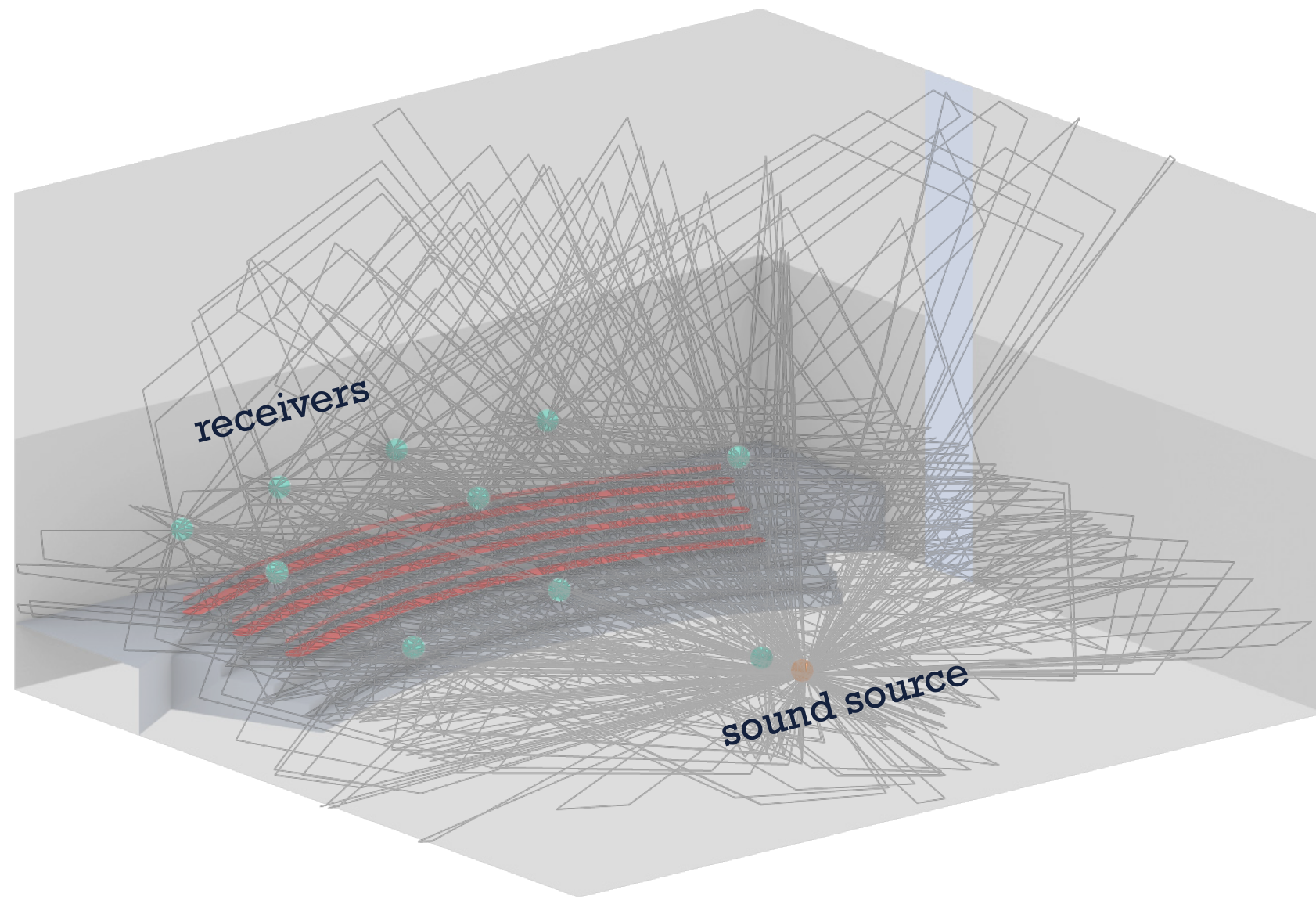




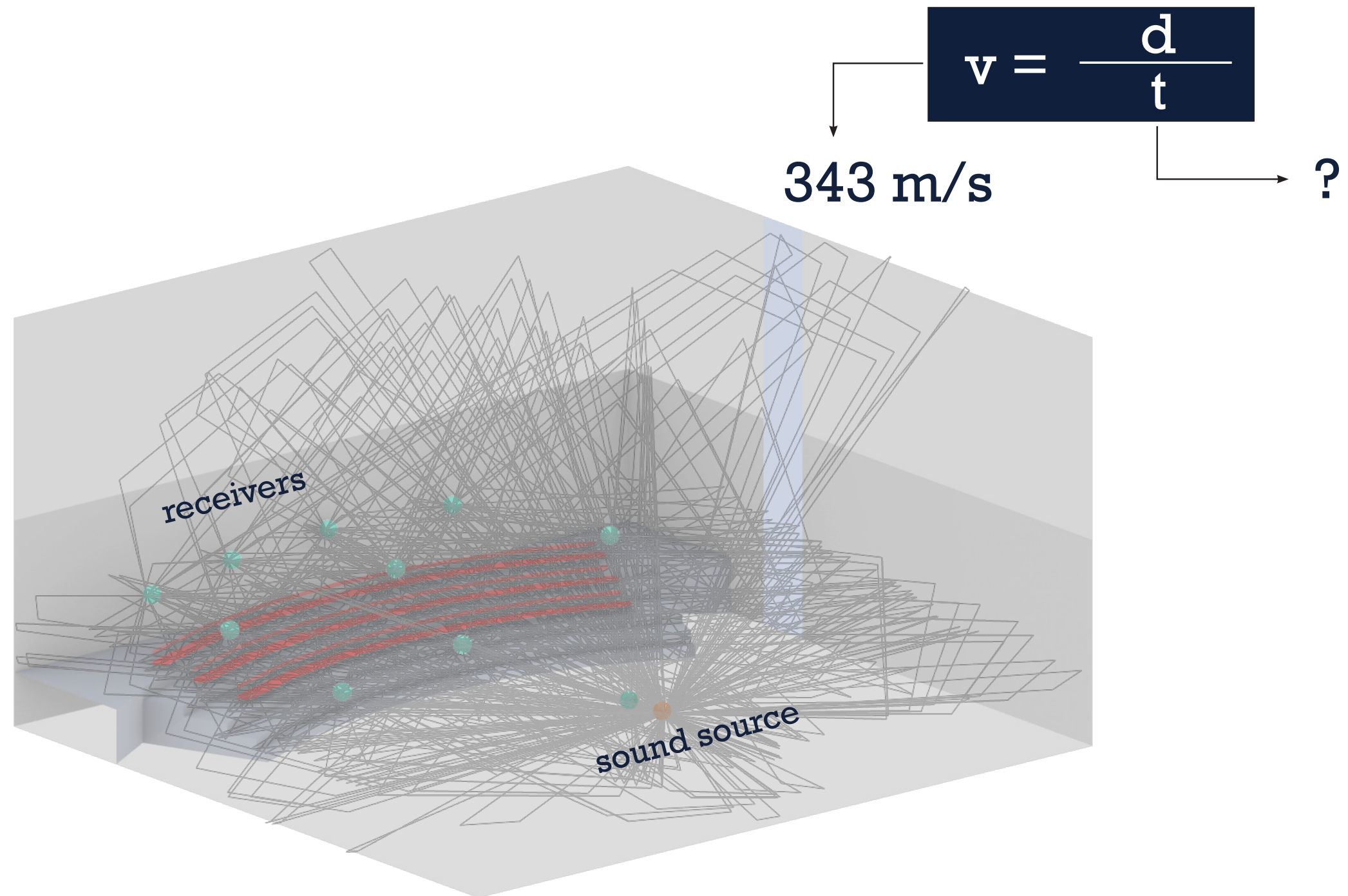


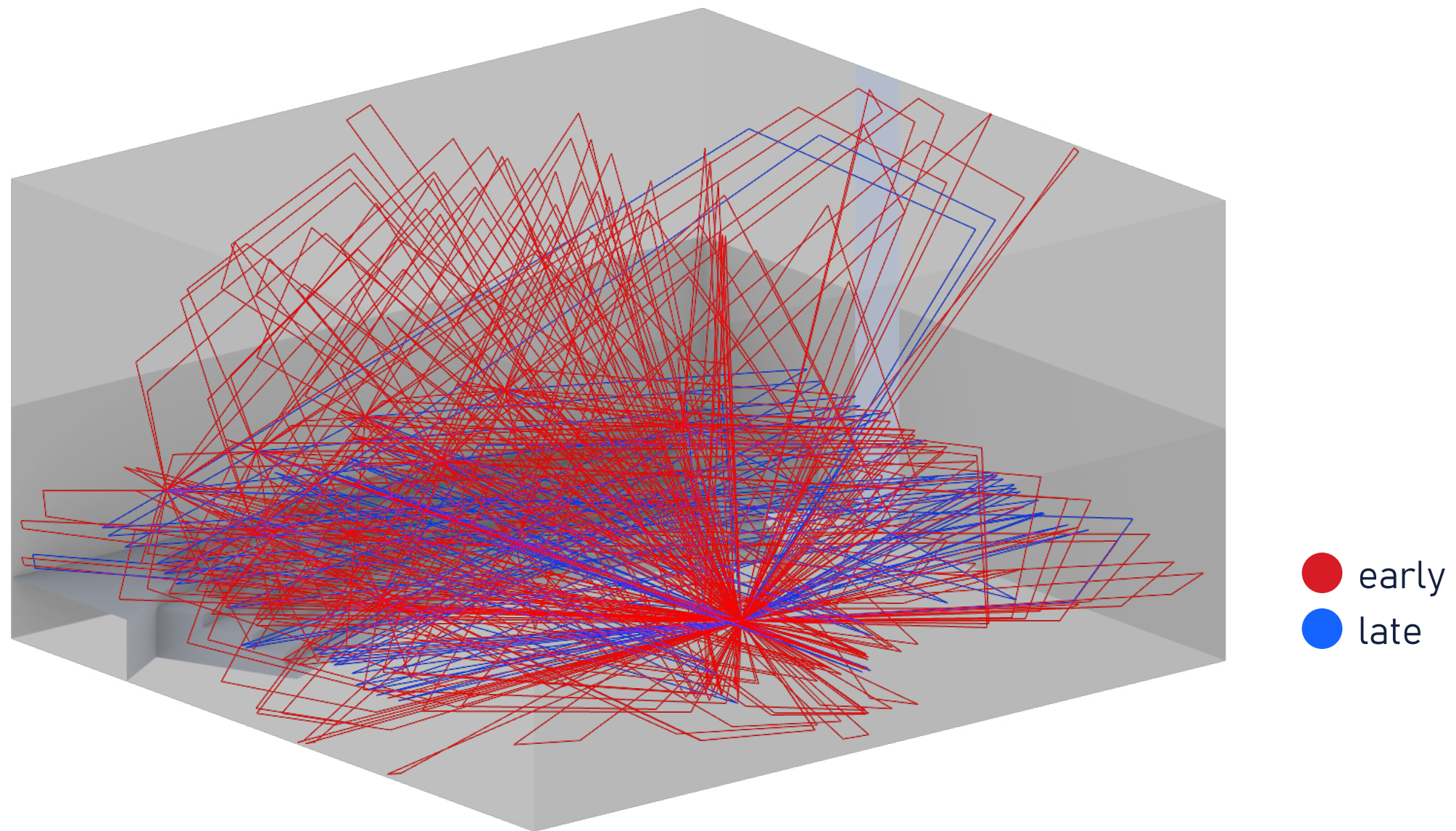
reducing early sound



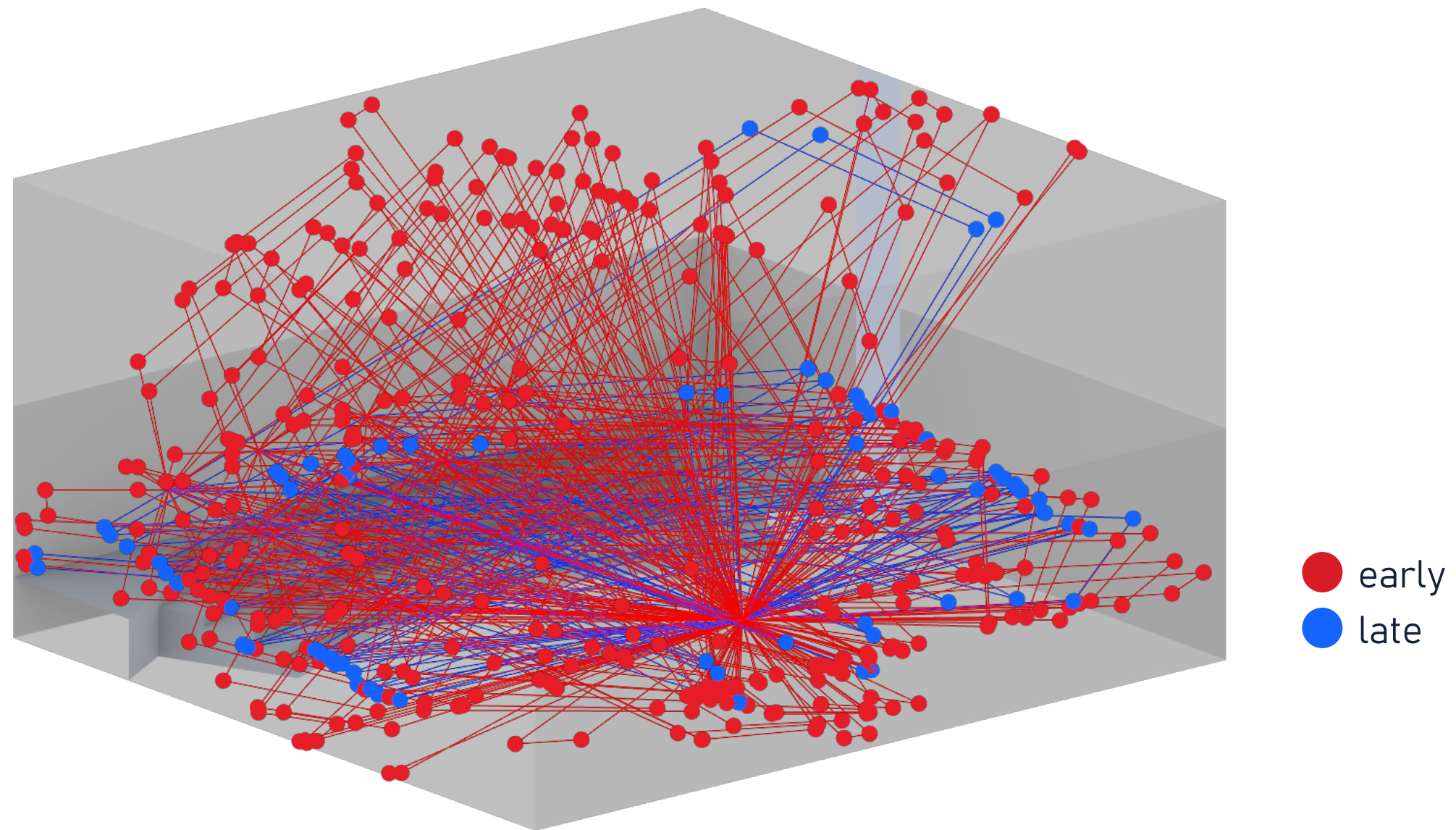


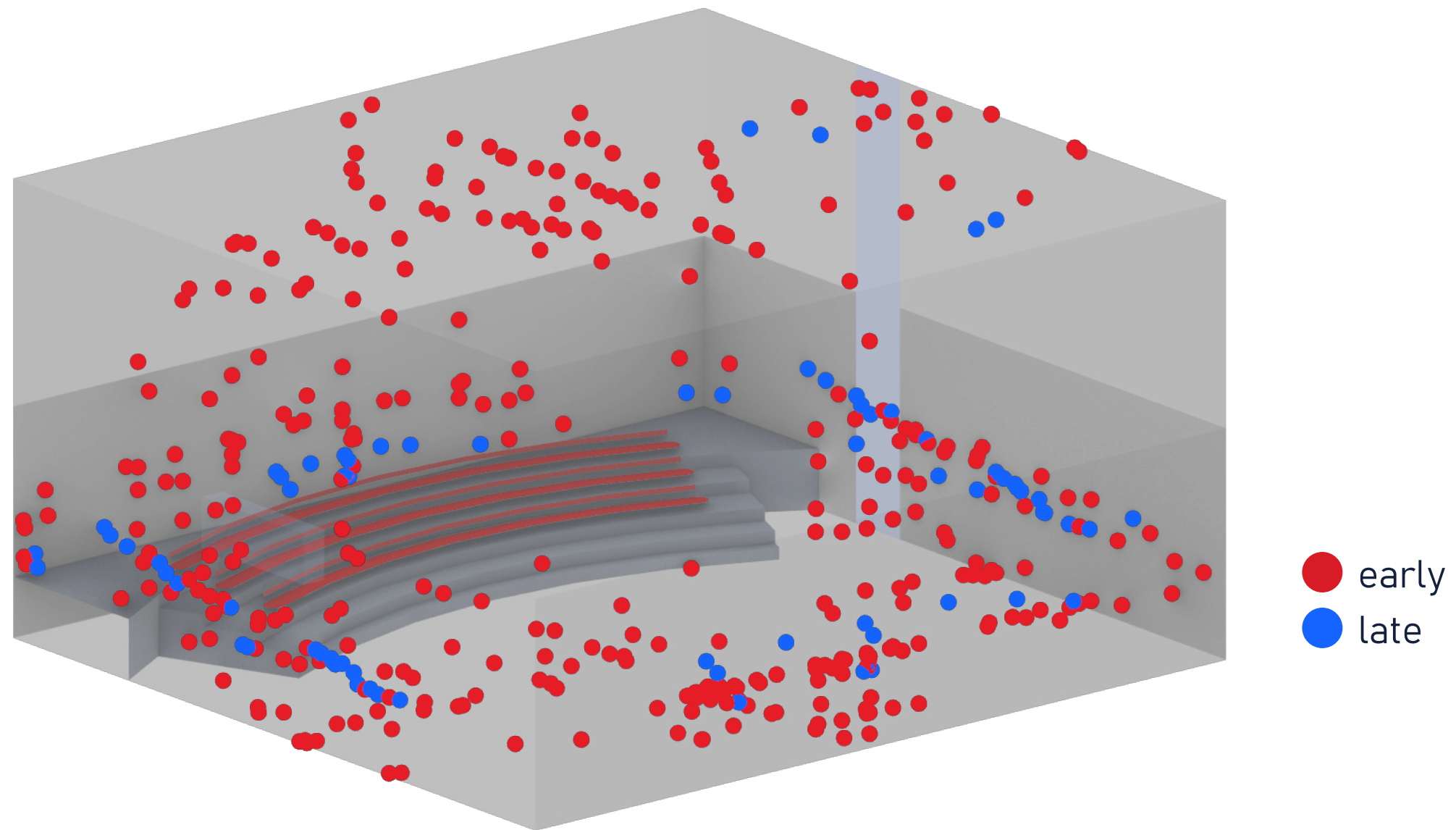
reducing early sound



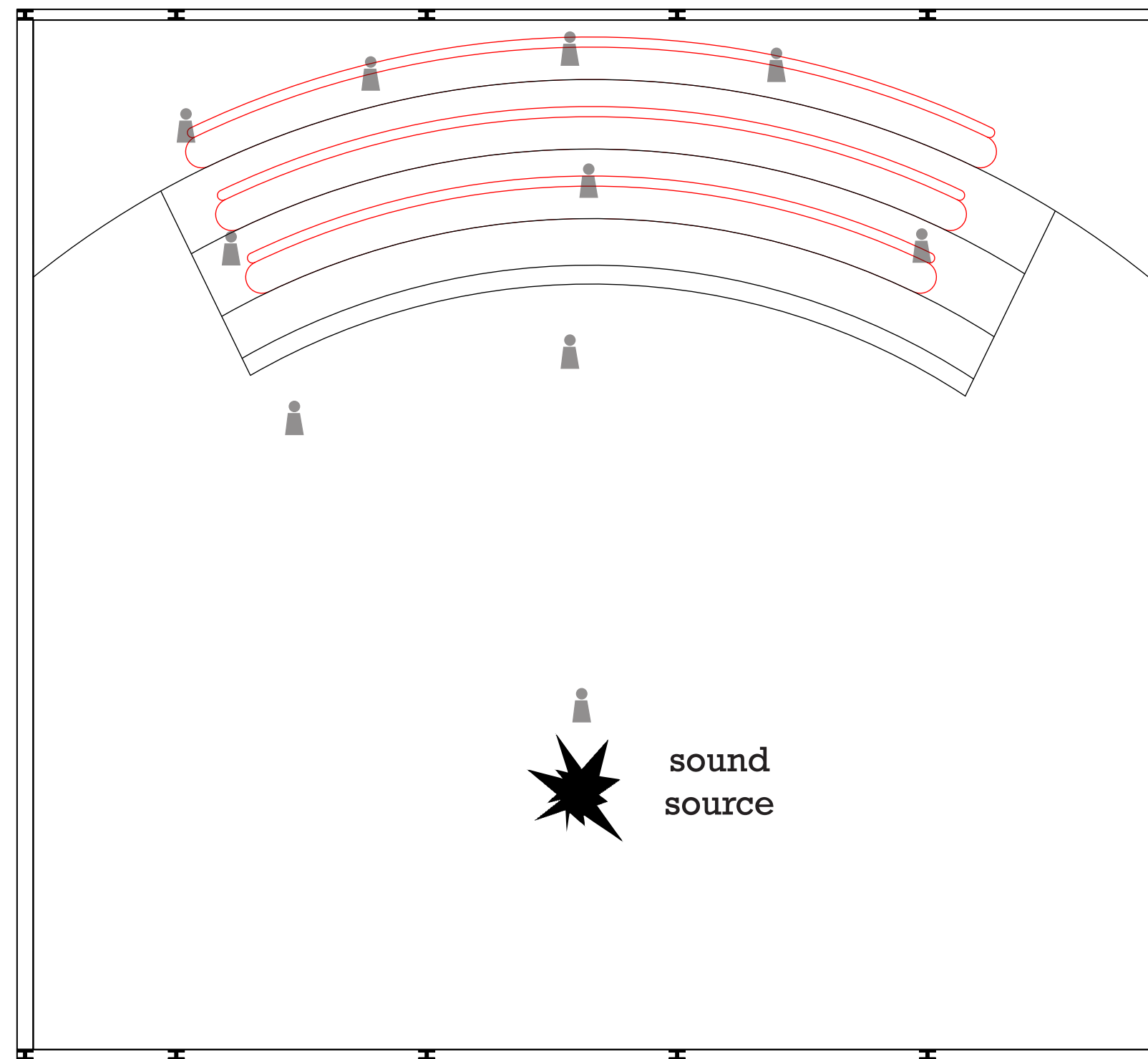


reducing early sound



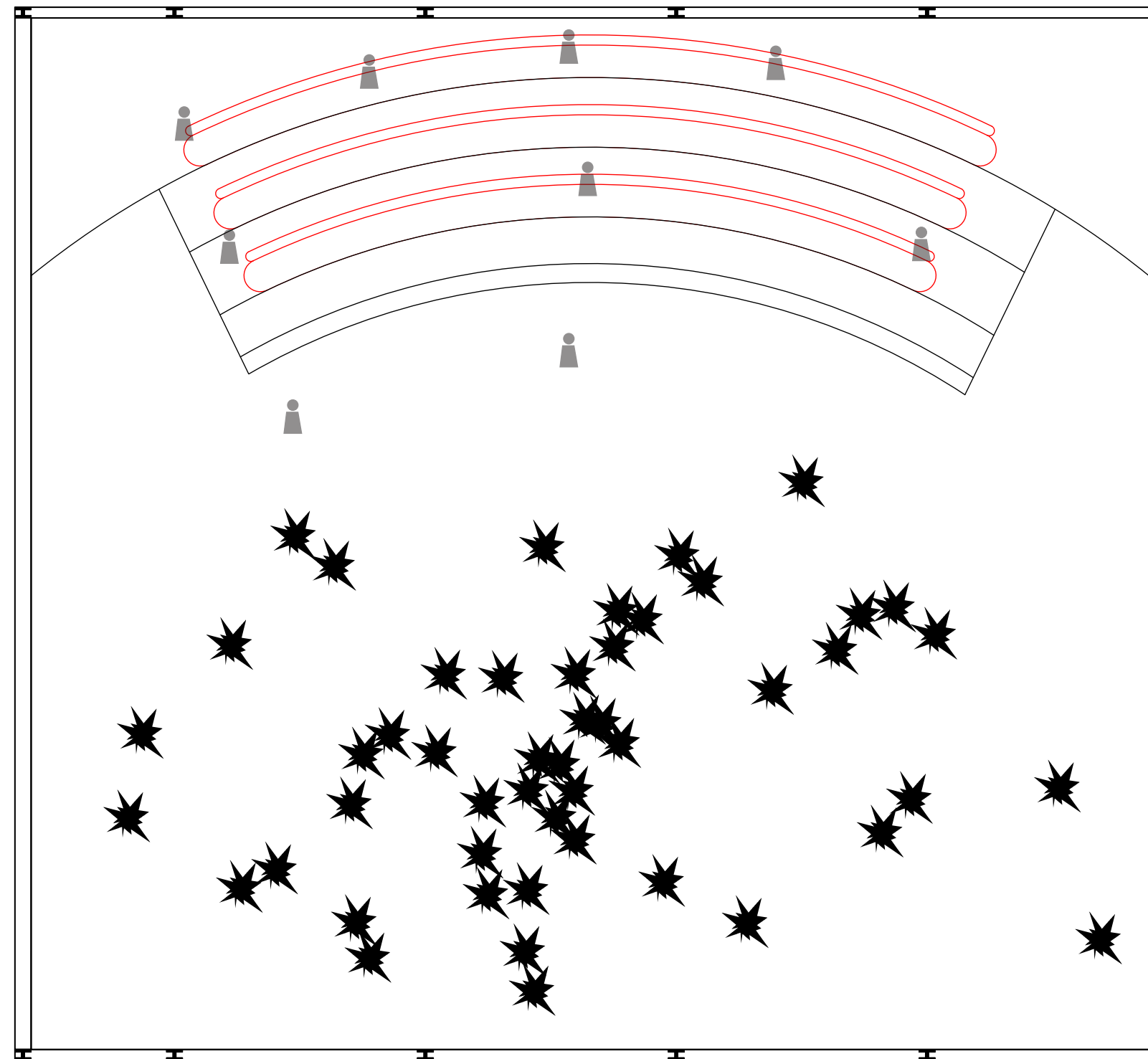


reducing early sound

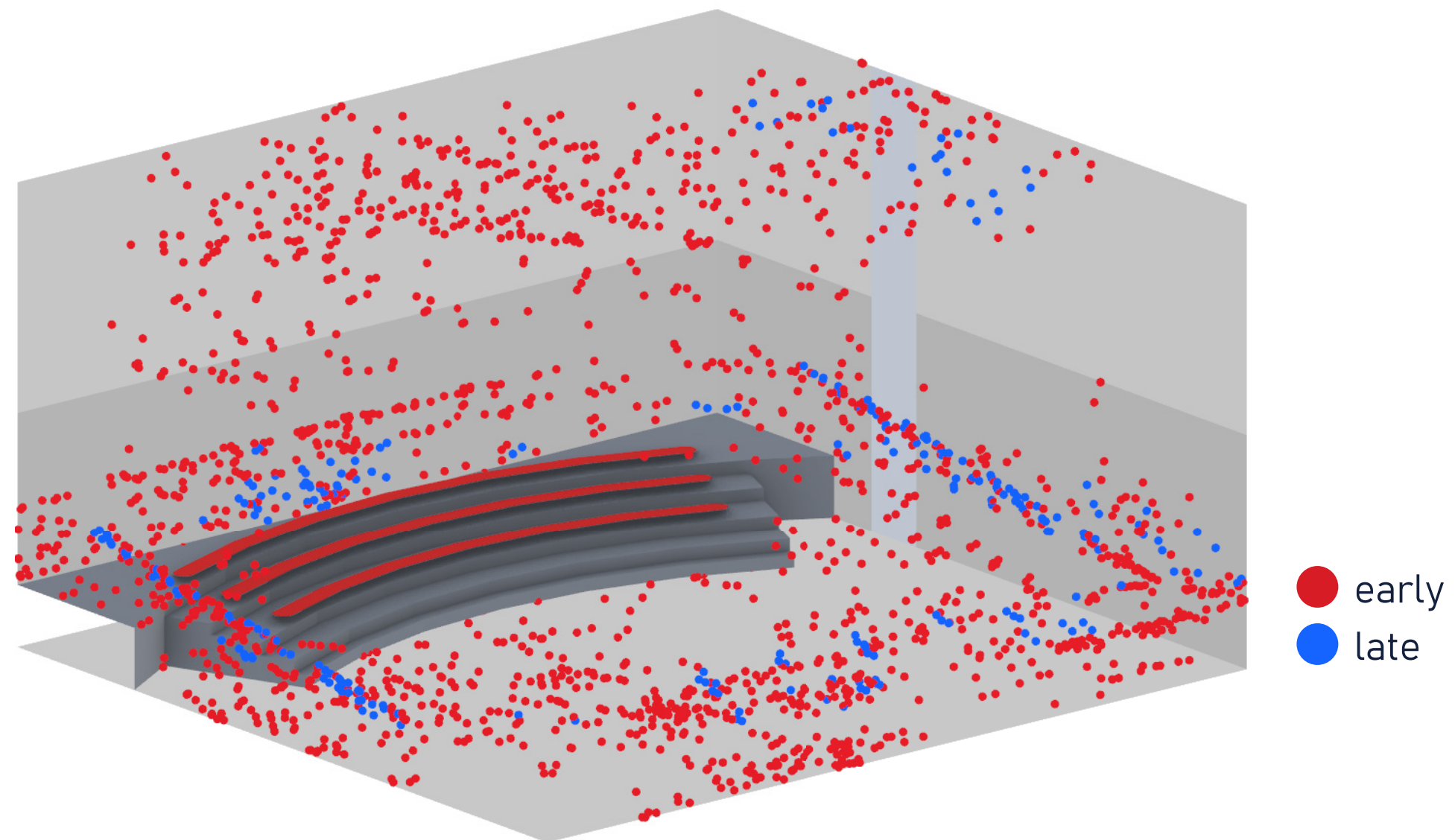


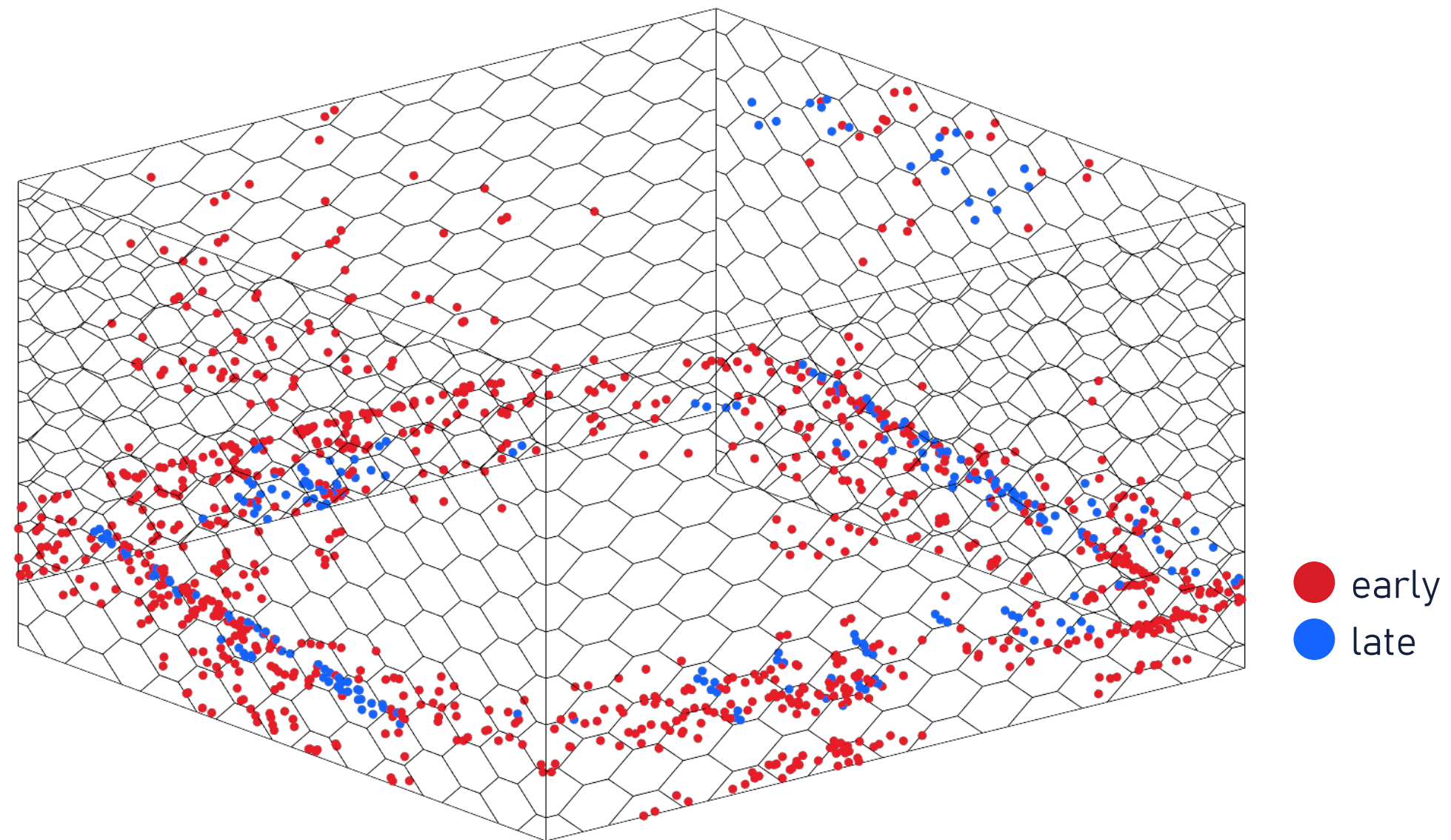
Theatre Hall, top view

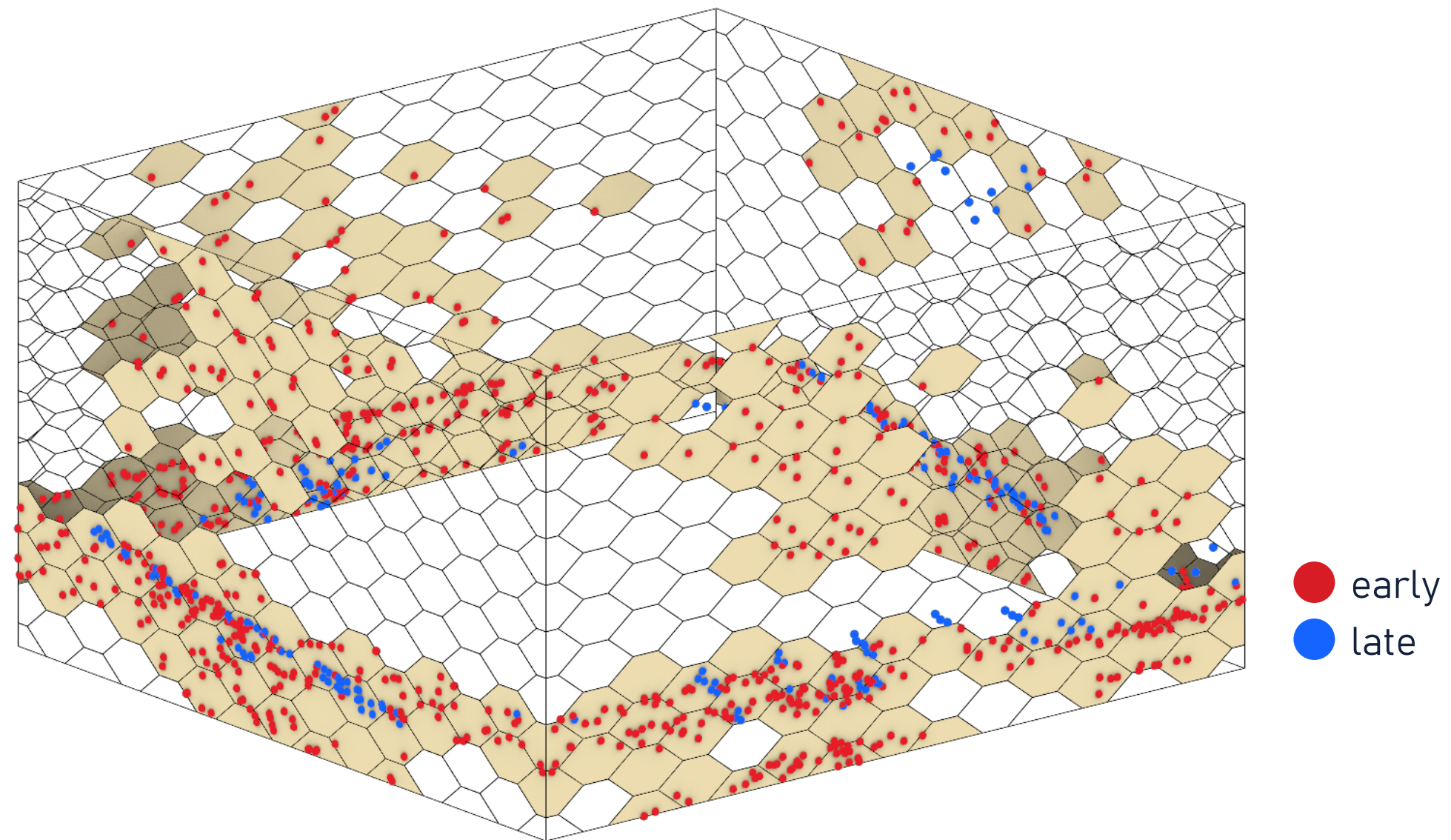
reducing early sound

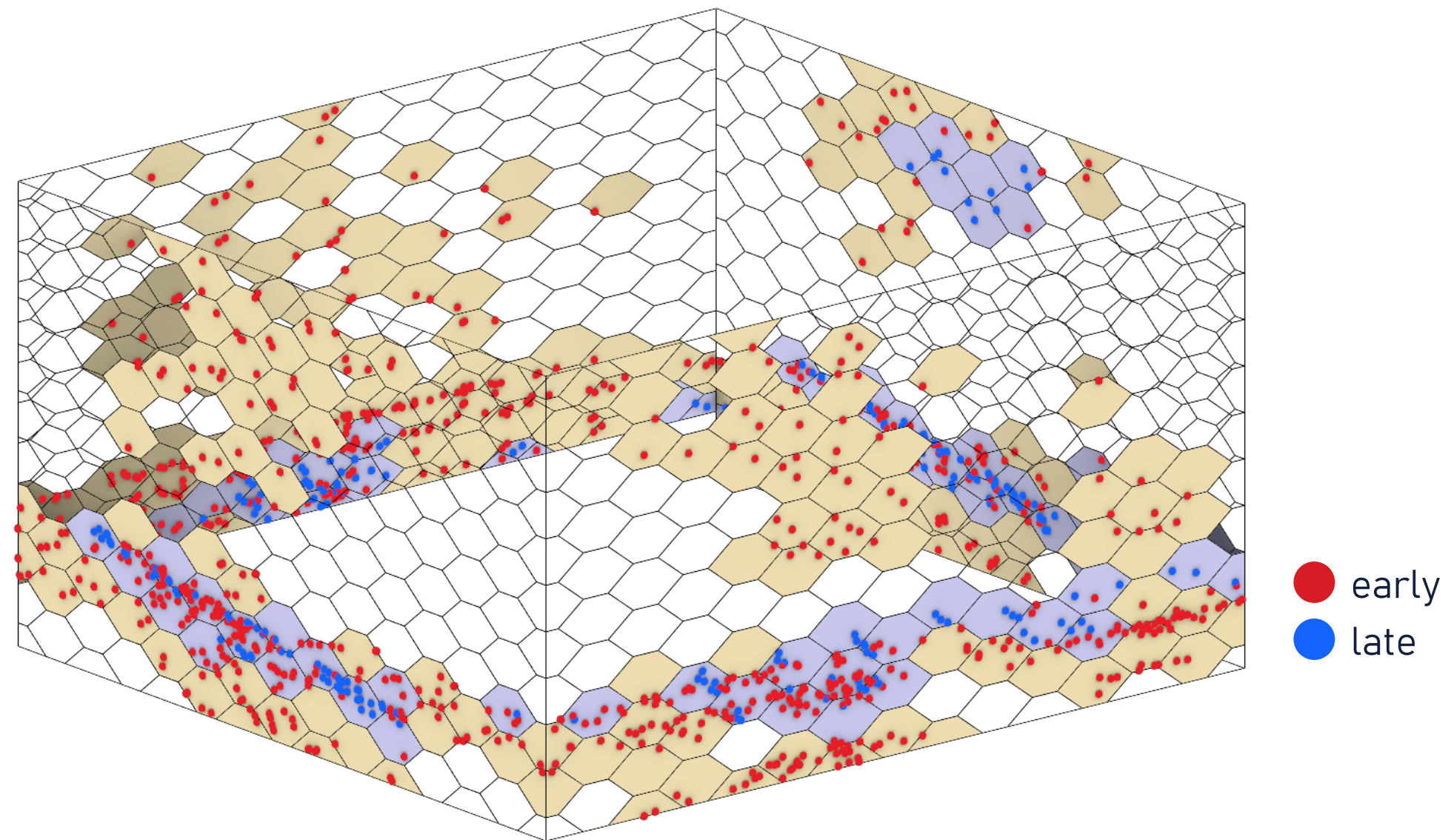


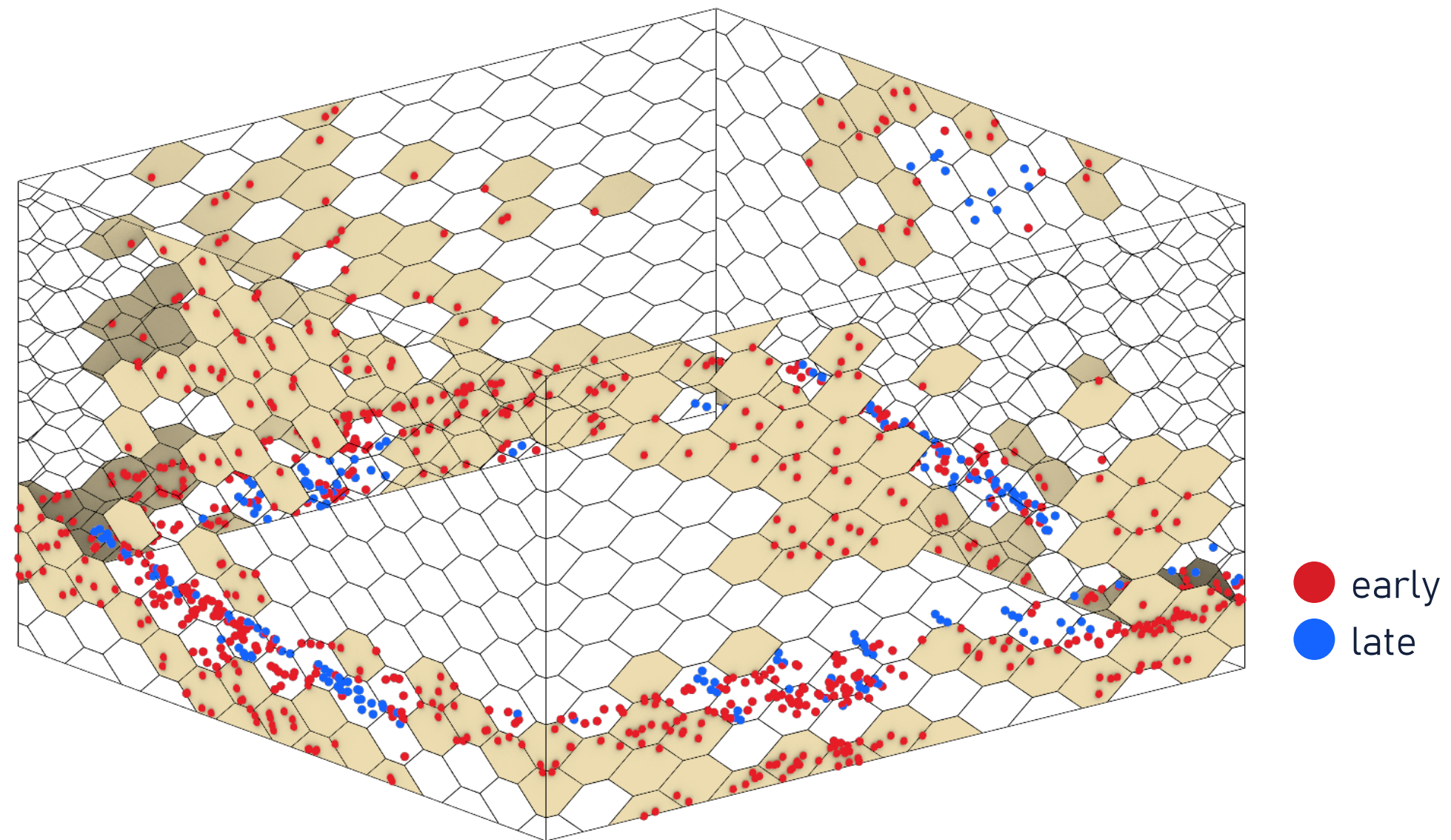
Theatre Hall, top view





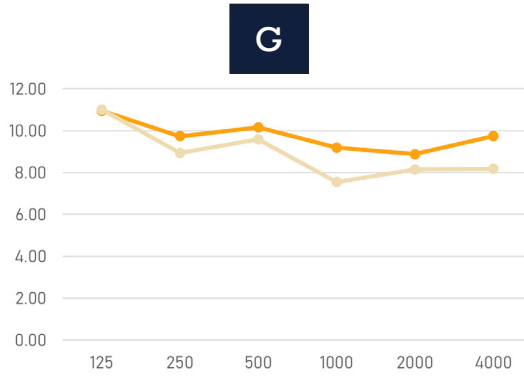
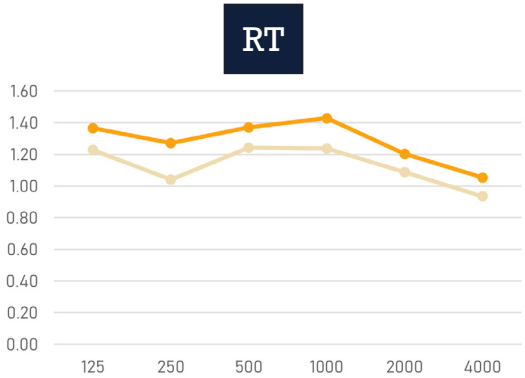
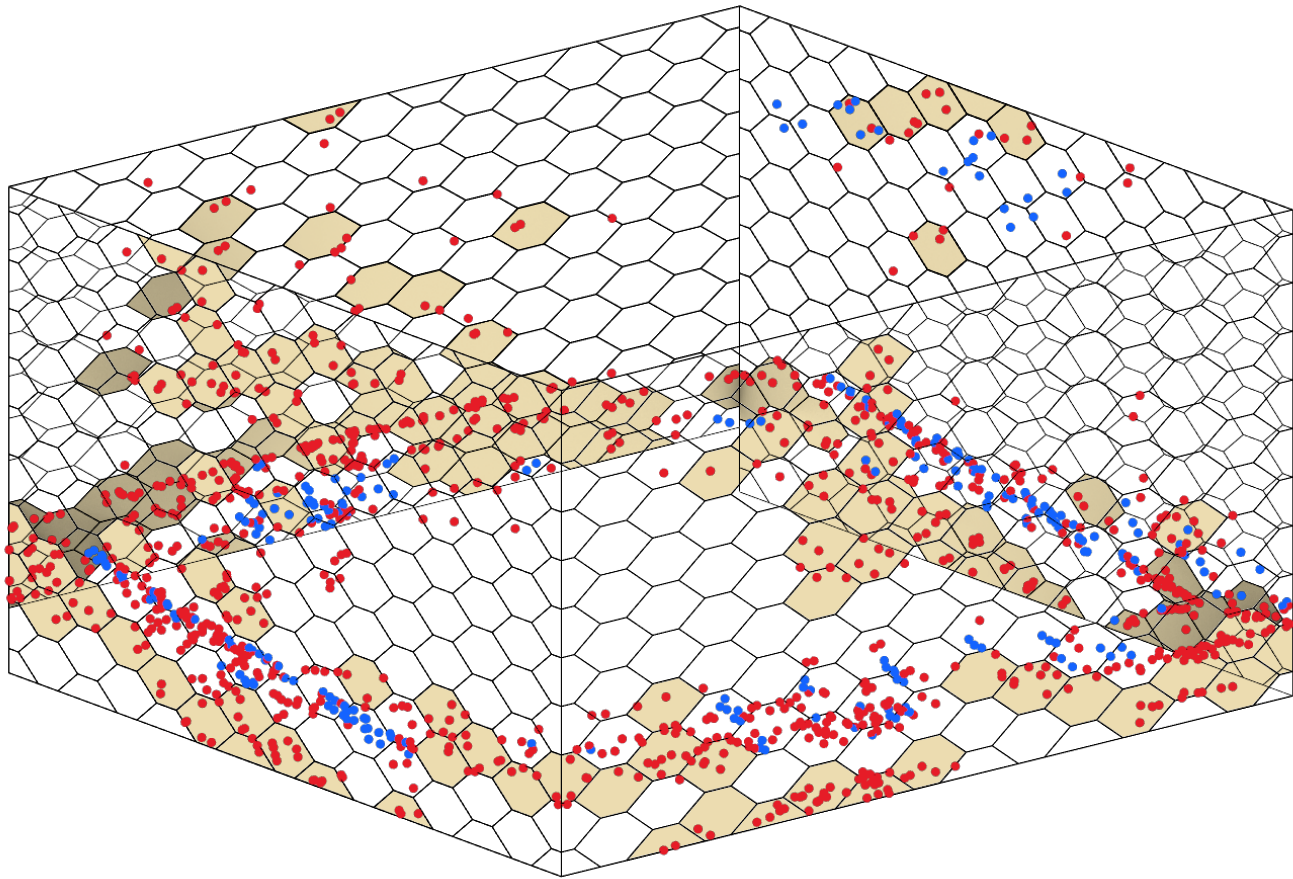






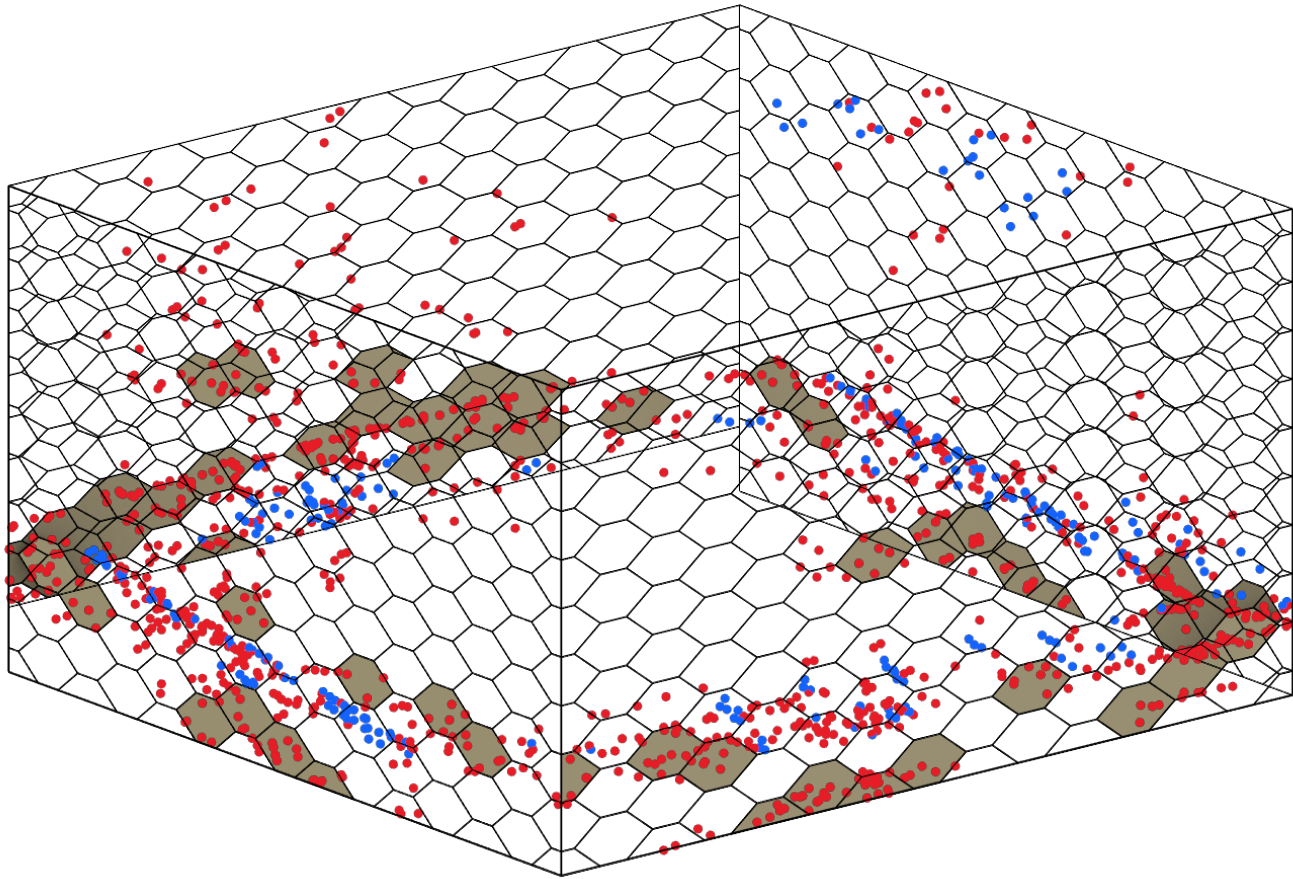
reducing early sound

125 panels
73m²

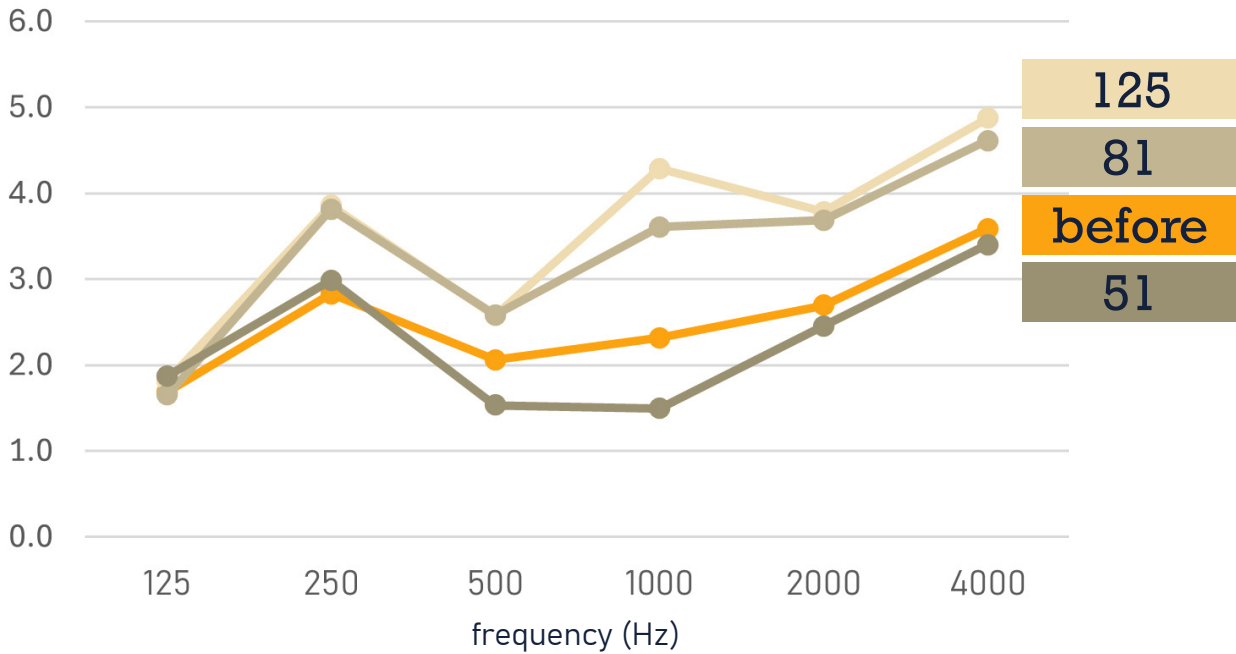


reducing early sound

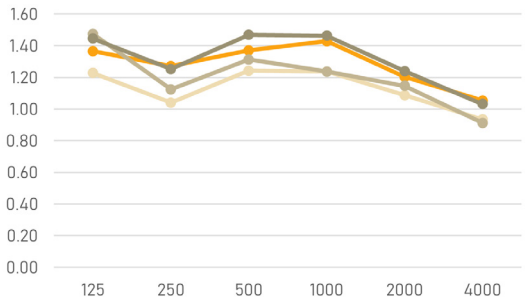
51 panels
29m²



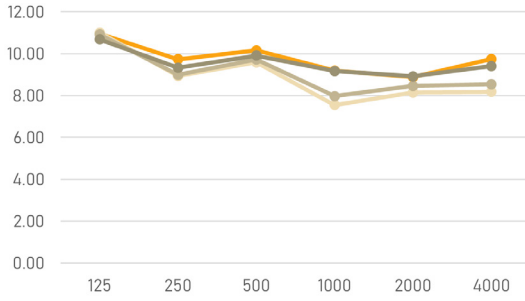
C80



RT

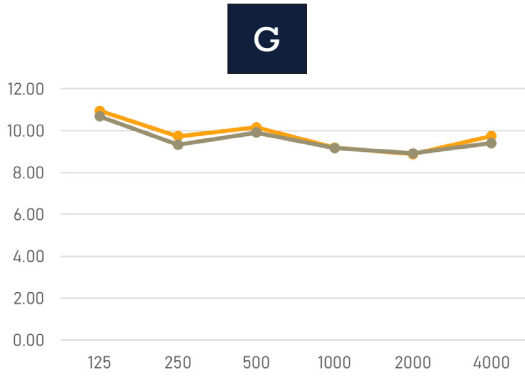
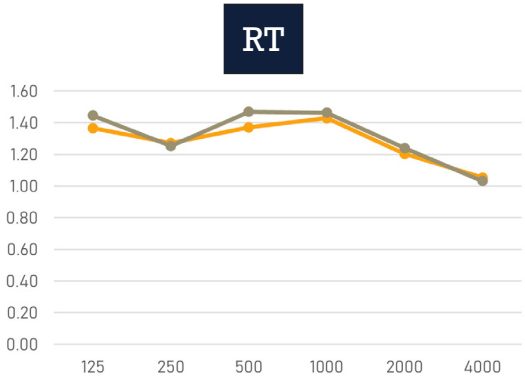
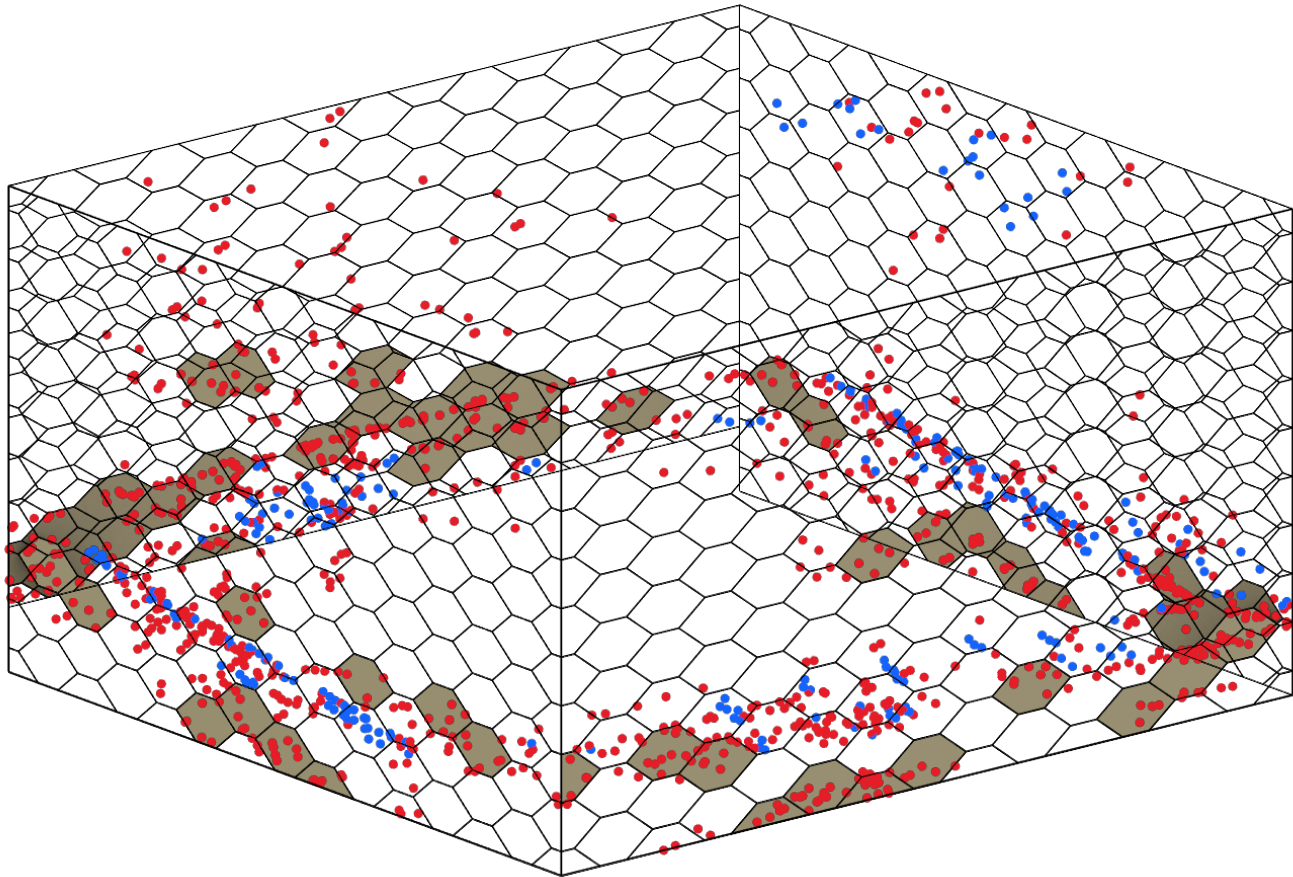


G



reducing early sound

51 panels
29m²



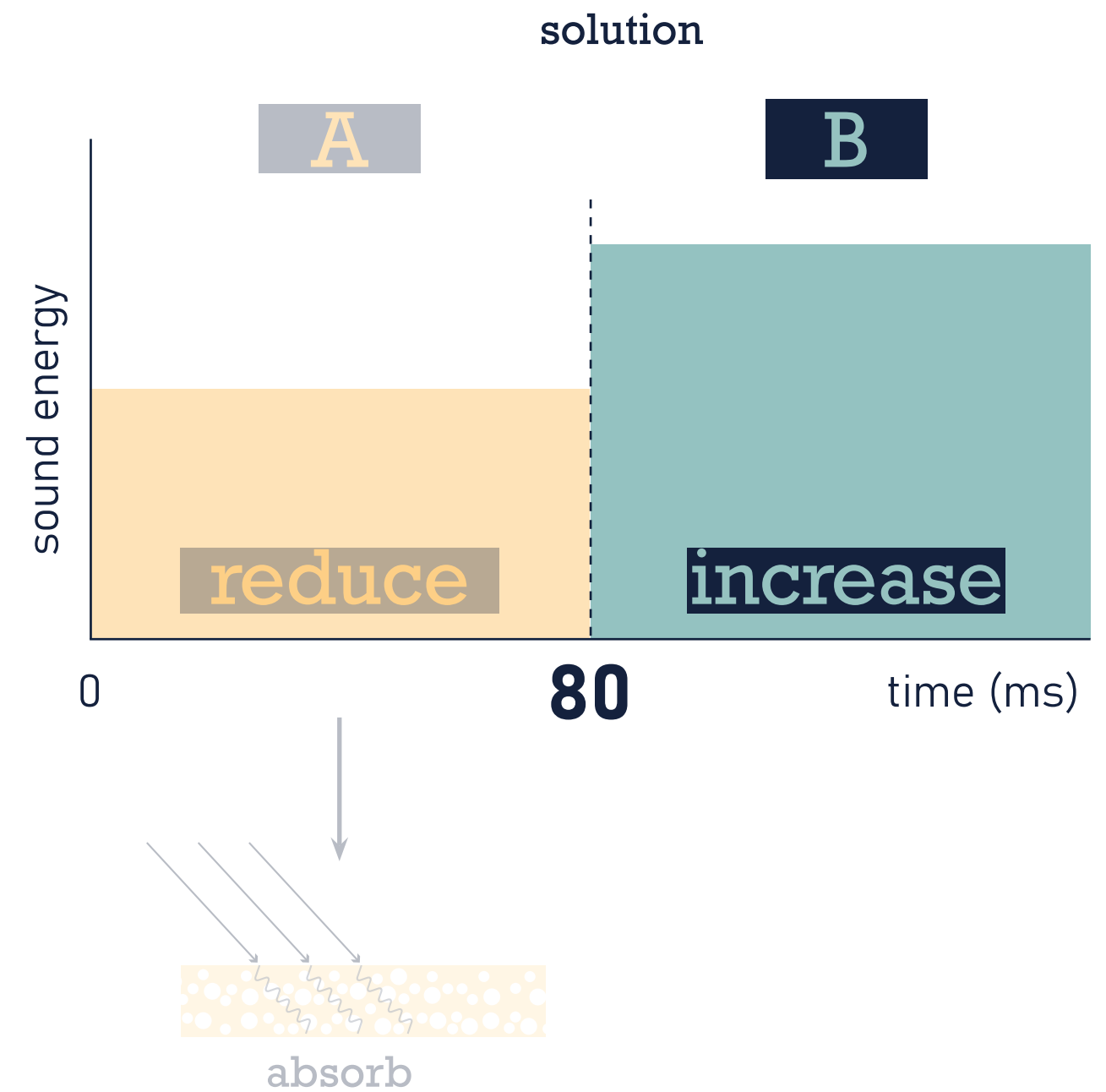


clarity index (definition)

C80

=

Early
Late

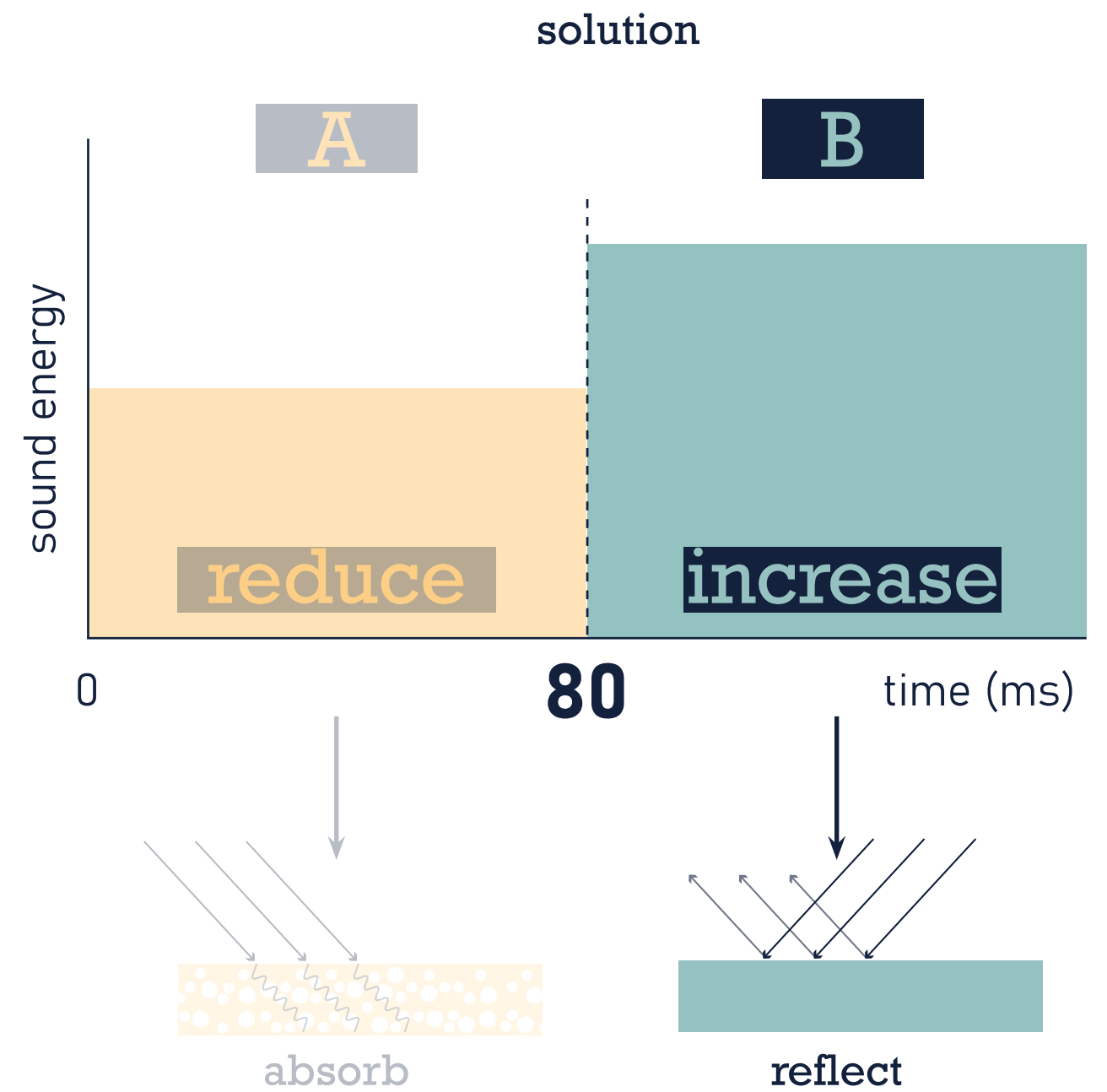


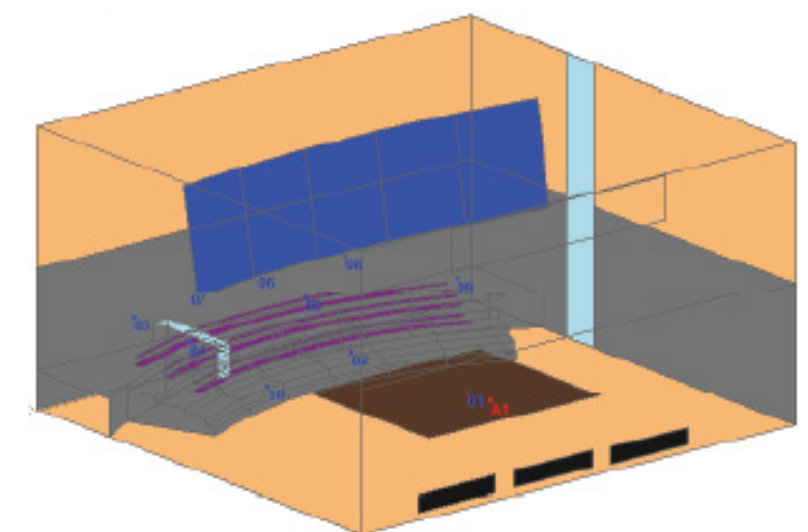
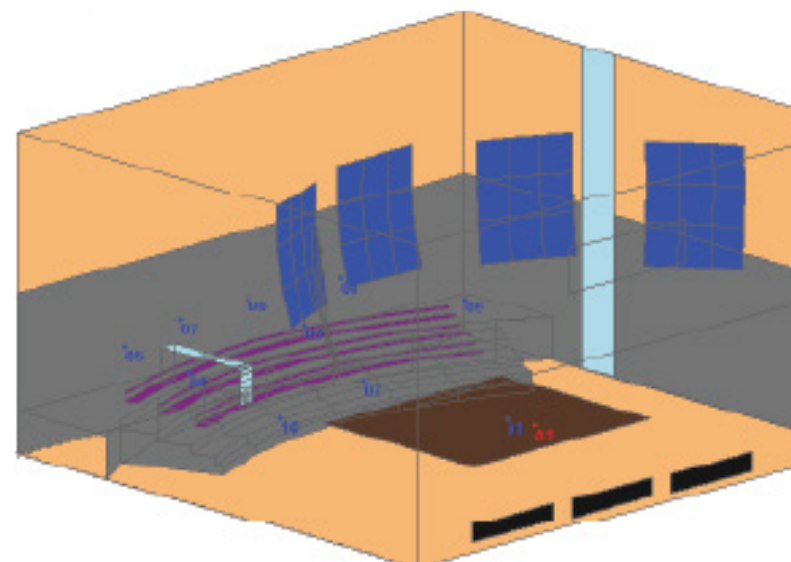
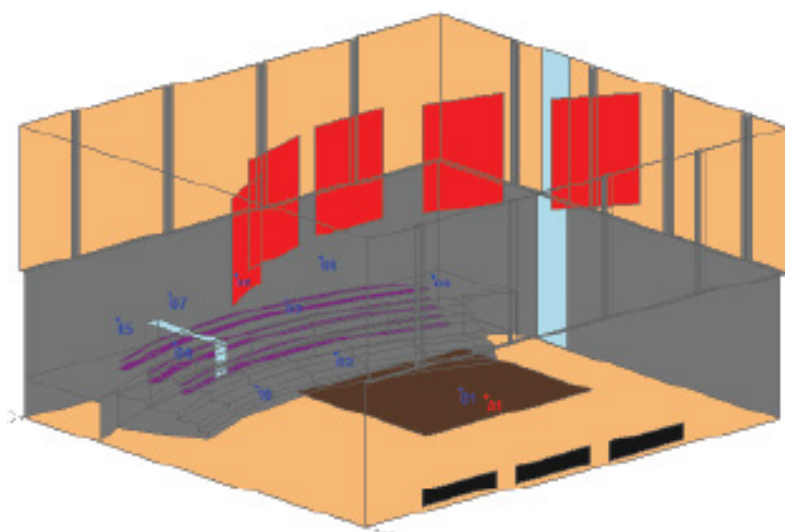
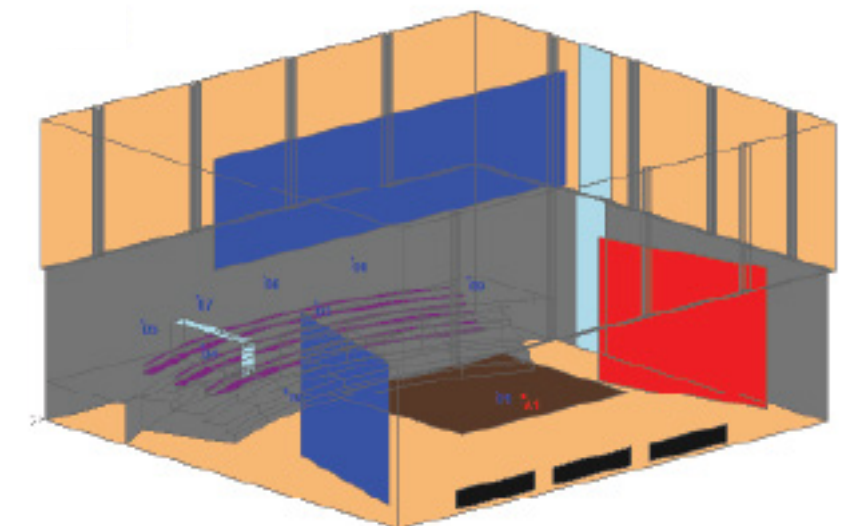
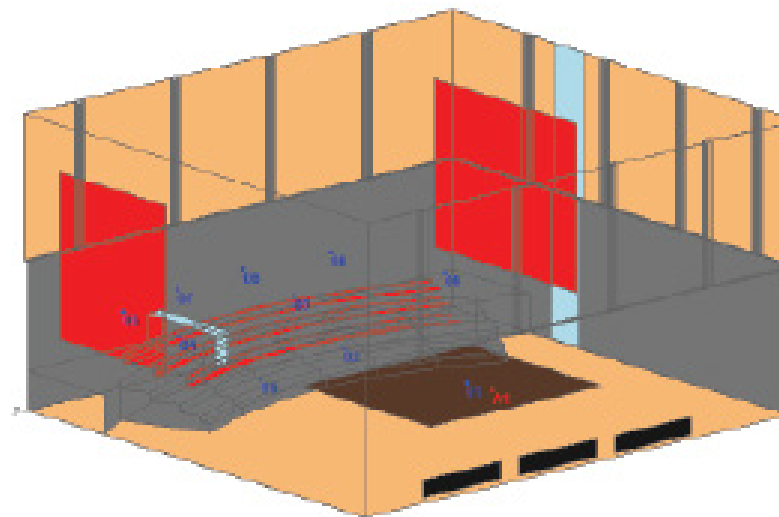
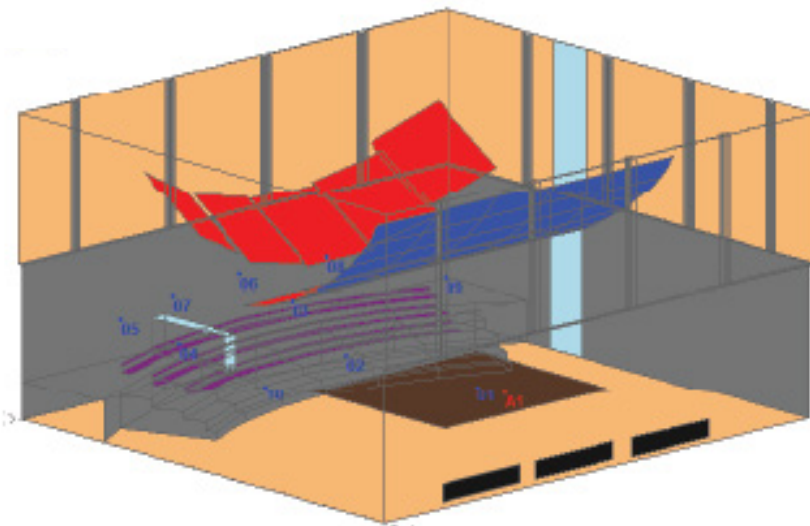
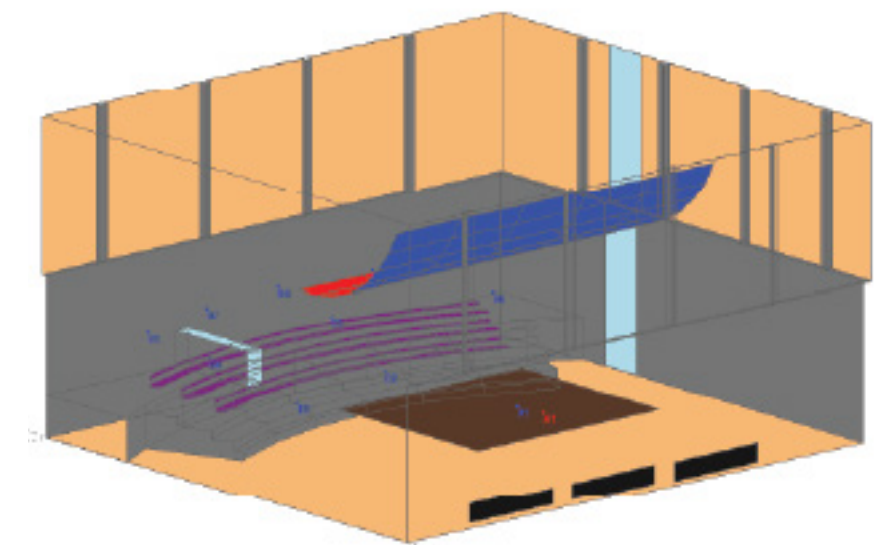
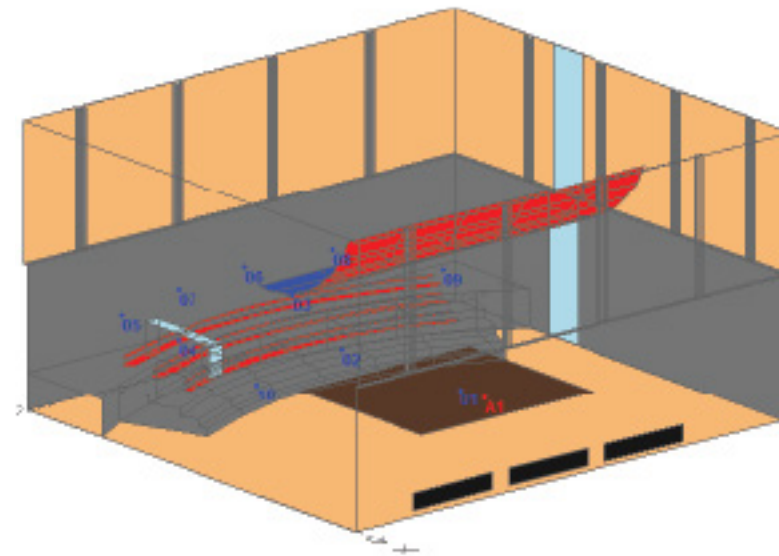
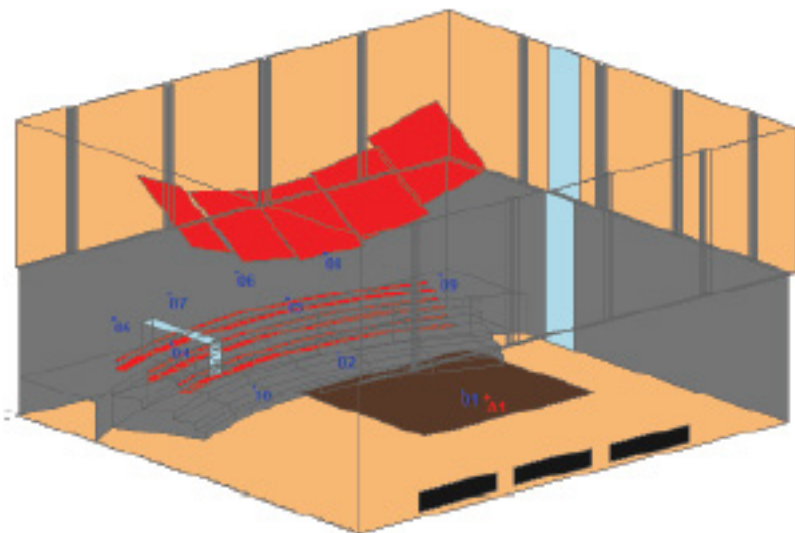
clarity index (definition)

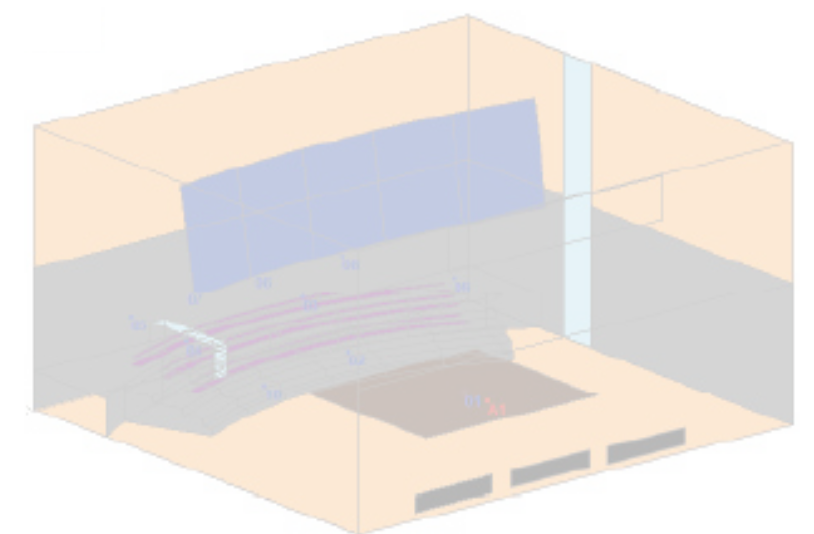
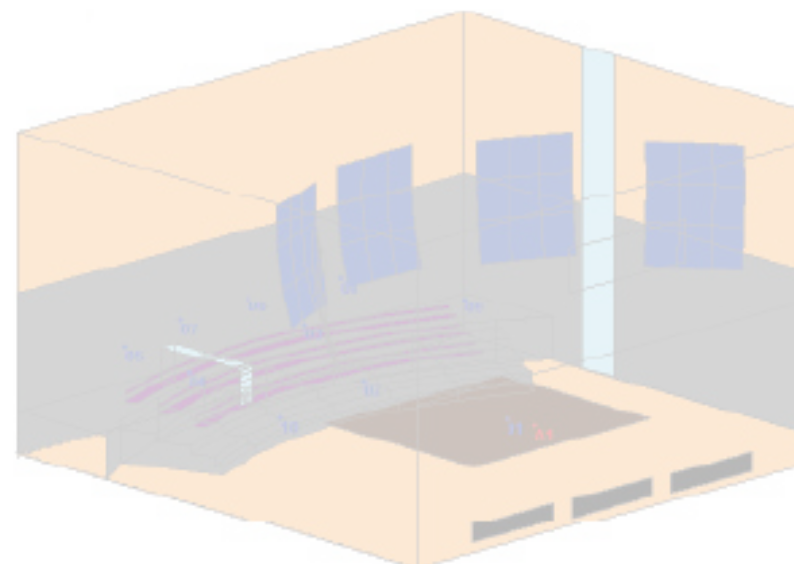
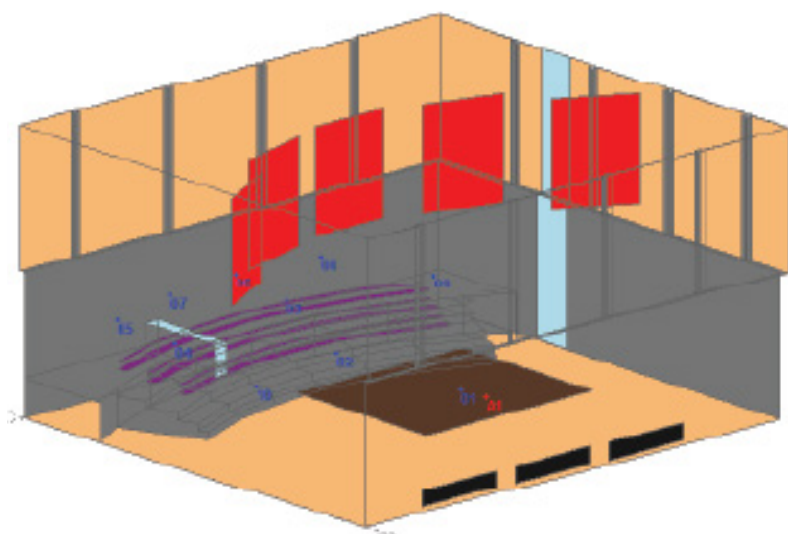
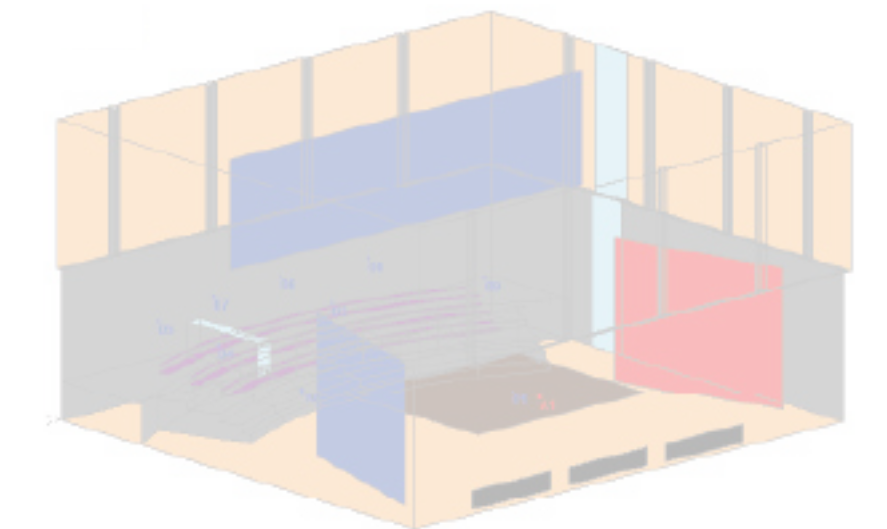
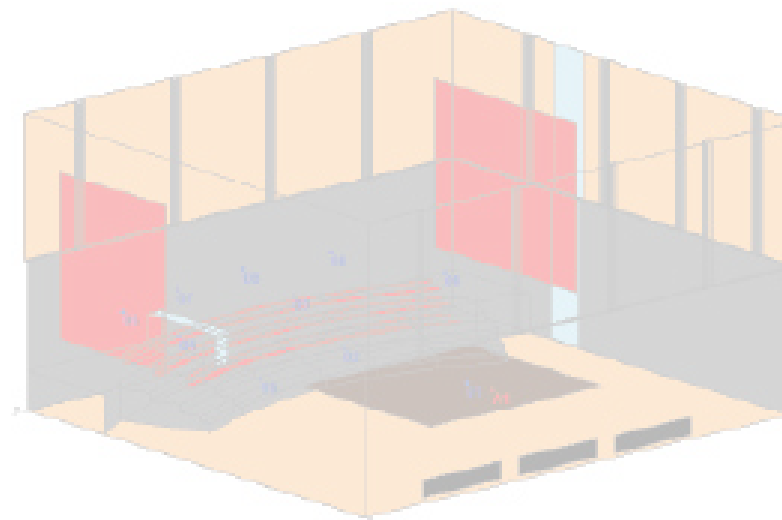
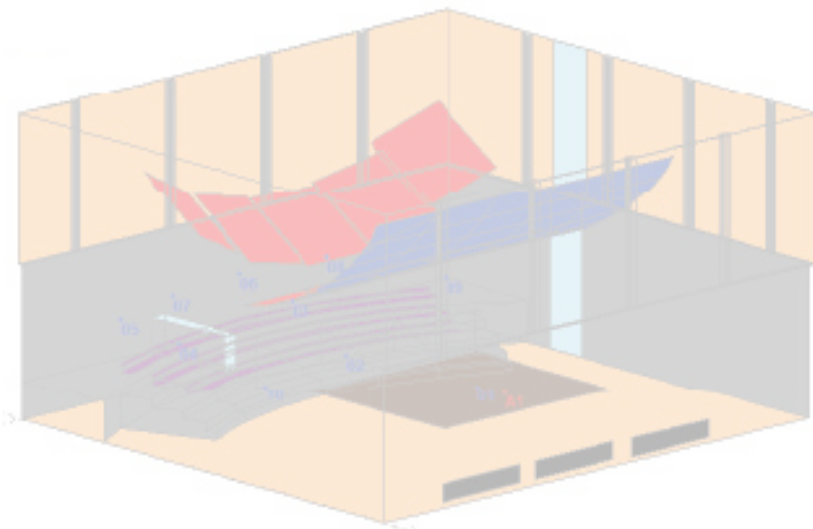
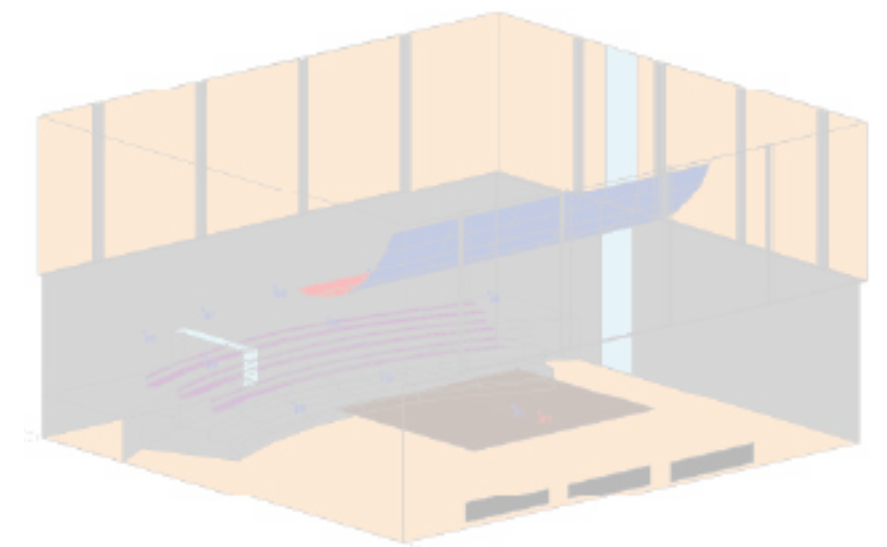
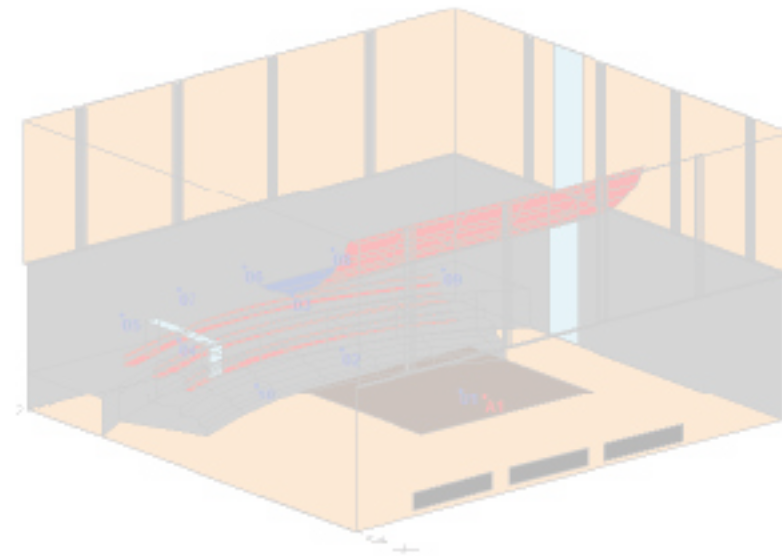
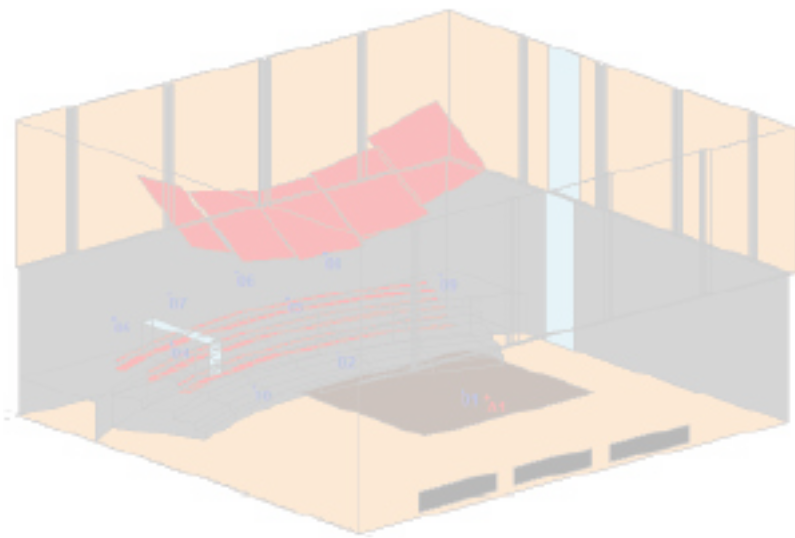
C80

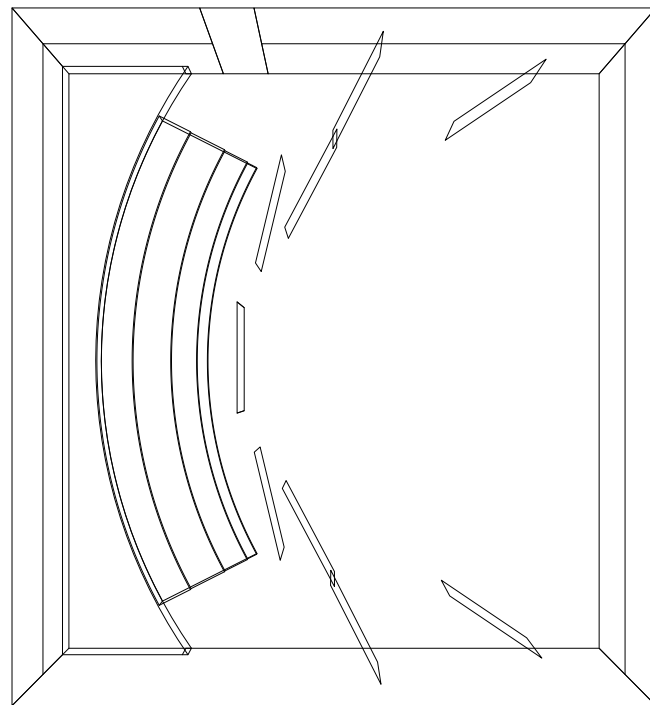
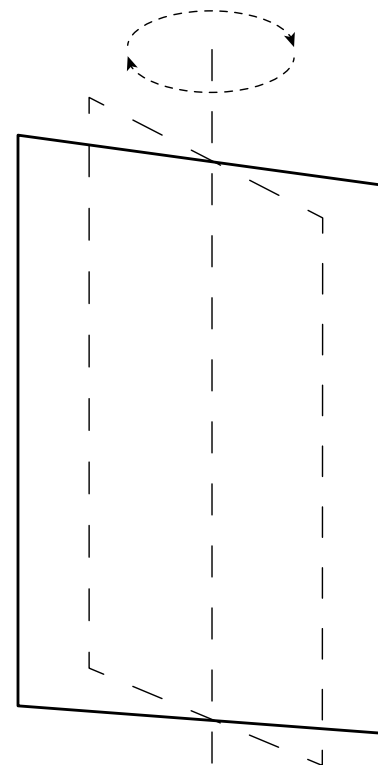
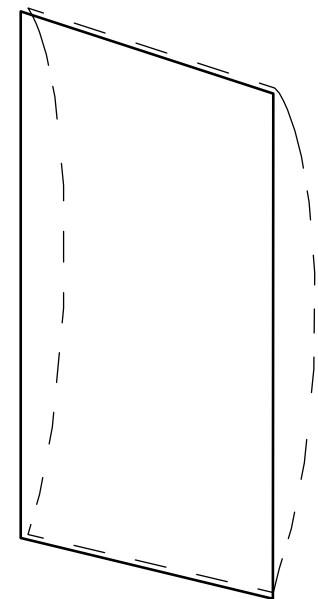
=

Early
Late



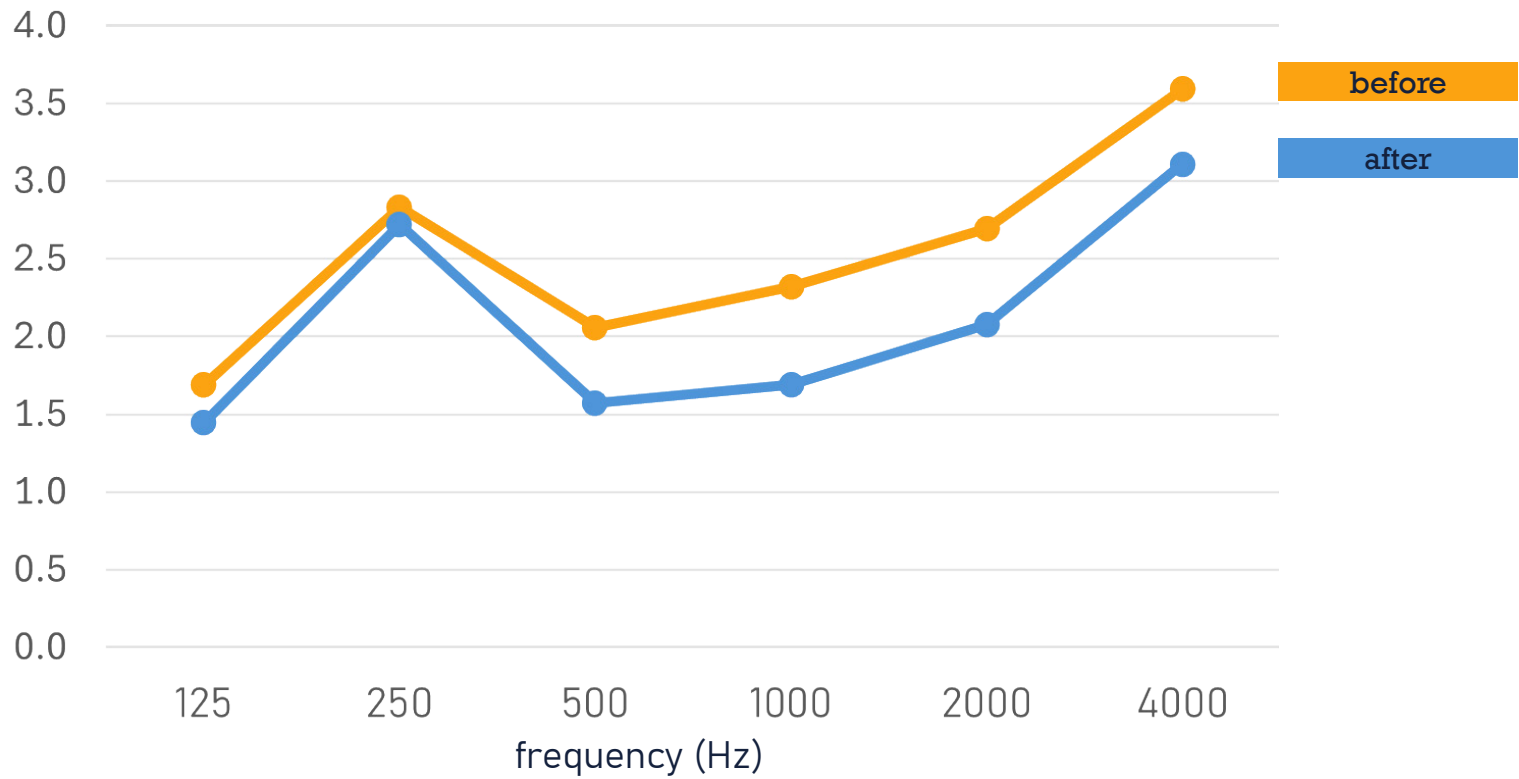




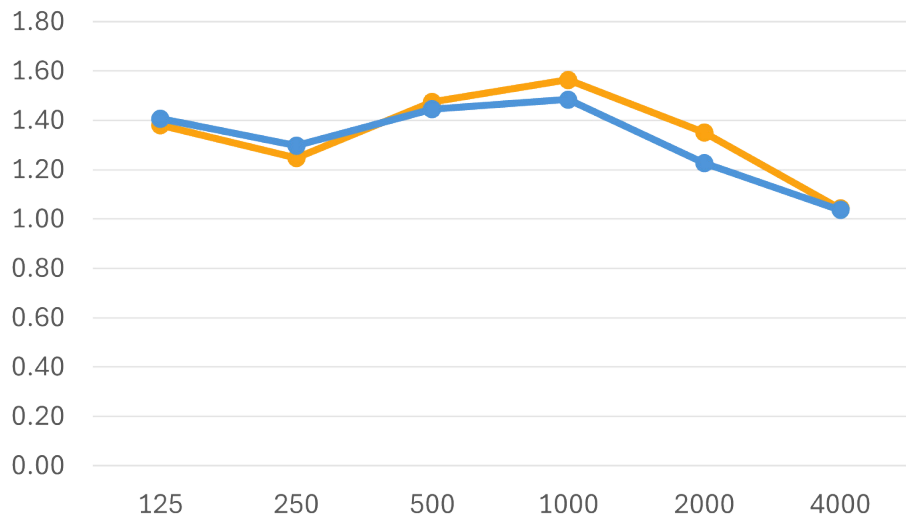
objective:**minimize the MSE of****C80****variable 1**rotation around the stage
(0-70°)**variable 2**rotation around its own z
axis (0-90°)**variable 3**bending degree
(-0.5 - 0.5 m)

enhancing late sound
optimization

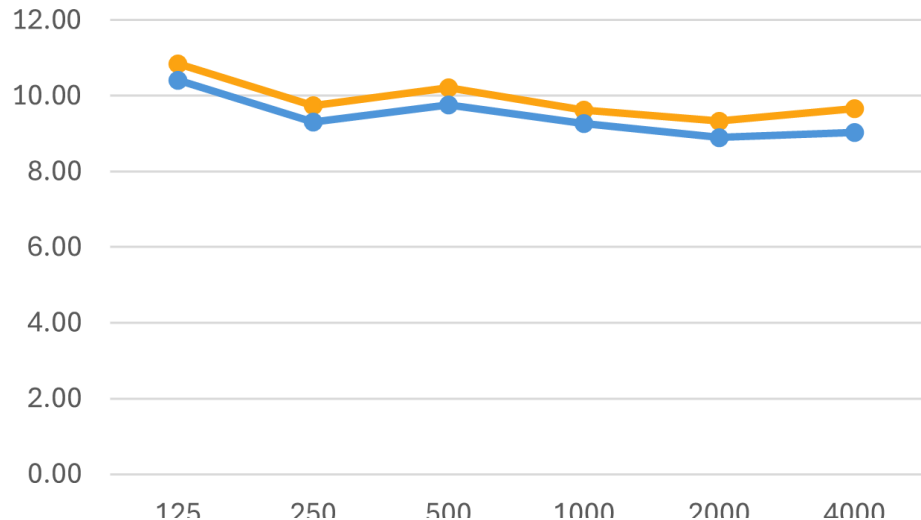
C80



RT

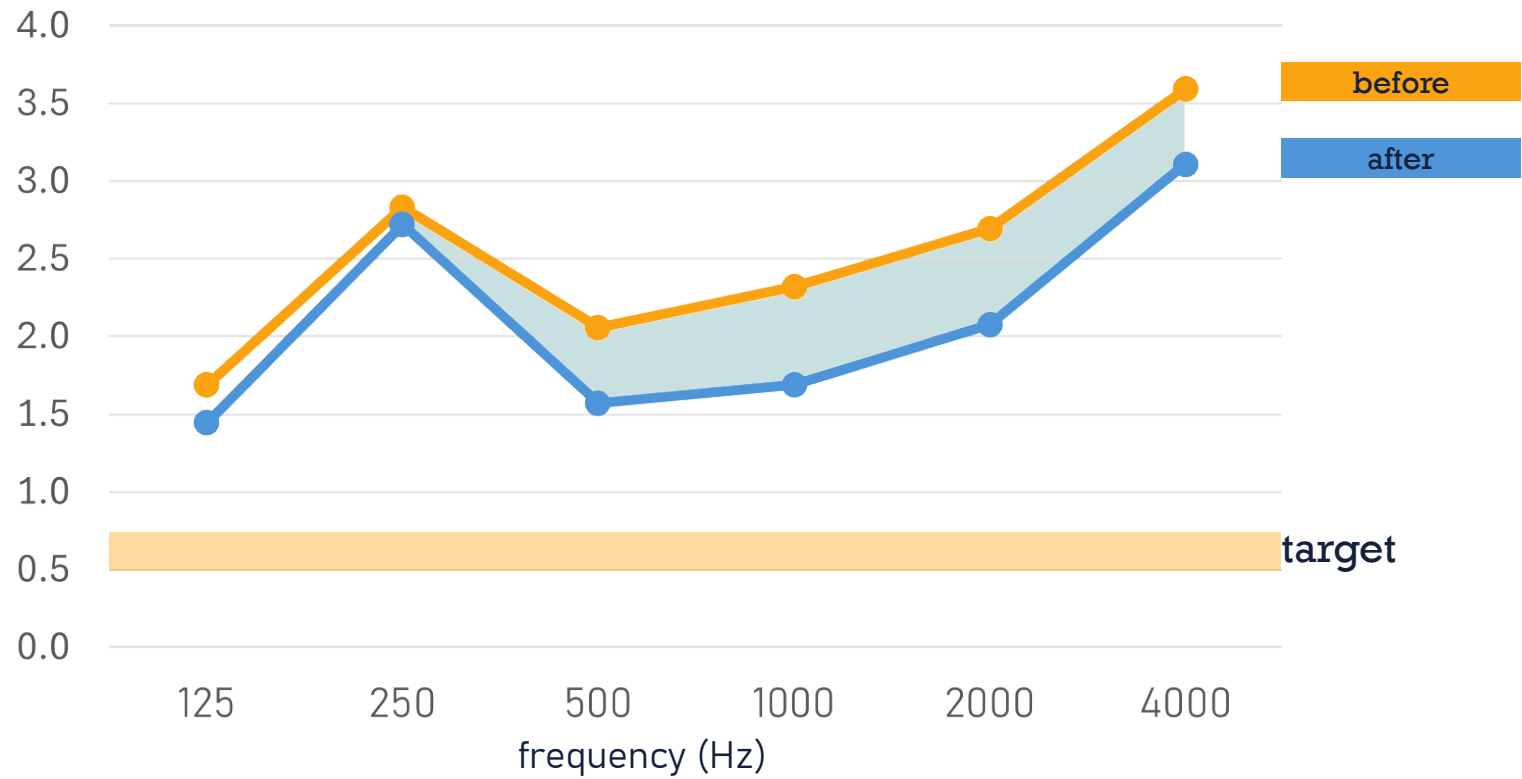


G

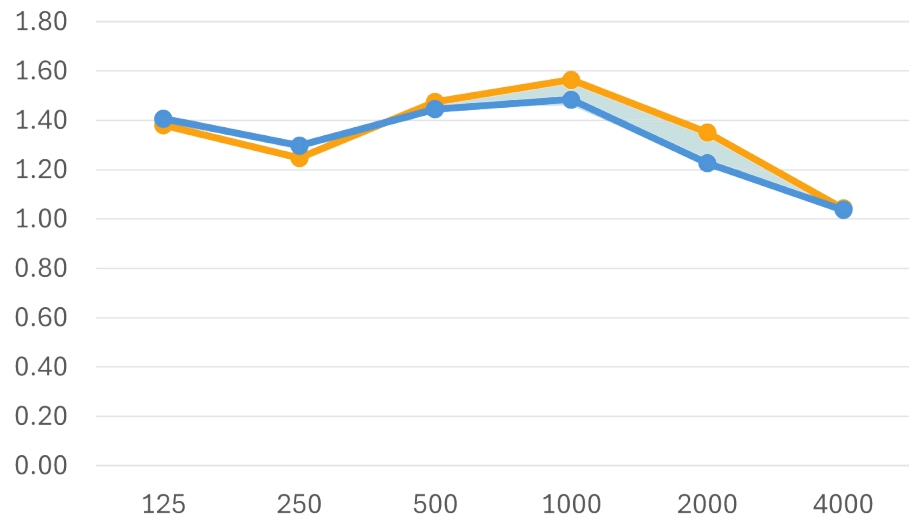


enhancing late sound
optimization

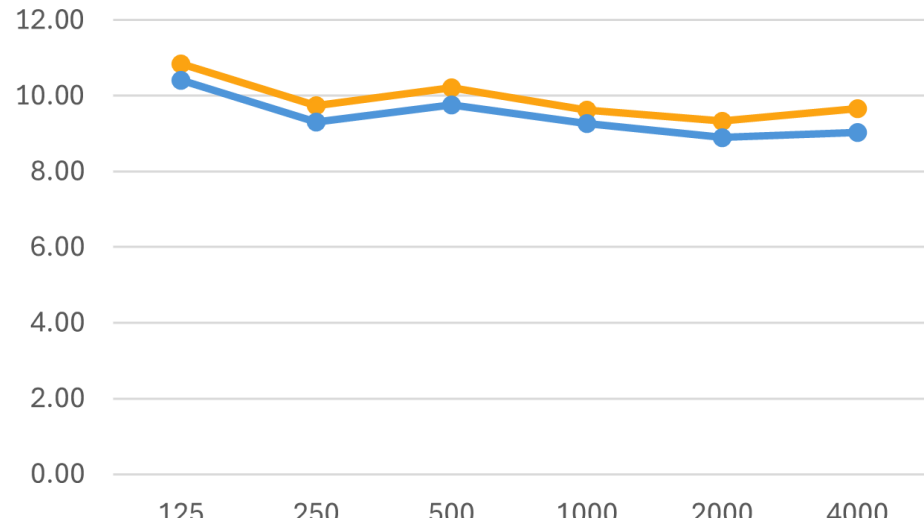
C80



RT



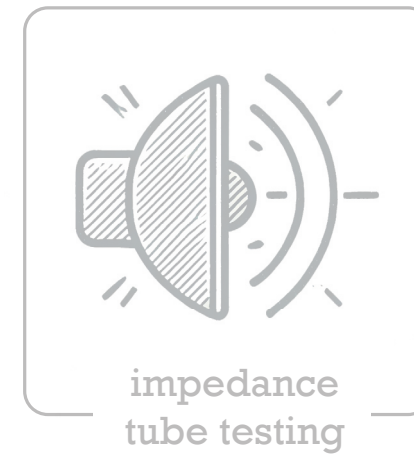
G



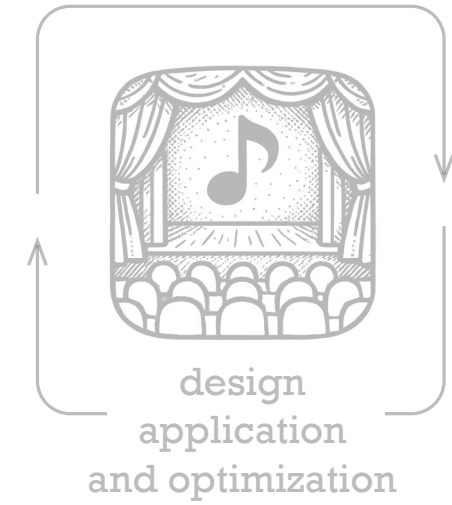
context definition



experimental research

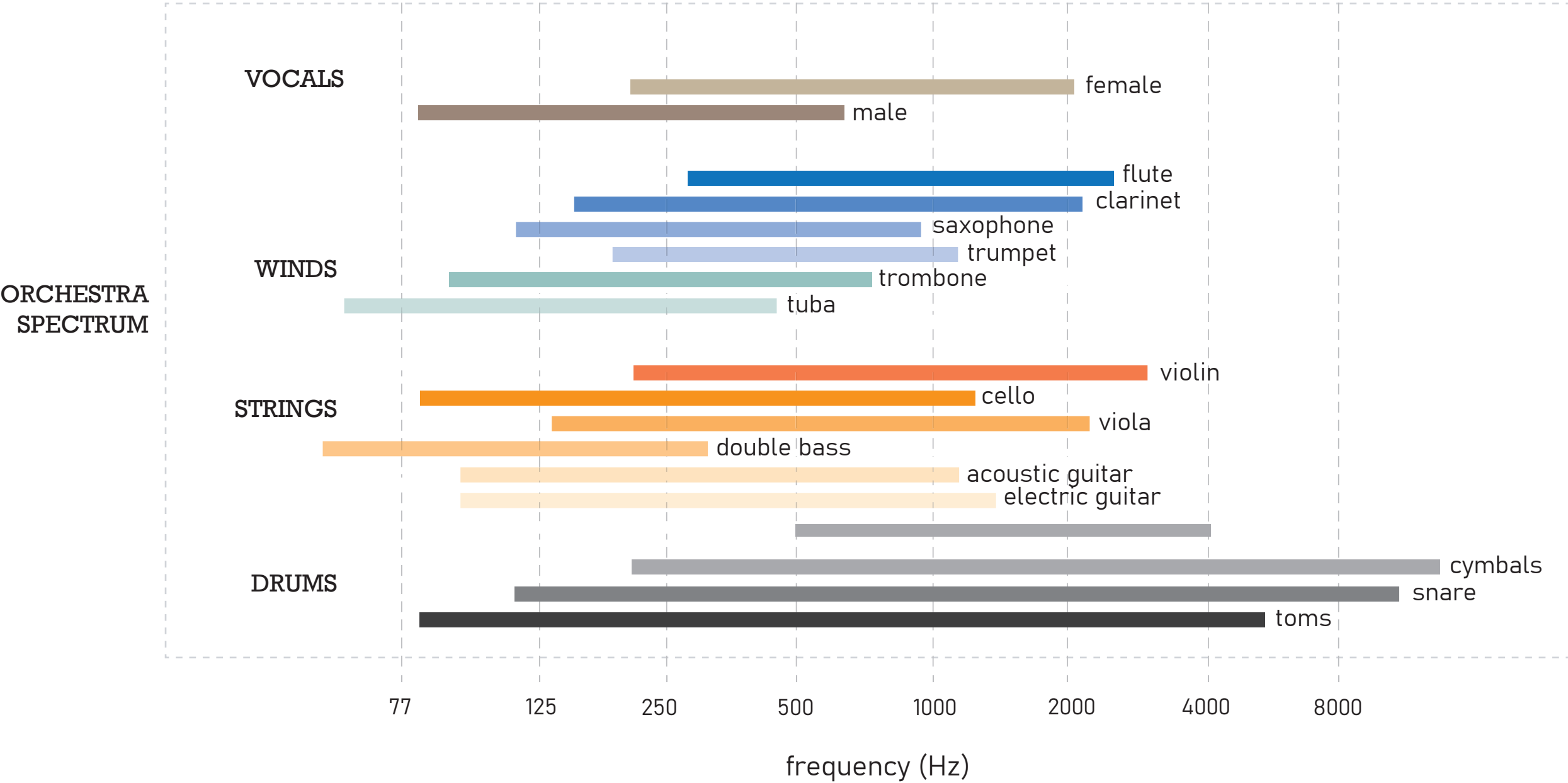


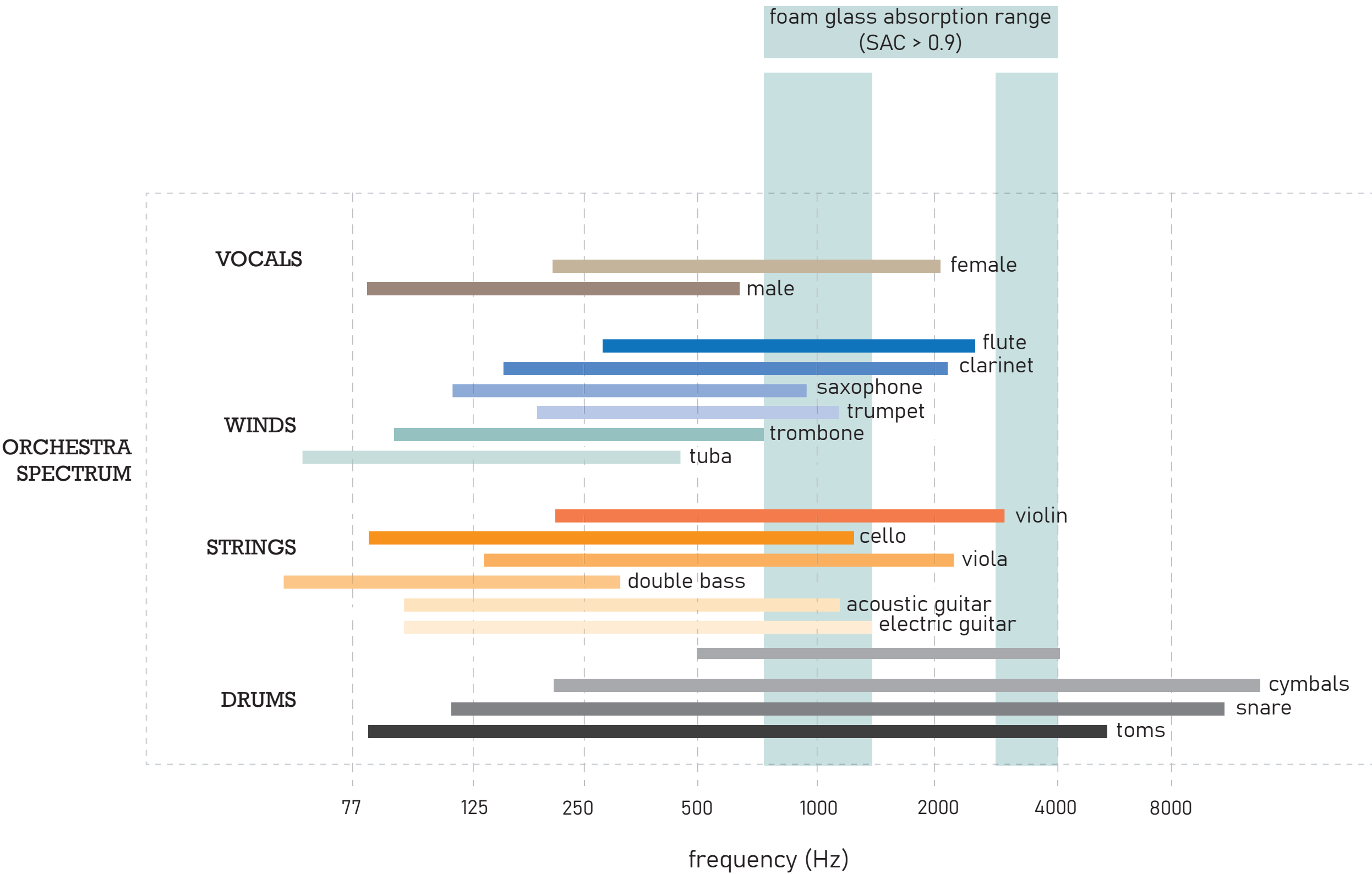
design application

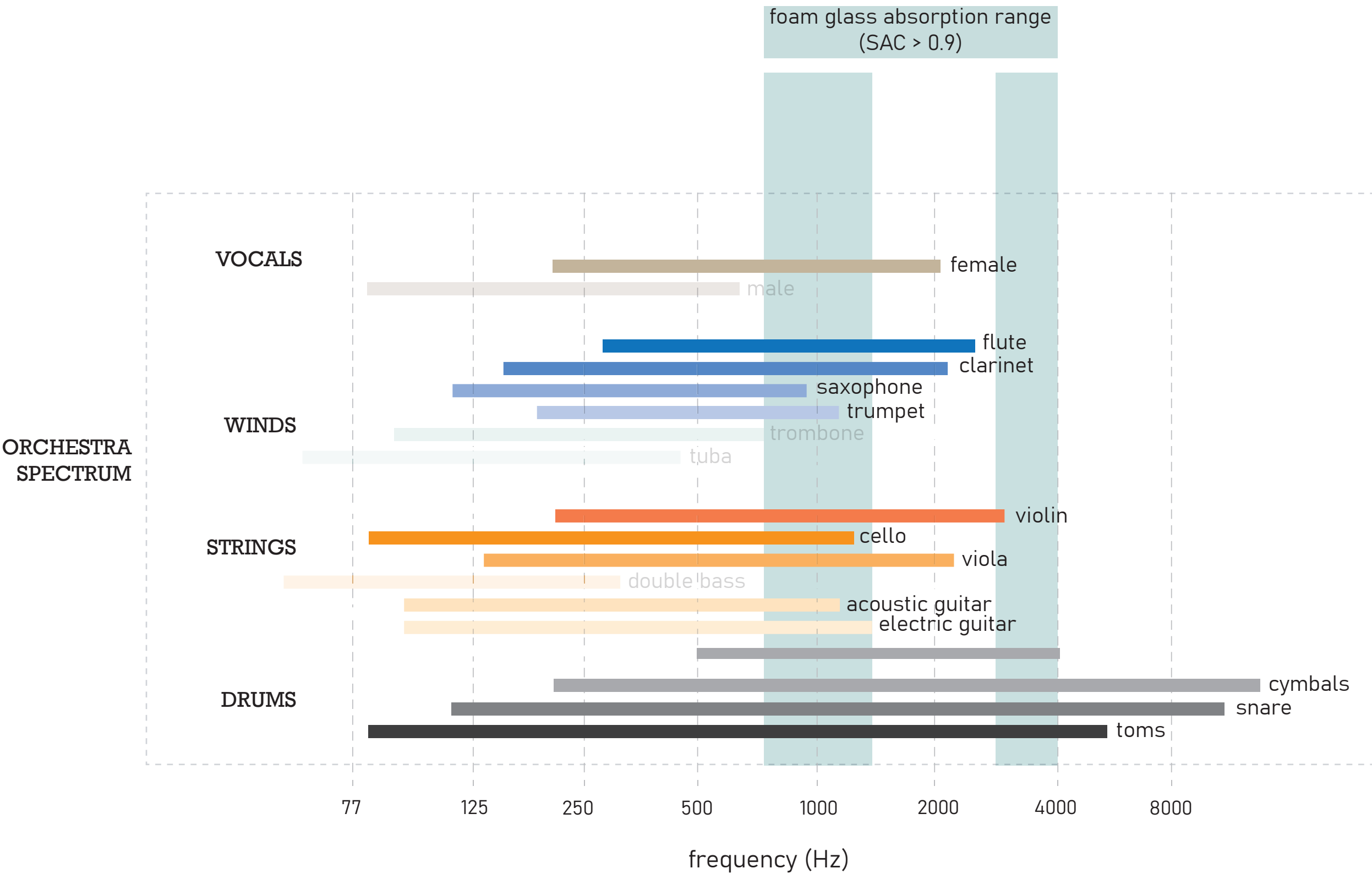


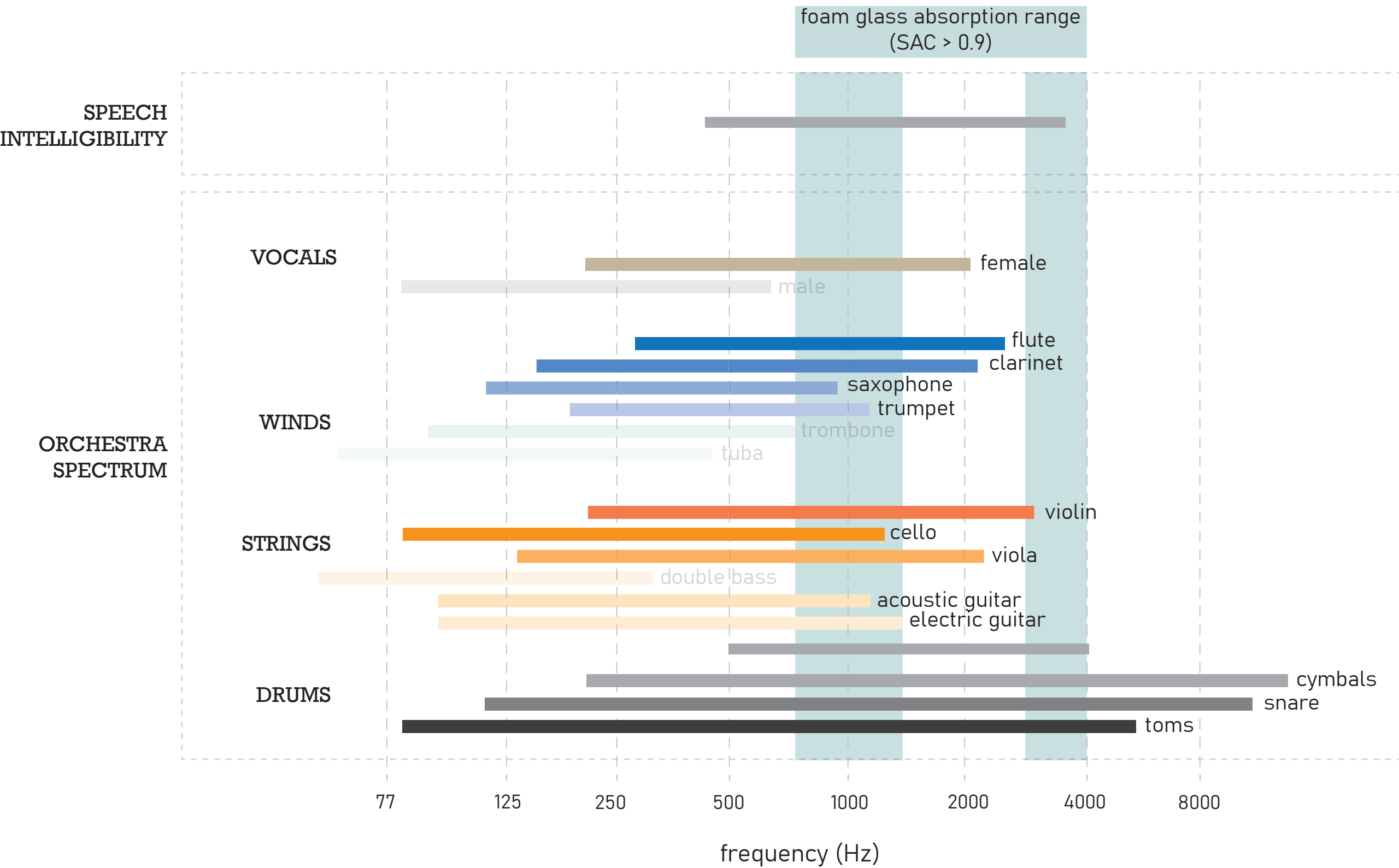
conclusion











What are the potential and limitations of developing a porous material from glass waste to produce acoustic panels for architectural space?

What are the potential and limitations of developing a porous material from glass waste to produce acoustic panels for architectural space?

limitations

- randomness of foaming reaction
- manufacturing challenges
- low (no) absorption in low frequencies

What are the potential and limitations of developing a porous material from glass waste to produce acoustic panels for architectural space?

limitations

- randomness of foaming reaction
- manufacturing challenges
- low (no) absorption in low frequencies

potential

- excellent acoustic performance in mid-high frequencies
- circular product
- architectural adaptability

THANK YOU!



references

Visuals were generated using OpenAI, ChatGPT if not specified differently.

[1] Bernardo, E., Cedro, R., Florean, M., & Hreglich, S. (2007). Reutilization and stabilization of wastes by the production of glass foams. *Ceramics International*, 33(5), 963–968. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.ceramint.2006.02.010>

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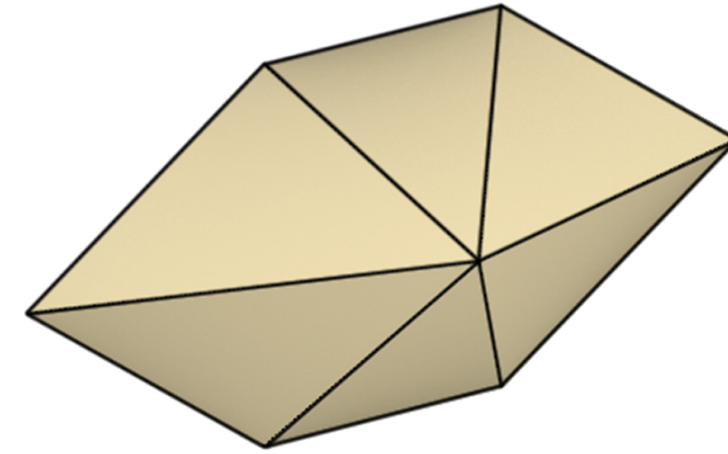
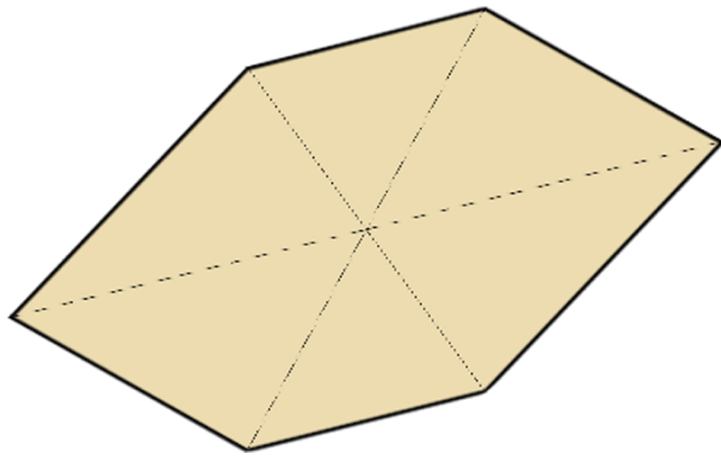
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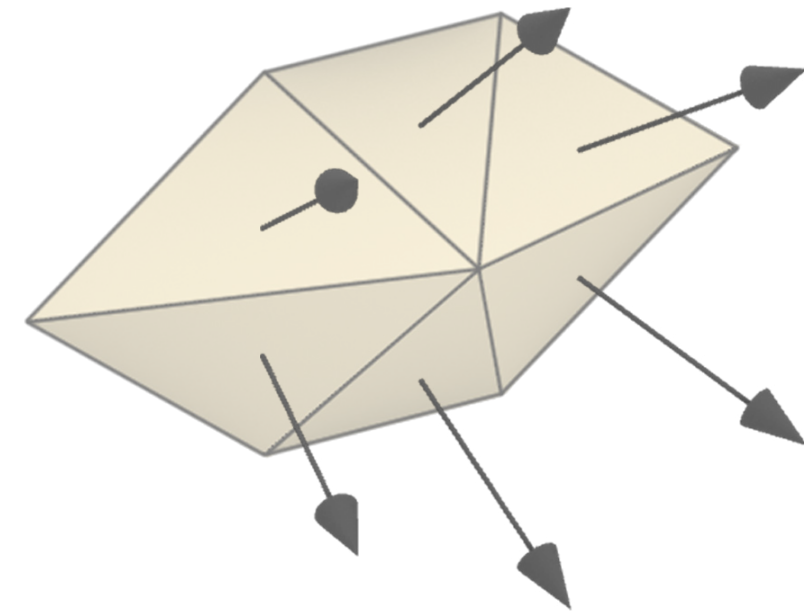
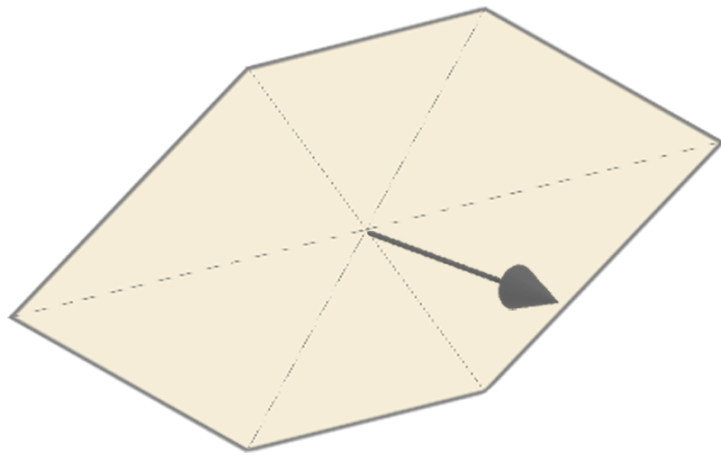
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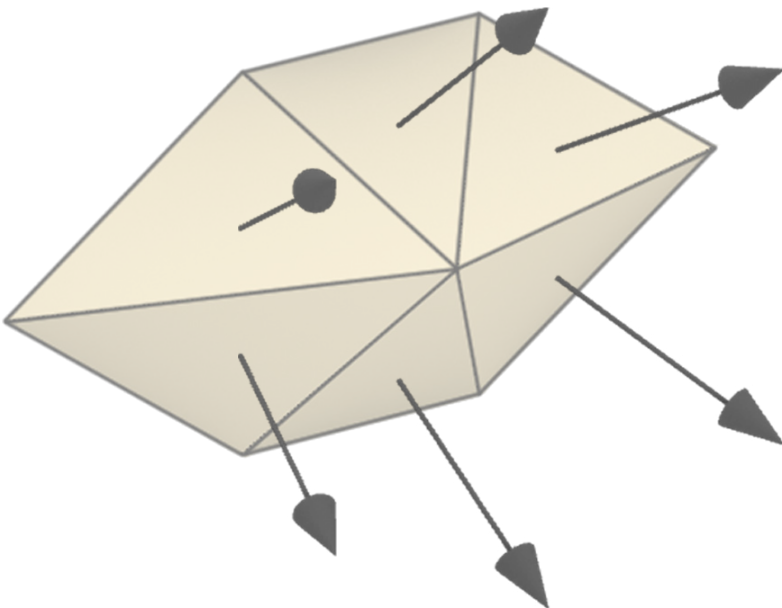
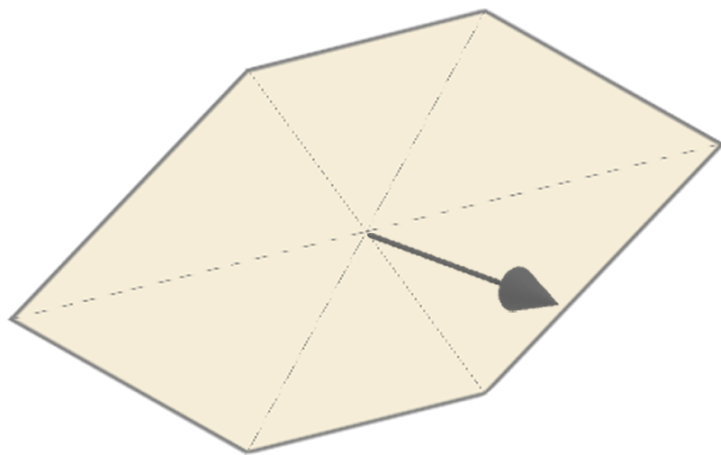
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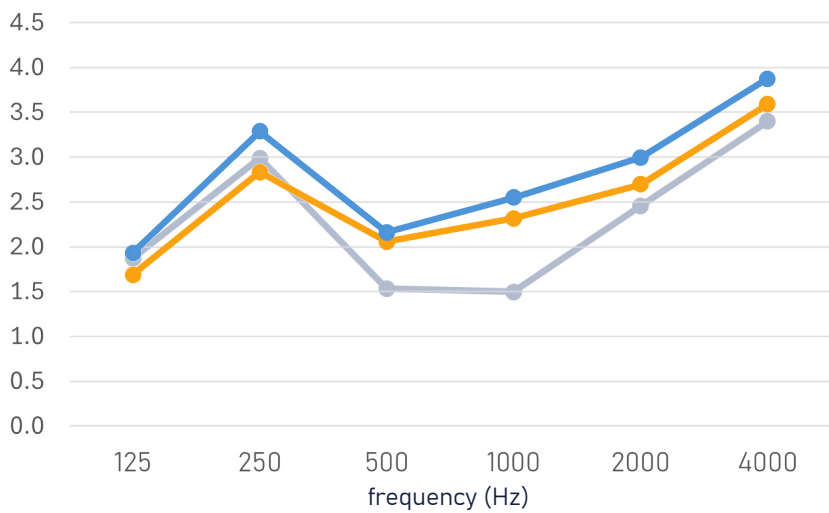
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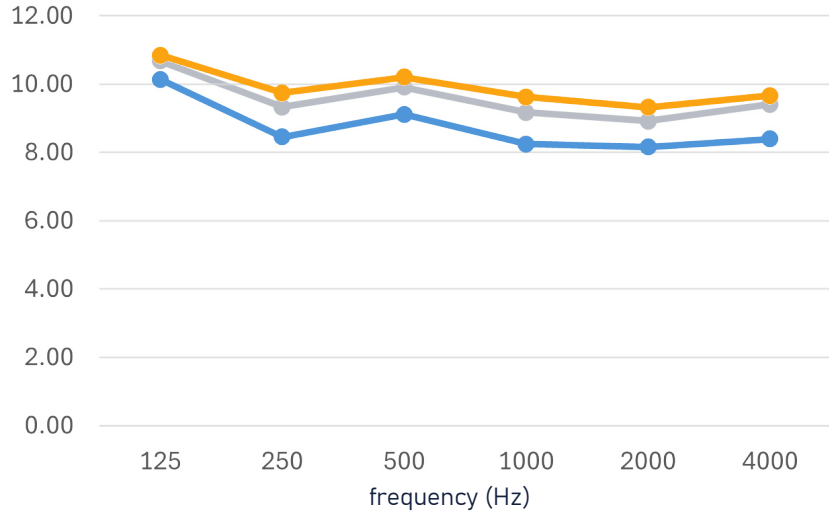




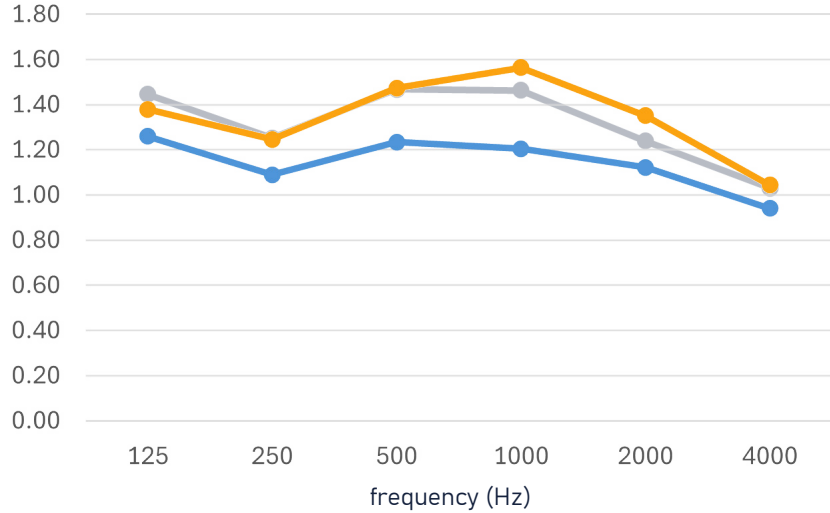
C80

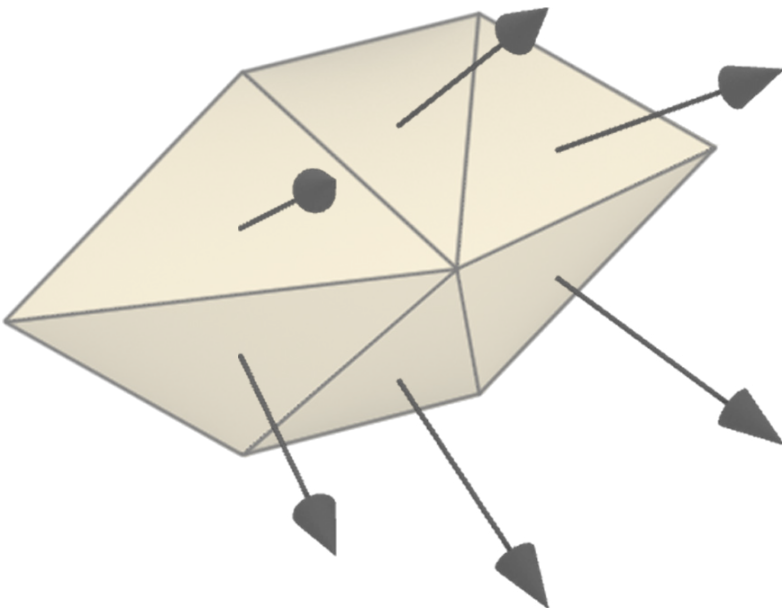
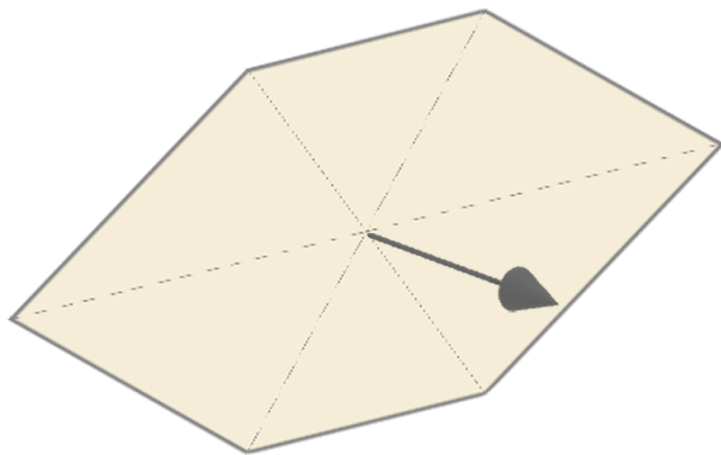


G

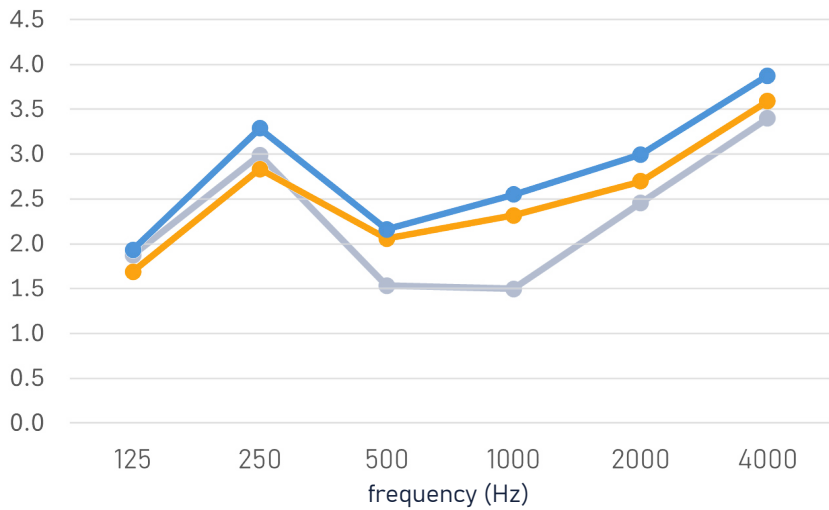


RT

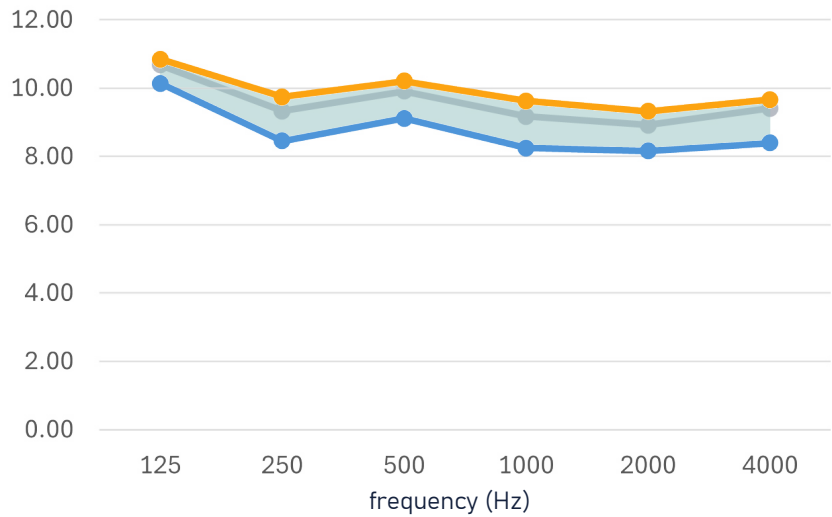




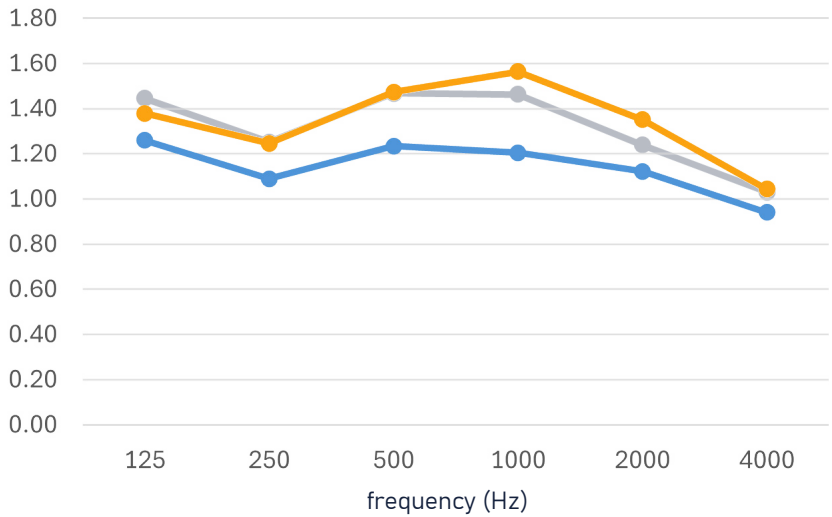
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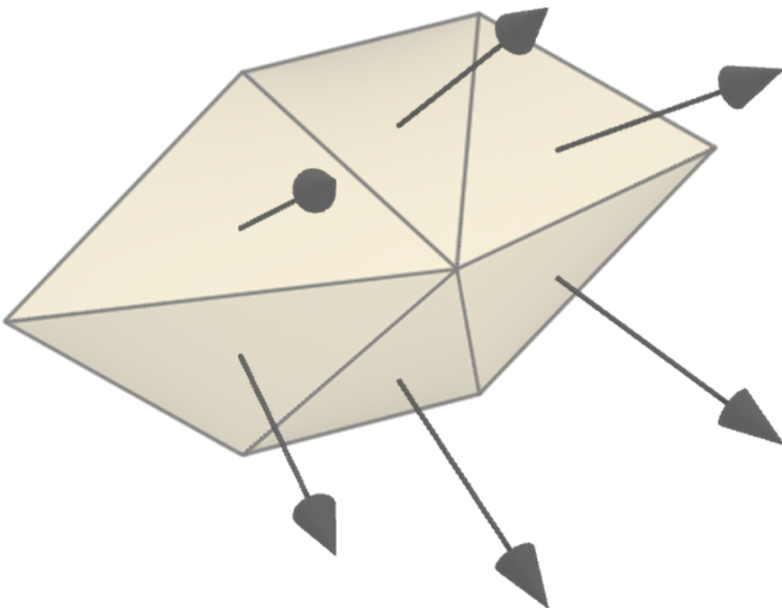
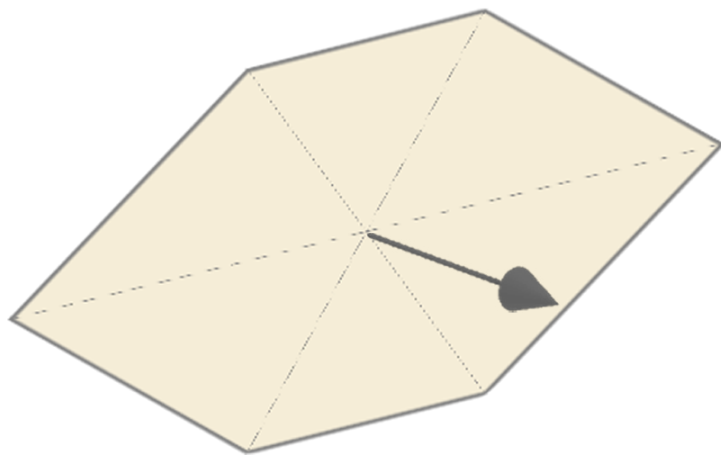


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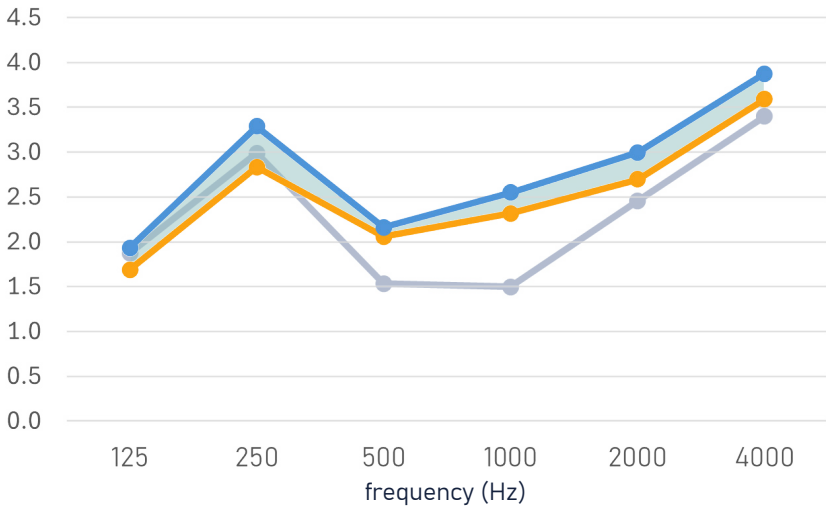


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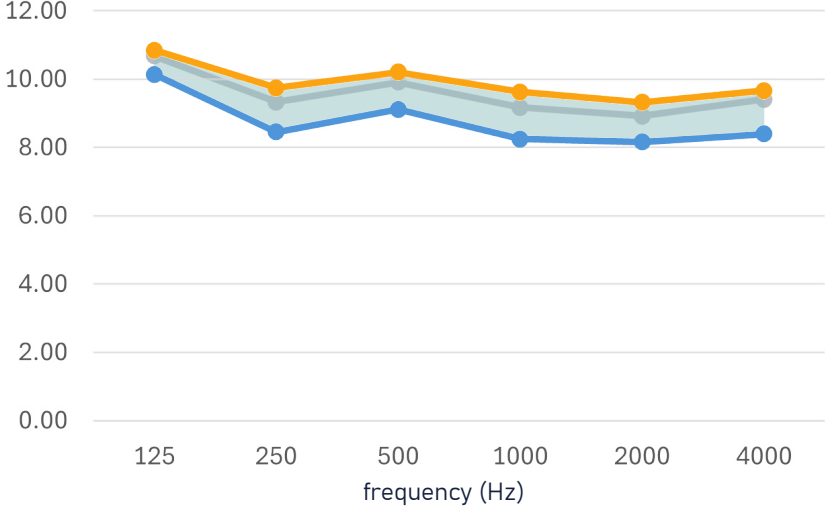




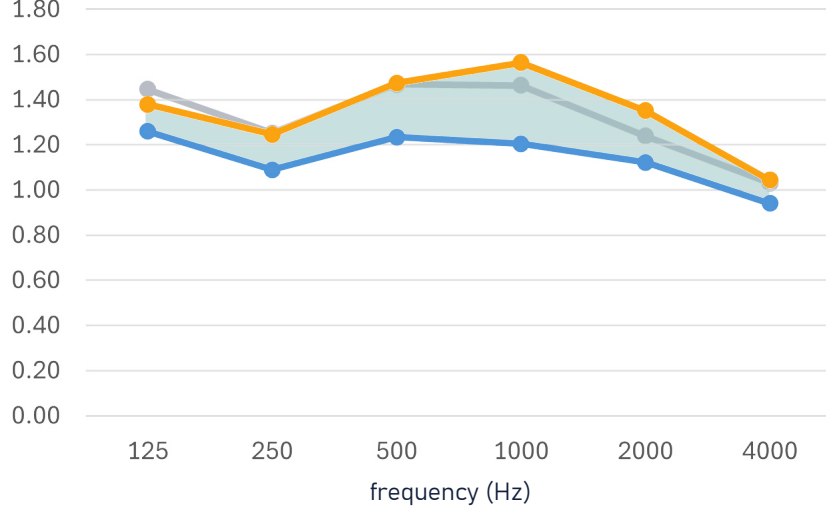
C80



G



RT



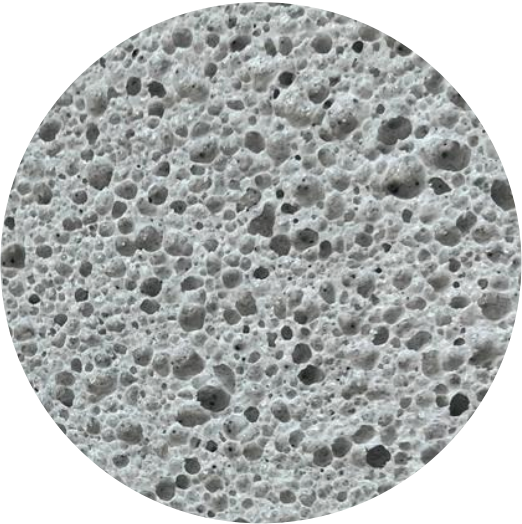
mixing different foaming agent concentrations





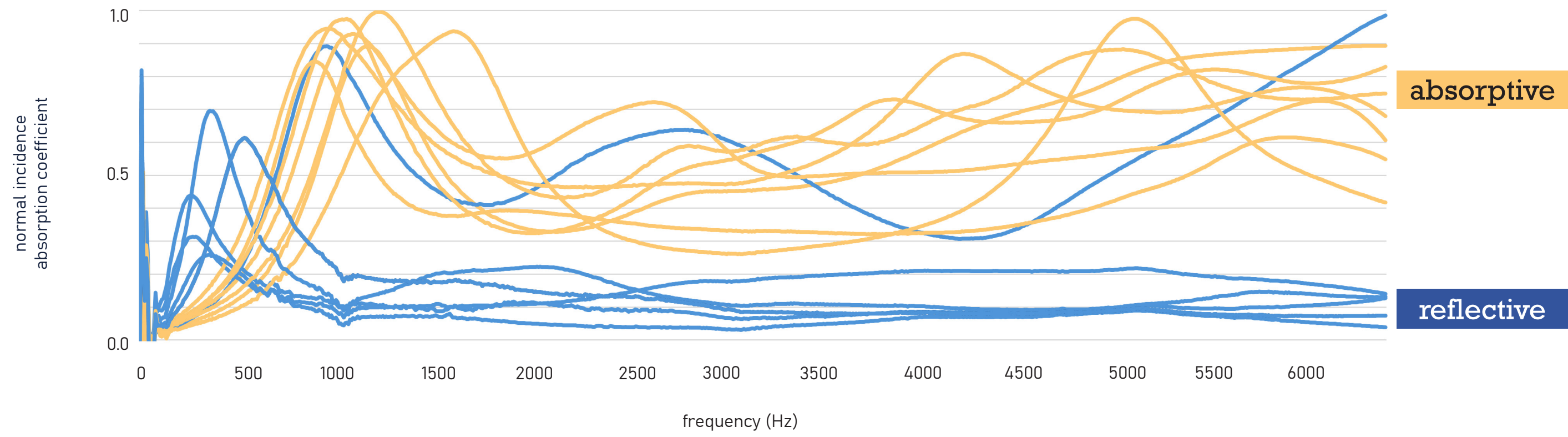
5 cm

gradient porosity within one sample

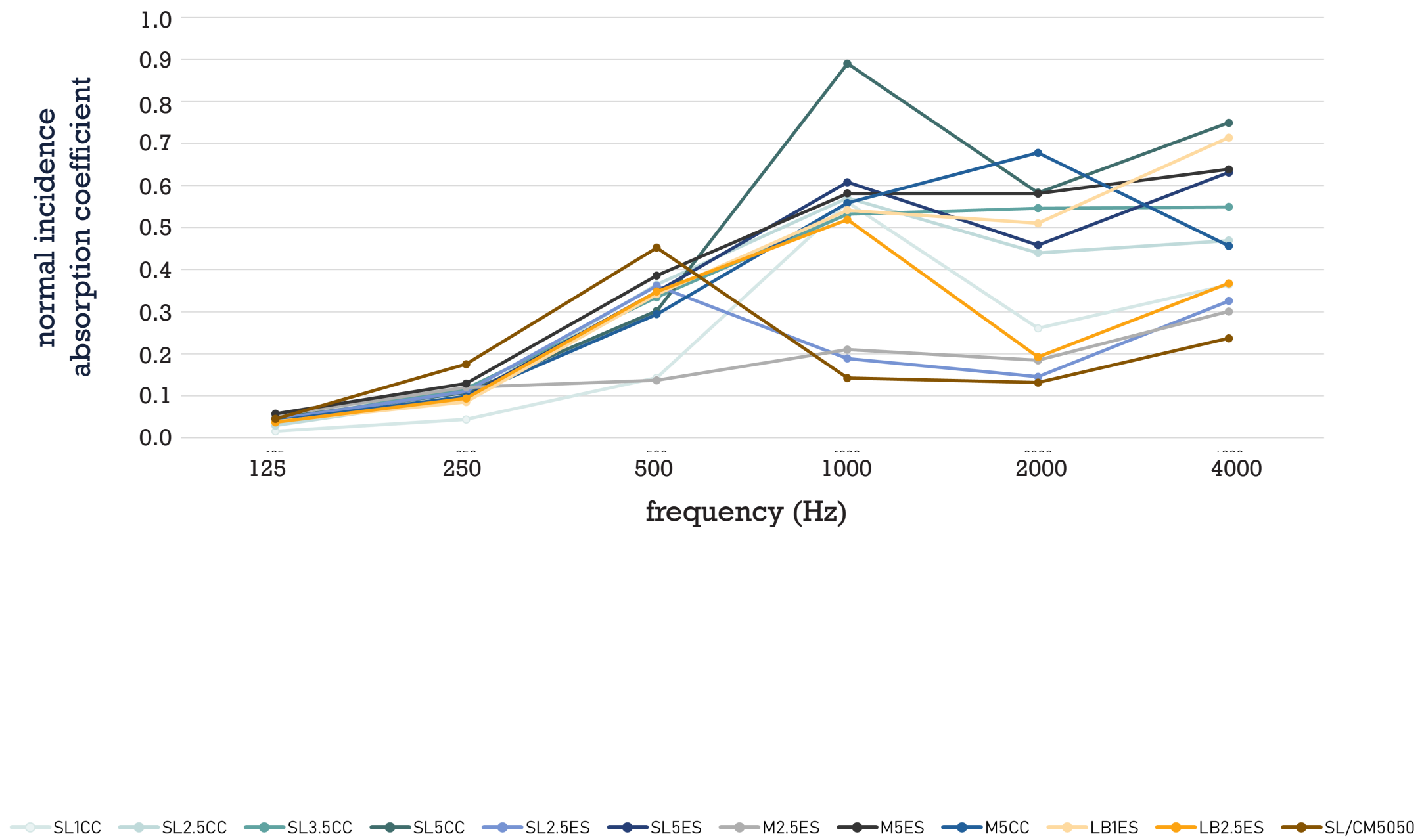


5 cm

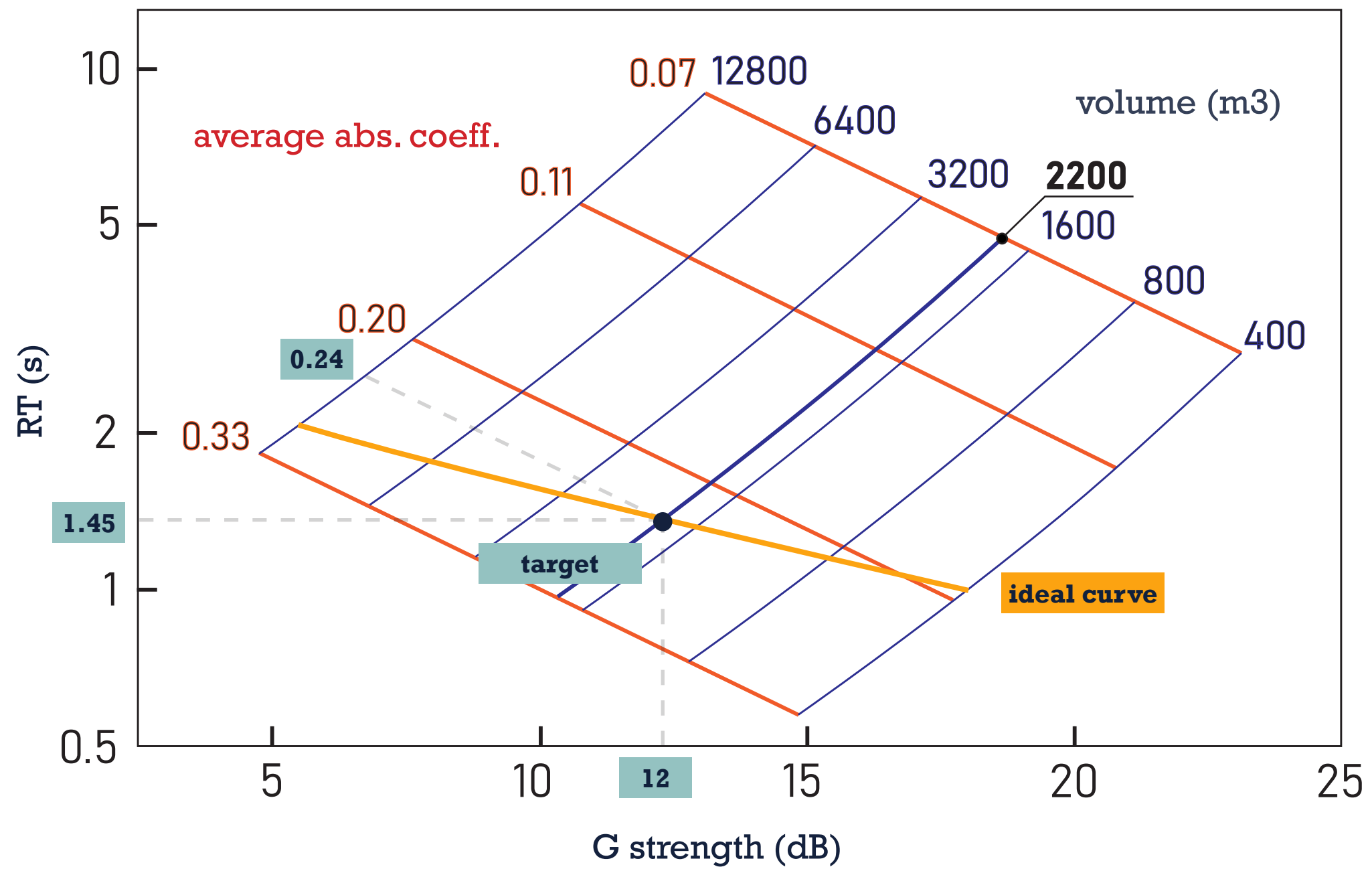
absorptive vs reflective side



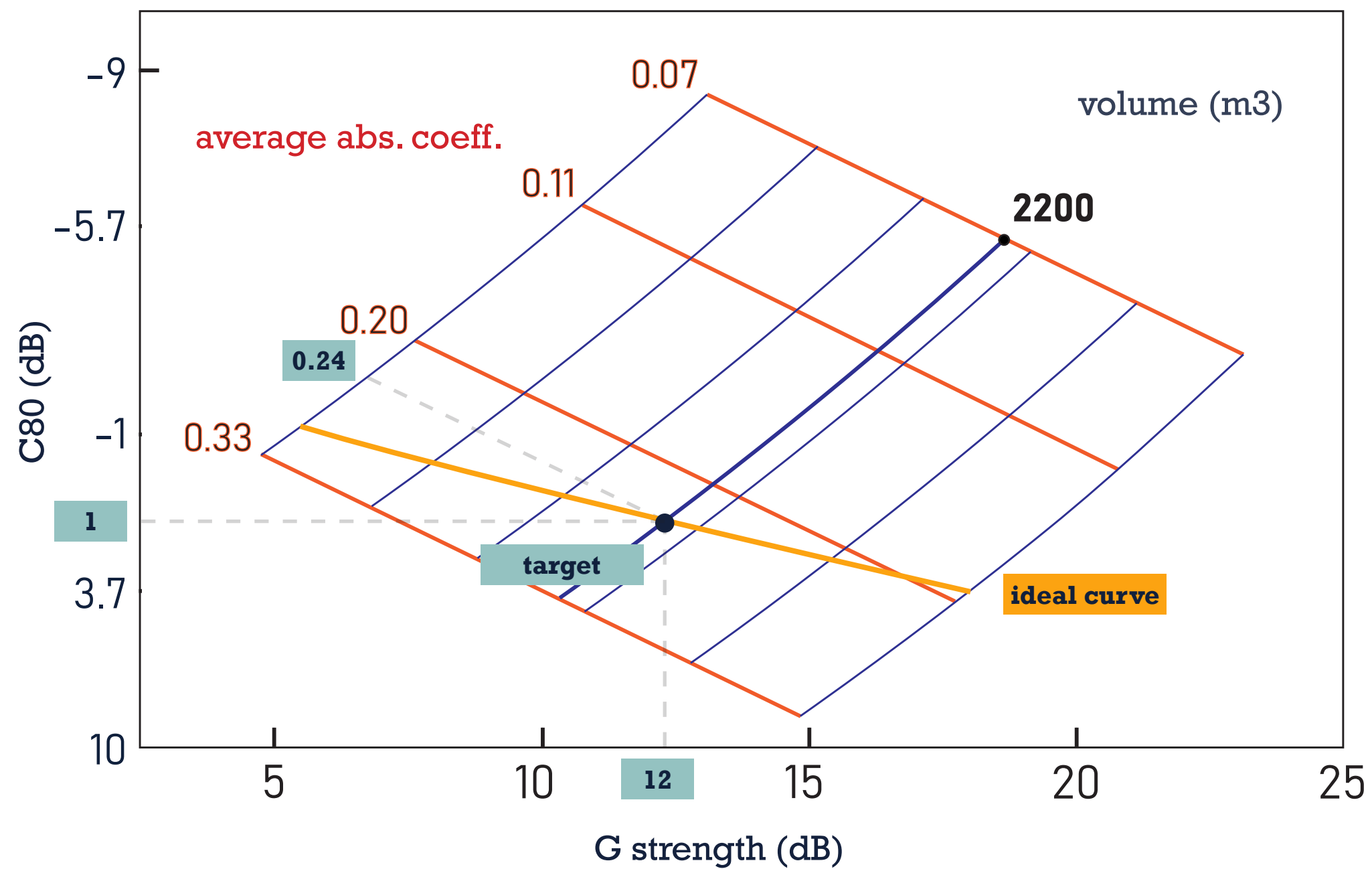
octave bands



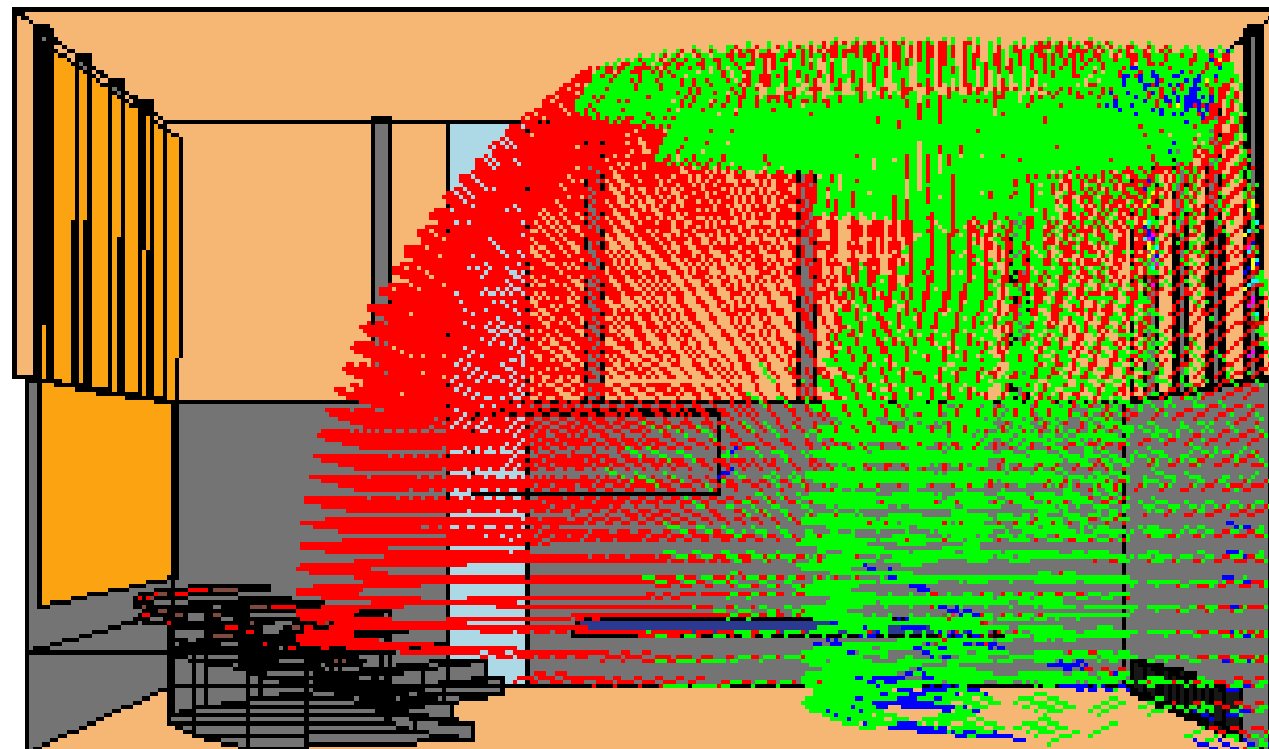
G - RT diagram



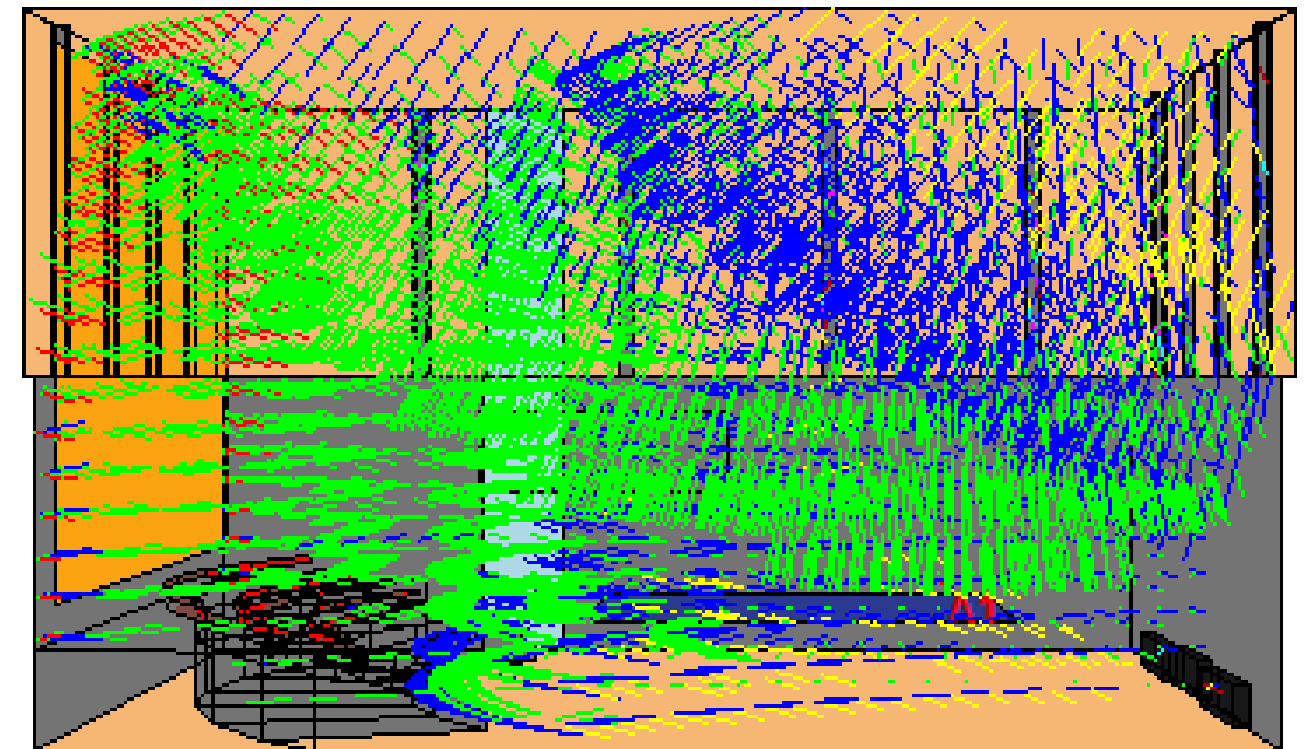
C80 - G diagram



24 ms



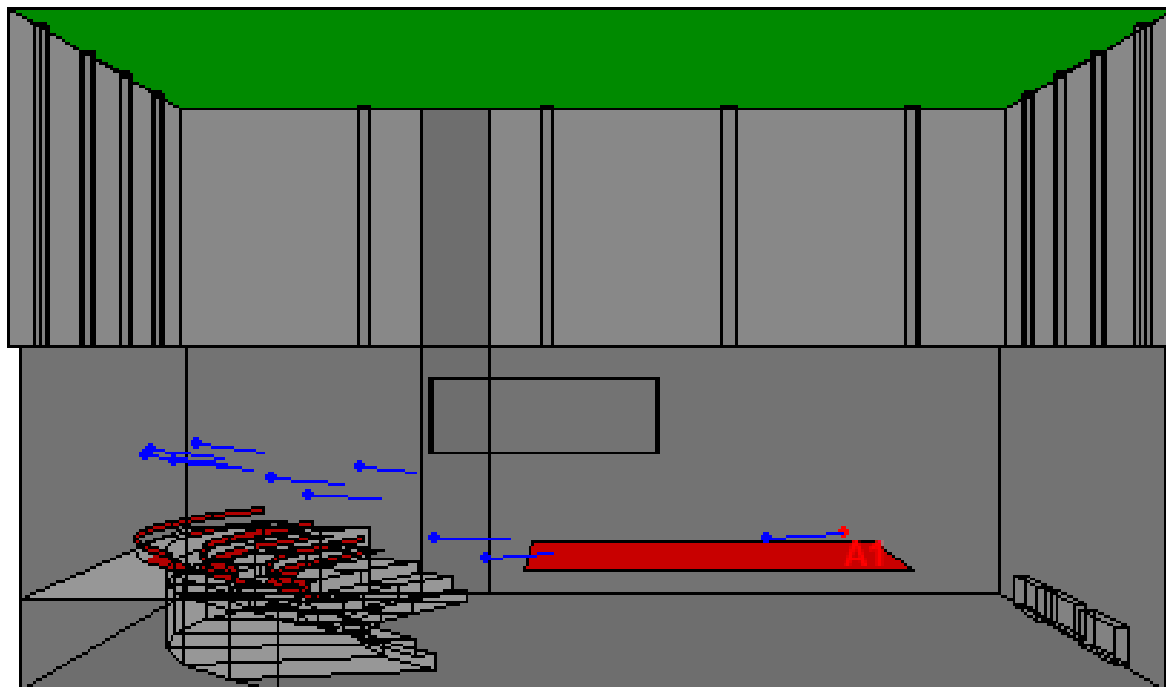
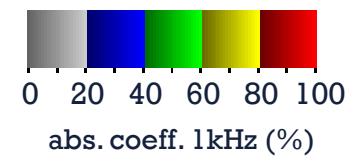
40 ms



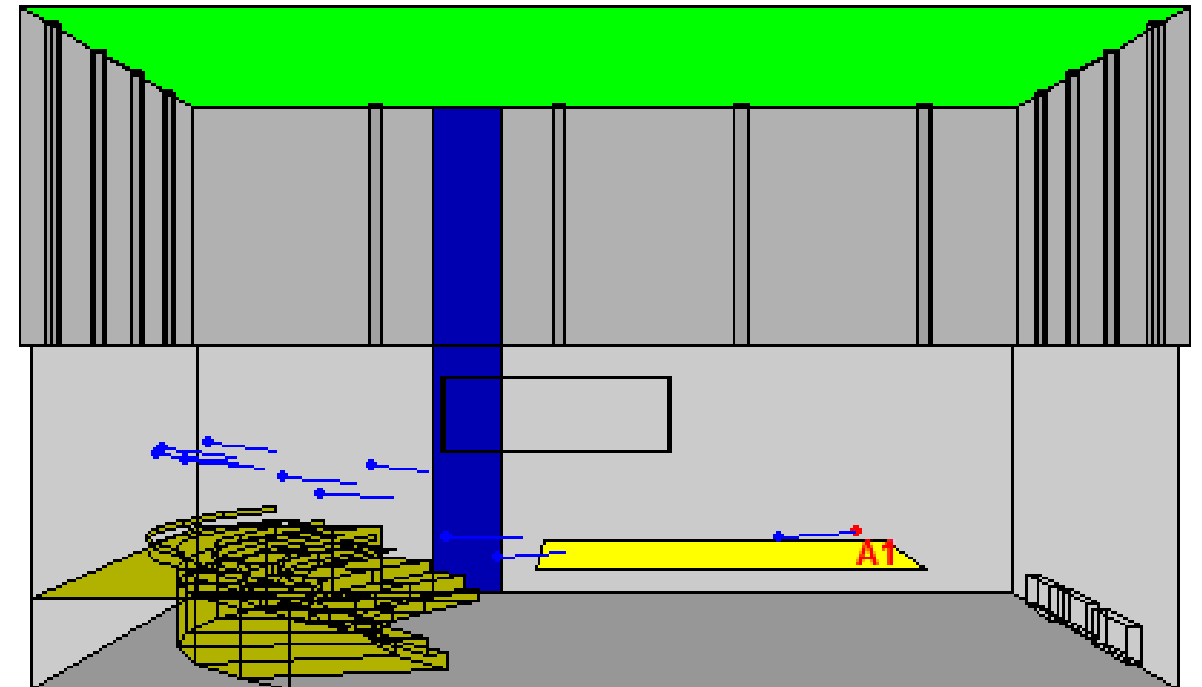
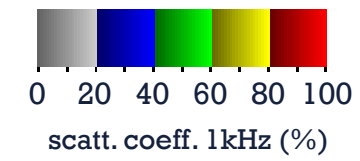
No of rays 10088
Max time 200 ms
Time step 2 ms
Min level -5 dB

order
0 red
1 green
2 blue
3 yellow

absorption



scattering



foaming agent concentration - lower temperatures

720°C

soda lime + calcium carbonate

lightbulbs + eggshells



2.5 wt %



5 wt %



2.5 wt %



5 wt %

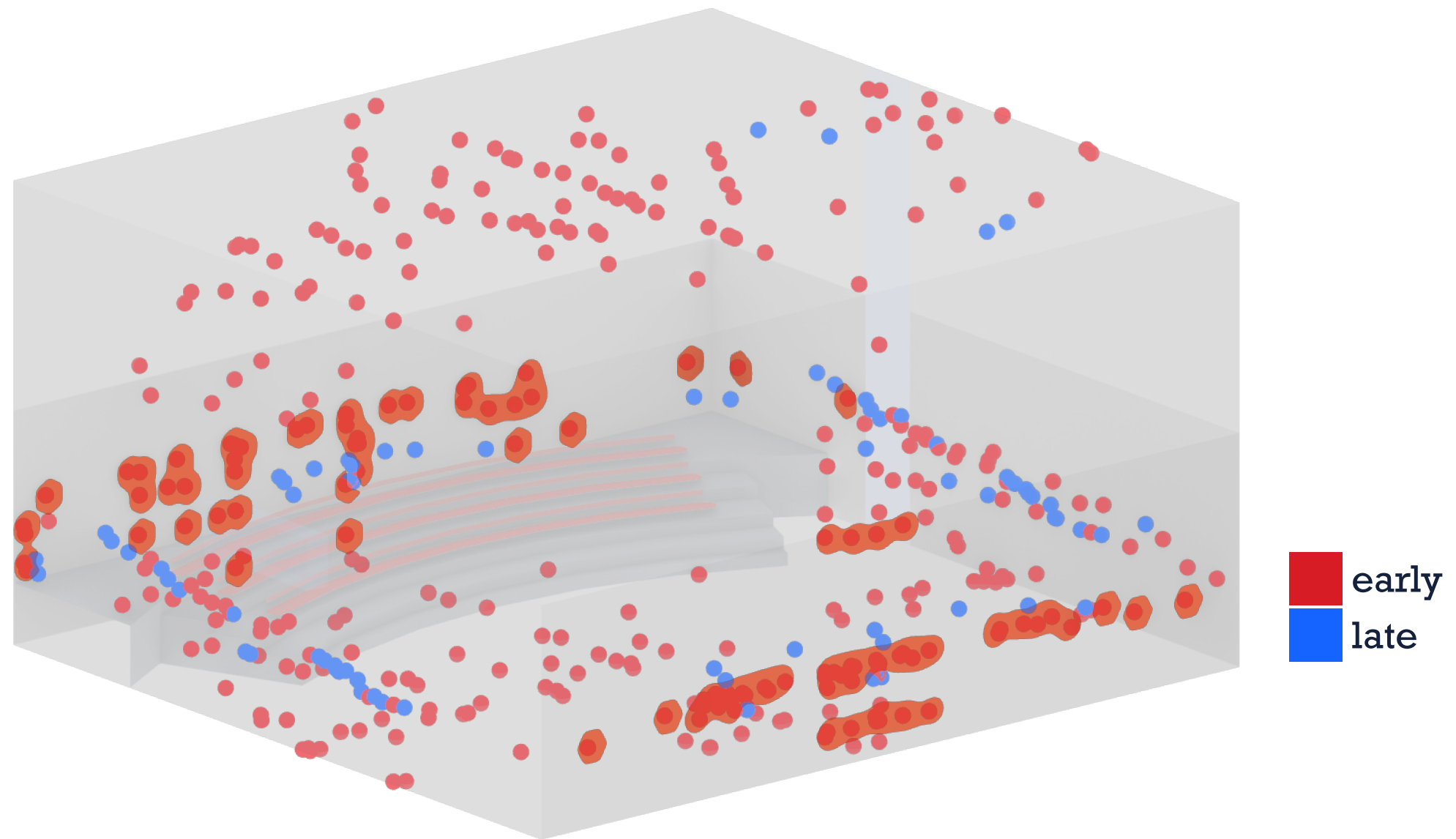
5 cm

cyclon mix (CM/SL5050CC)

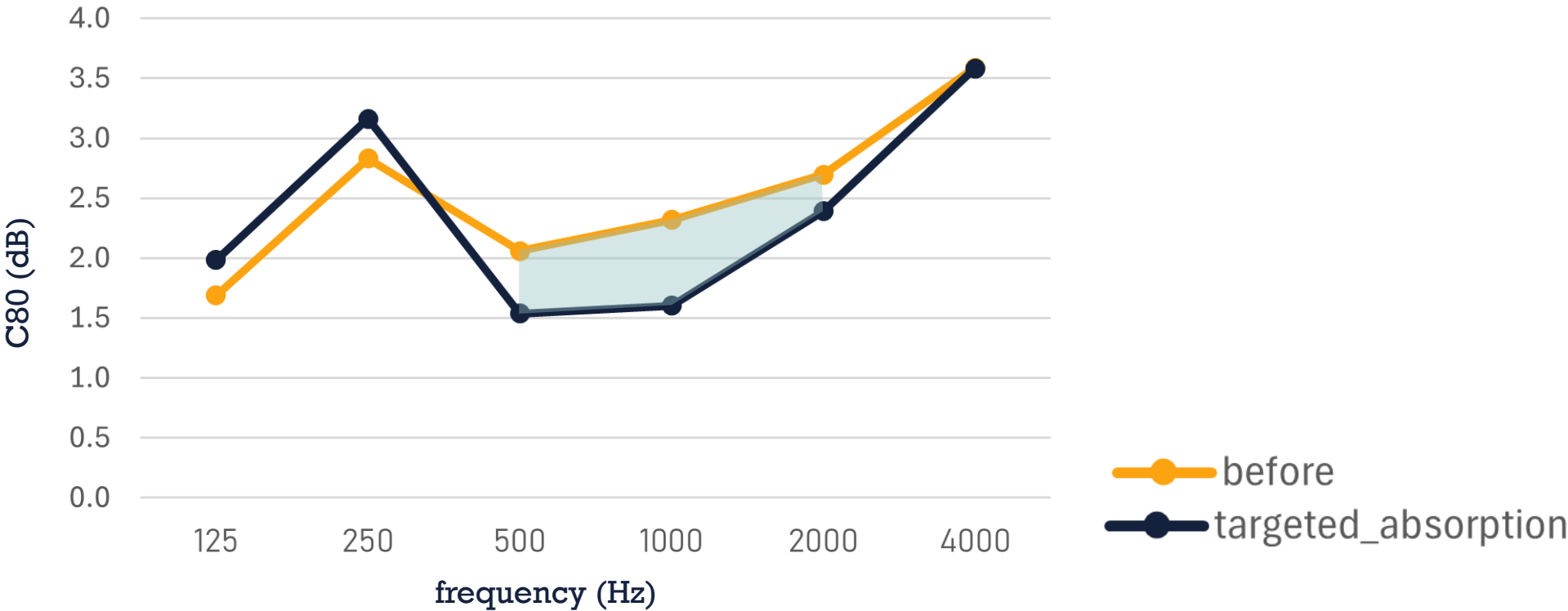


790°C

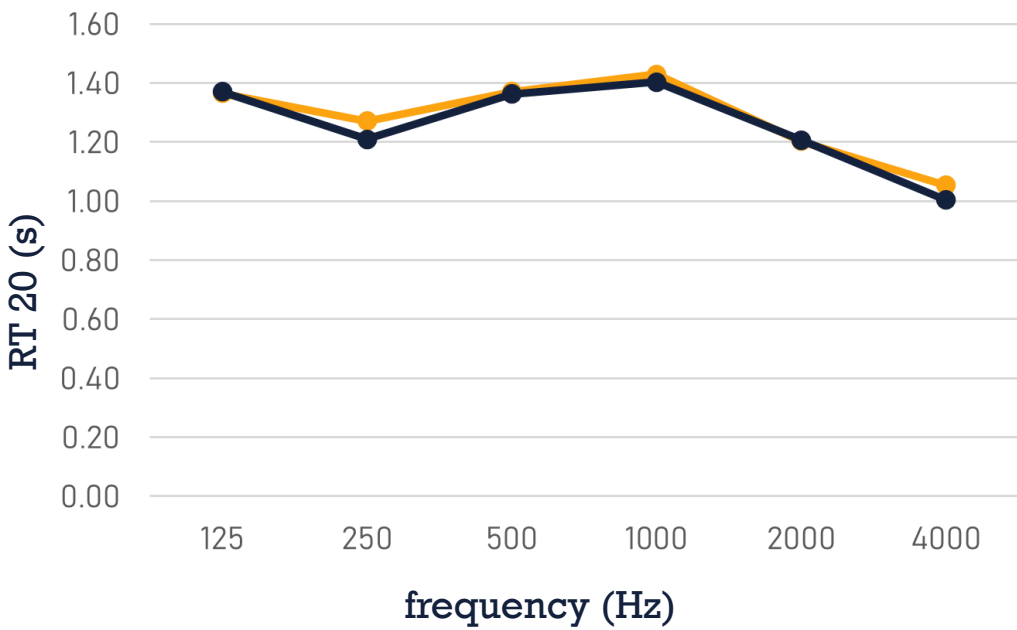
860°C



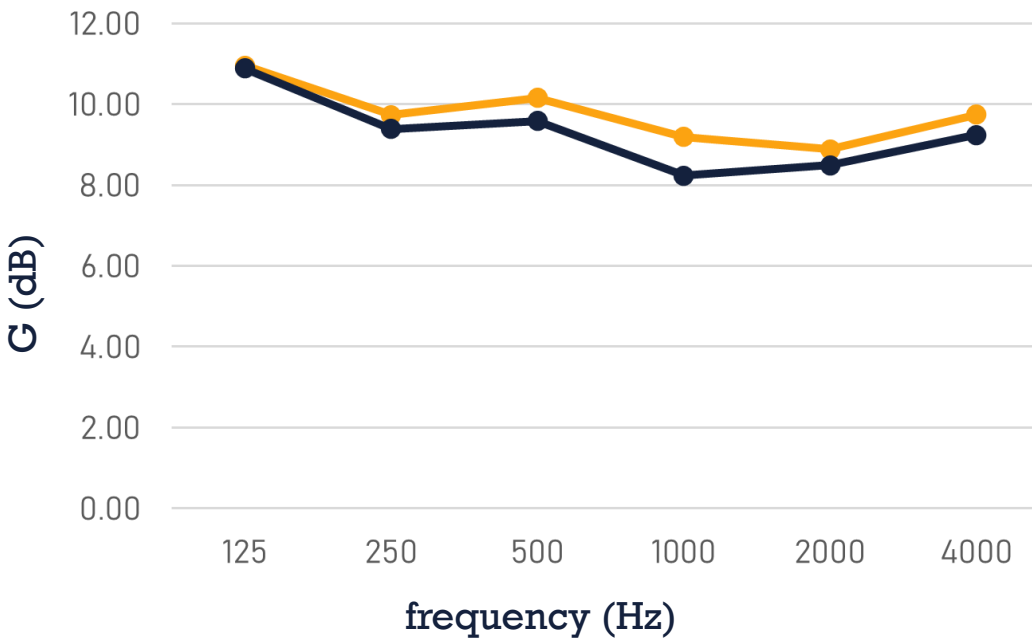
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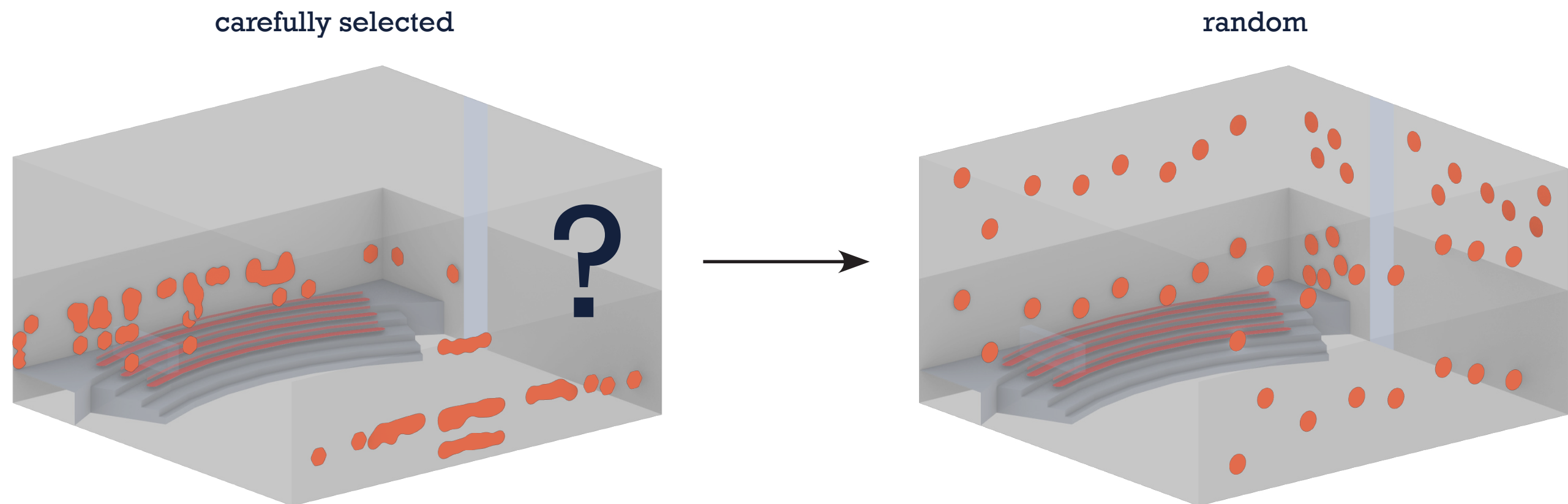


RT

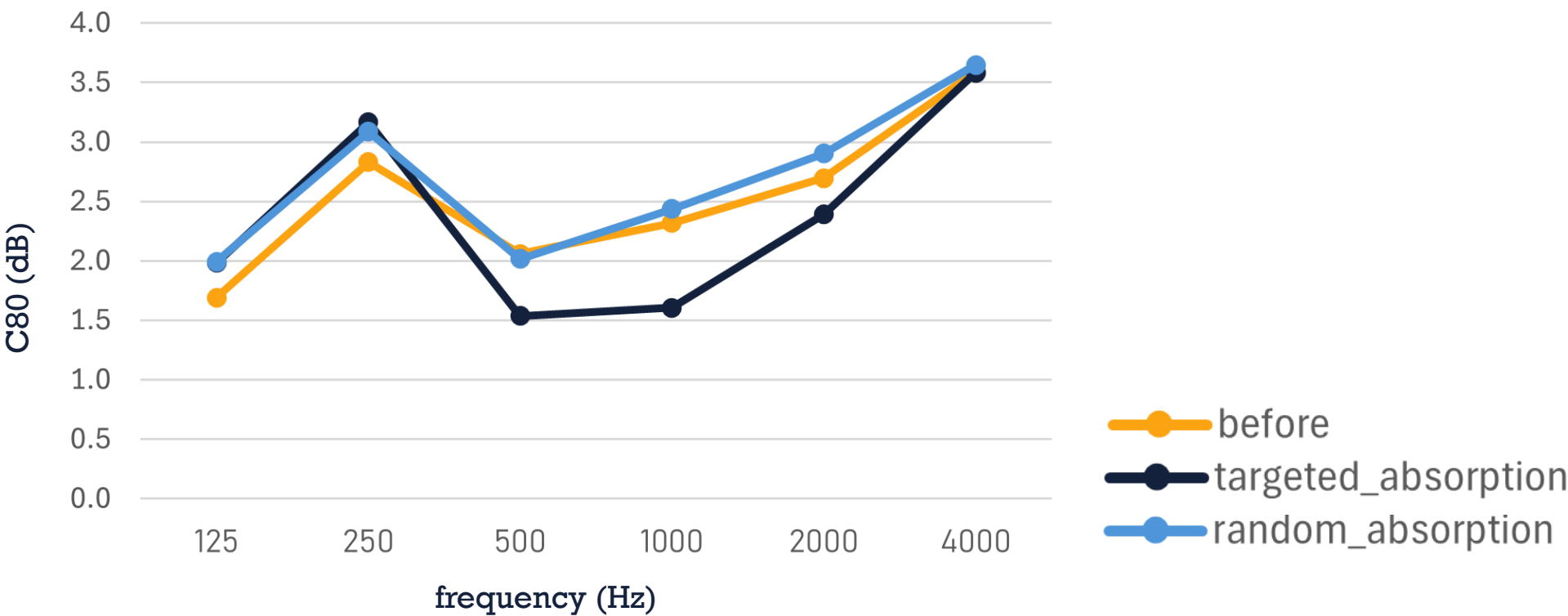


G

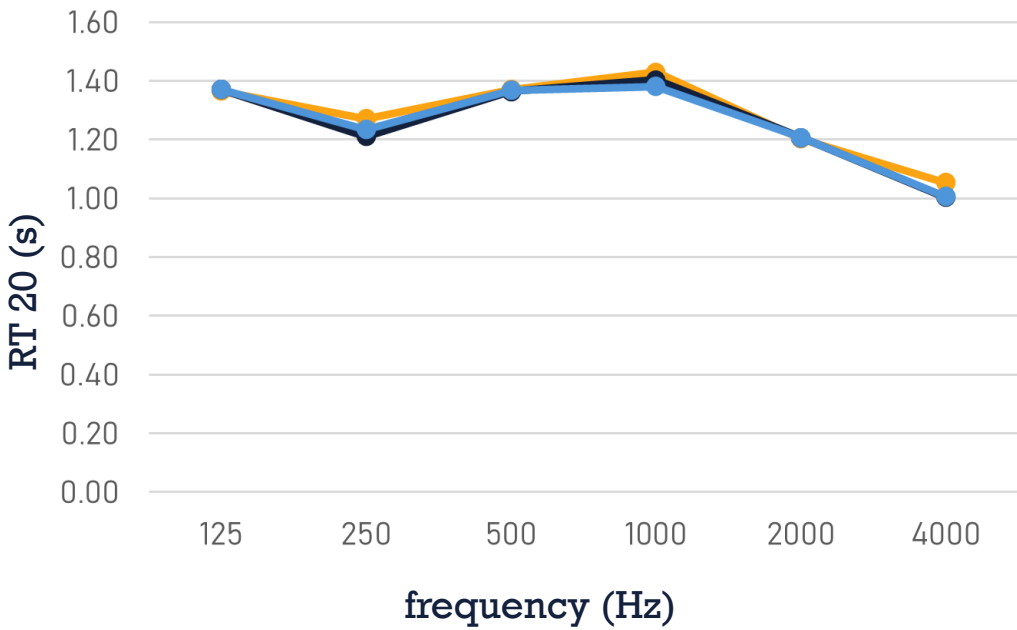




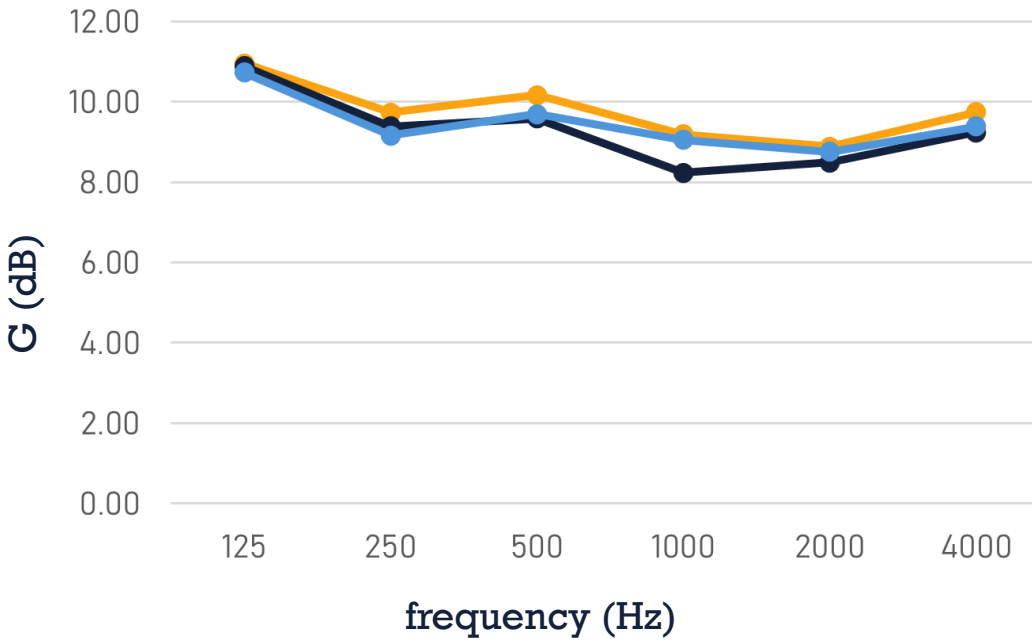
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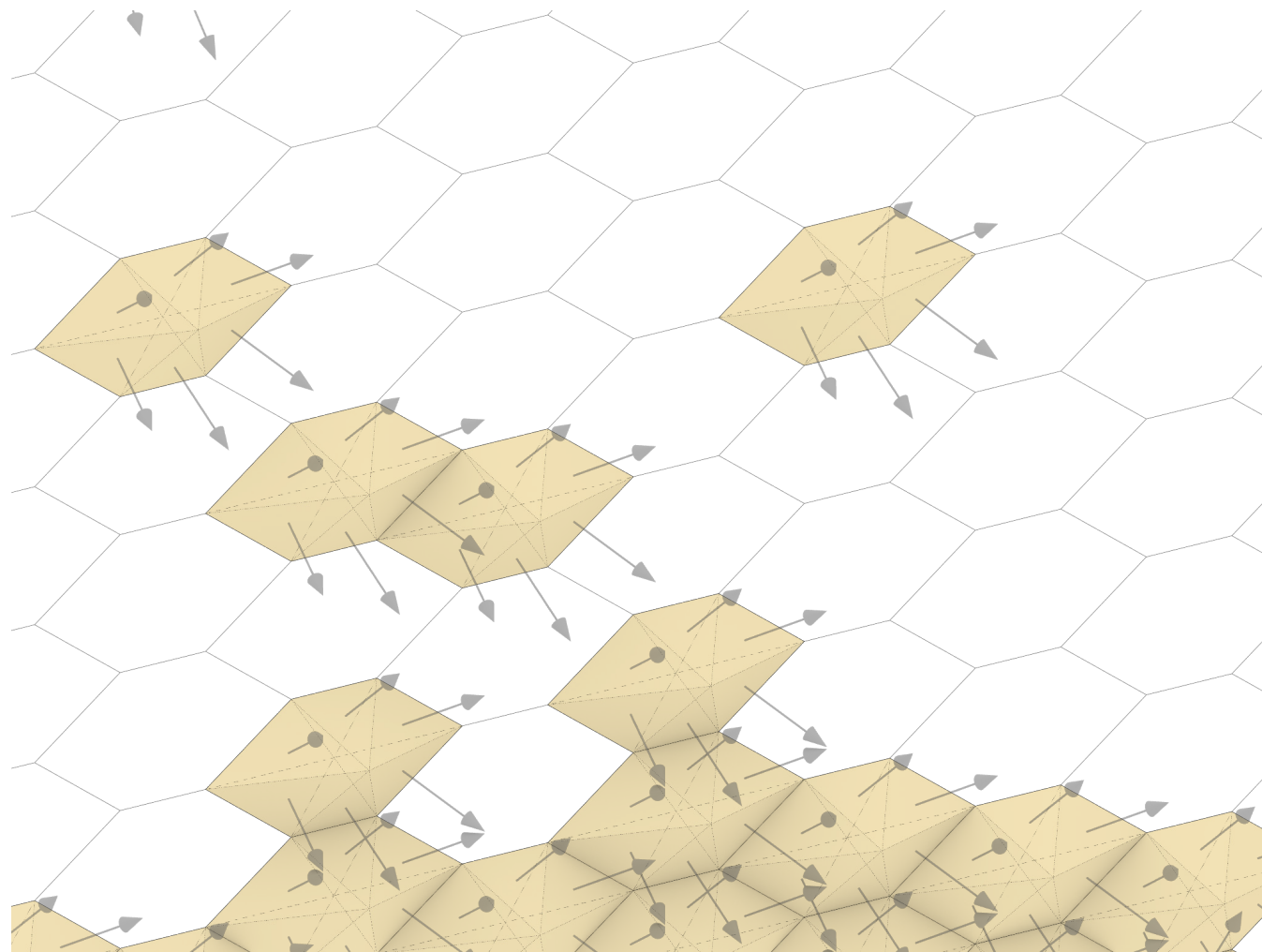
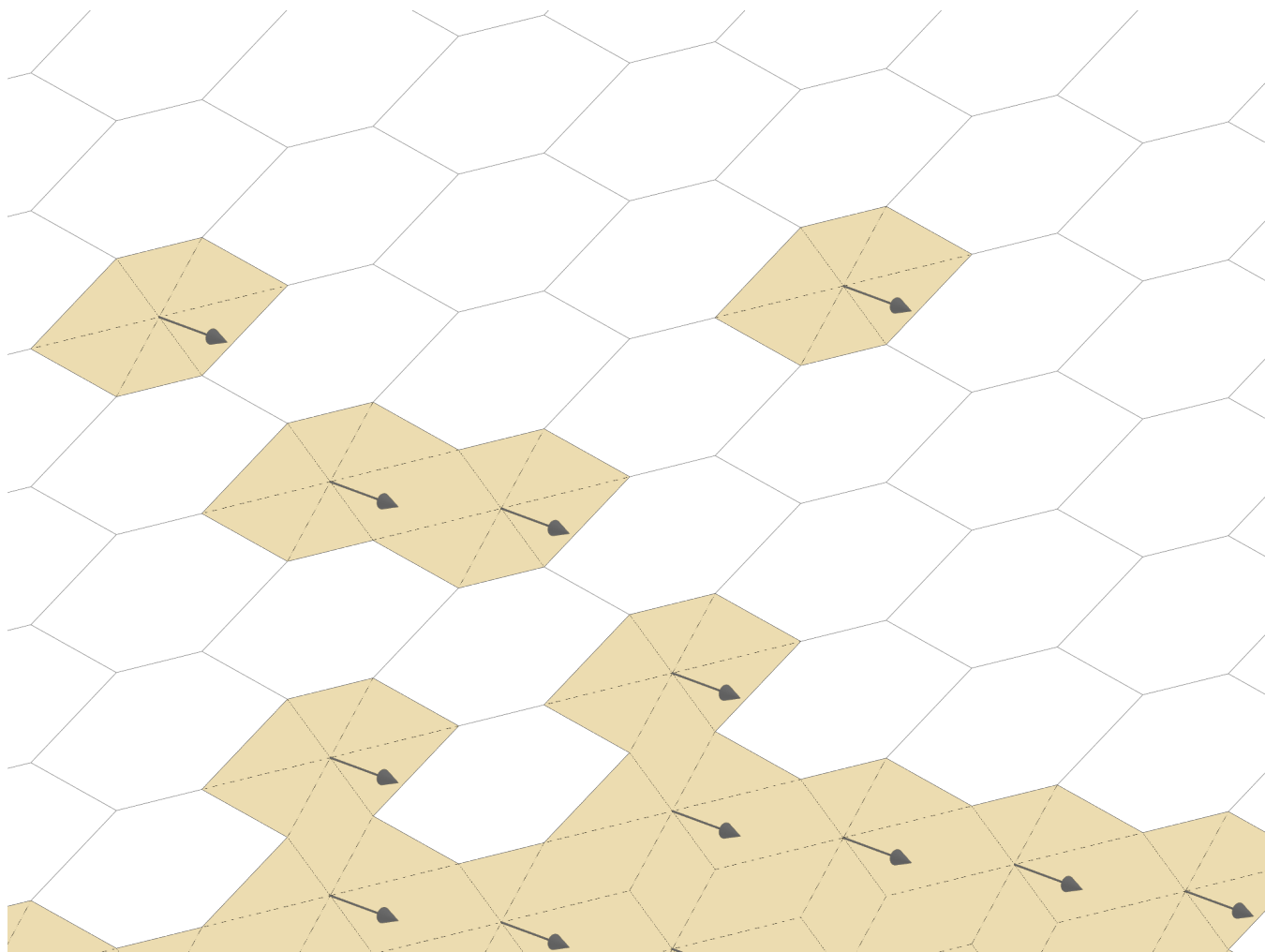


RT

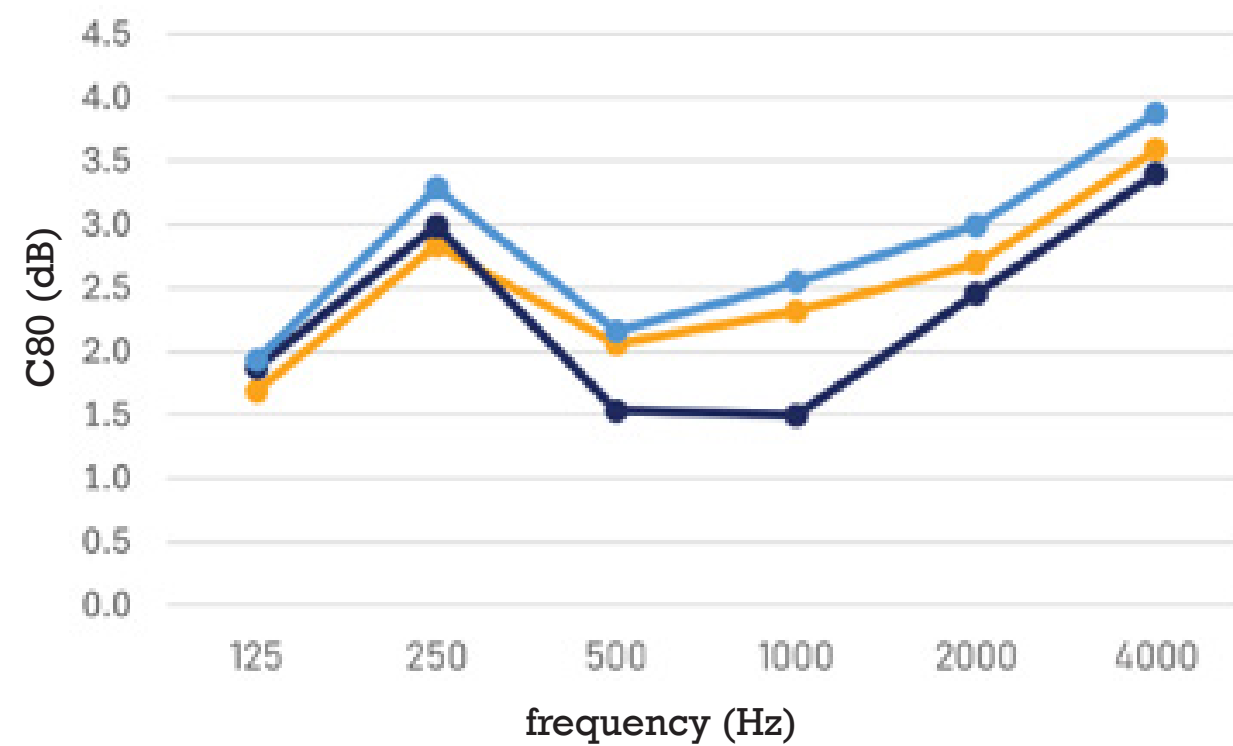


G





C80



foaming agent concentration
light bulbs + eggshells

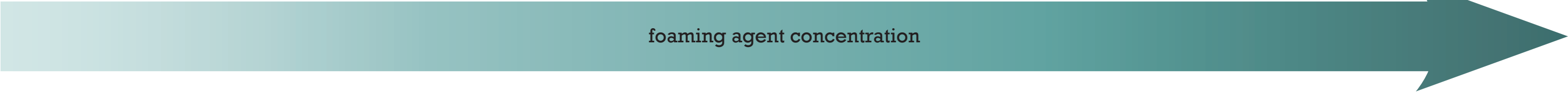
860°C



2.5 wt %



5 wt %



foaming agent concentration

5 cm

foaming agent concentration
light bulbs + eggshells

860°C



2.5 wt %



5 wt %



foaming agent concentration

20 mm

20 mm

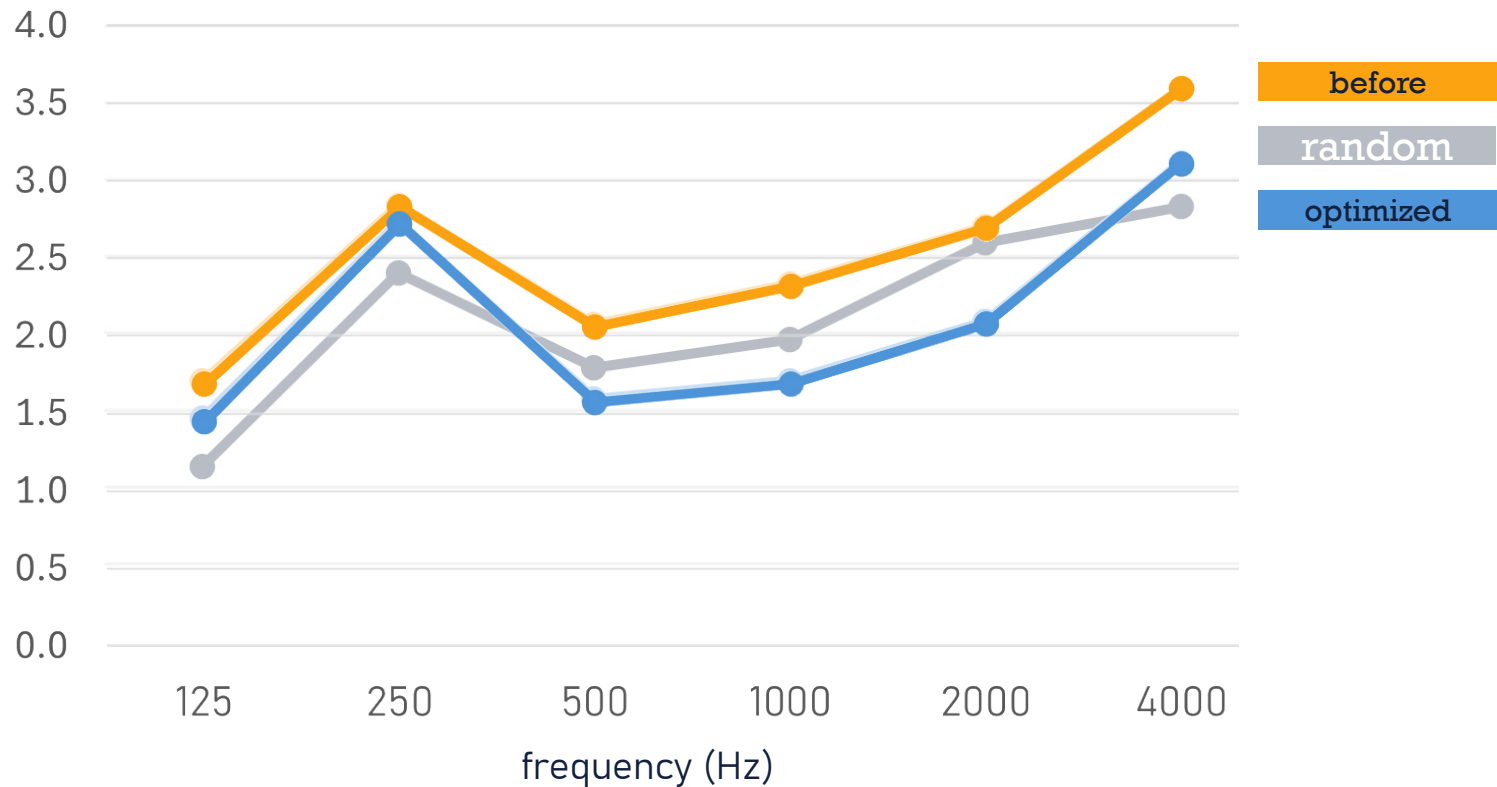


pore size

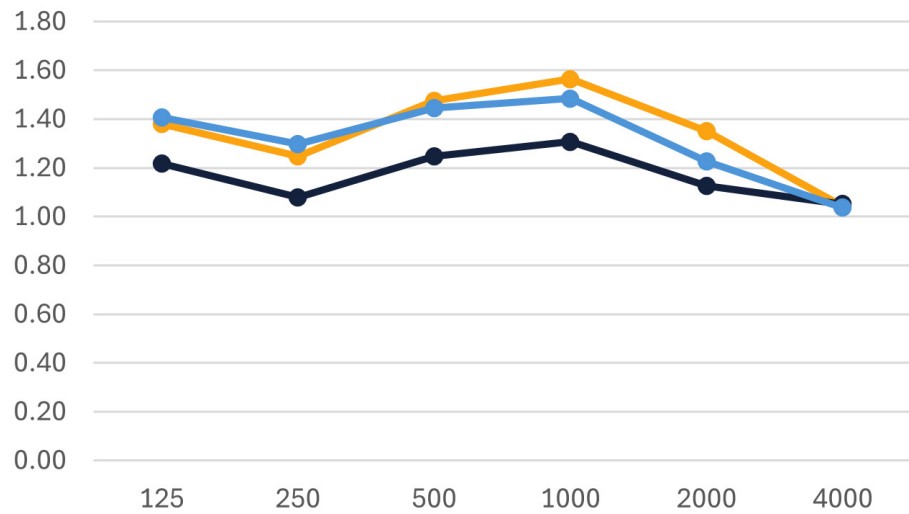
5 cm

enhancing late sound
optimization

C80



RT



G

