Young Acousticians Network Newsletter #151 March 2026

Welcome / Editorial Note

Dear YAN members,
We hope this message finds you well. As we move into March, we continue to reflect on a dynamic period for the acoustics community while also looking ahead with fresh energy. In this issue, we share highlights from recent activities, showcase new research and collaborations, and highlight upcoming events and opportunities where you can continue to connect with fellow young acousticians around the world.
Enjoy the read,
The Young Acousticians Newsletter Team

Newsletter's Summary

Agenda
Get a reminder on upcoming events and deadlines. Feel free to contribute if you become aware of any change!

News
This month's news spans awards and competitions for young acousticians, major European research funding opportunities, and new evidence underscoring the health burden of noise pollution across Europe.

Job announcements
Find your dream job in this fresh list of opportunities! If you wish to announce a position, please email the YAN team.

Publications
This month, find a publication titled " Pseudo-spectral model of elastic-wave propagation through toothed-whale head anatomy, and implications for biosonar" co-authored by Fawad Ali, Carlos Garcia A, Aida HejazI Nooghabi and Lapo Boschi

Upcoming Events!

March 2026
23th- 26th DAGA 2026, 52nd Annual Meeting on Acoustics
Dresden, Germany

April 2026
15th- 18th Symposium on Acoustic Metamaterials
Leuven, Belgium

May 2026
4th- 6th Baltic-Nordic Acoustic Meeting 2026
Gothenburg, Sweden

June 2026
15th- 18thICUA International Conference on Underwater Acoustics
Glasgow, UK
22th- 24th International Conference on Structural Nonlinear Dynamics and Diagnosis
Marrakech, Morocco
29th- 1st Quiet Drones 2026
Delft, Netherlands

July 2026
5th- 10th International Congress on Sound and Vibration
Istanbul, Türkiye

November 2026
16th- 20th 8th Symposium on the Acoustics of Poro-Elastic Materials
Paris, France

Upcoming Deadlines!

March 2026
15th Symposium on Acoustic Metamaterials
Registration Deadline. Registration
31st International Congress on Sound and Vibration 2026
Deadline for Peer Reviewed Papers. Submission
31st International Conference on Structural Nonlinear Dynamics and Diagnosis
Deadline for Early Registration. Registration
31st Forum Acusticum 2026
Deadline for Full Paper submission Peer Reviewed. Submission

April 2026
7th BNAM 2026
Paper Submission Deadline. Registration
20th International Congress on Sound and Vibration 2026
Full text Submission Deadline (non Peer-Reviewed Papers). Submission
30th Forum Acusticum 2026
Abstract Submission Deadline non-peer reviewed. Submission

May 2026
15th International Conference on Structural Nonlinear Dynamics and Diagnosis
Deadline for full paper submission. Submission
15th Symposium on the Acoustics of Poro-elastic materials
Deadline for abstract submission. Submission

June 2026
1st Quiet Drones 2026
Deadline for Full Paper submission. Submission
15st Forum Acusticum 2026
Deadline for Full Paper submission non-peer reviewed. Submission
15th Symposium on the Acoustics of Poro-elastic materials
Deadline for early registration. Registration

News!

Forum Acusticum 2026 - Last Call for Peer-Reviewed Papers

The final deadline for submitting abstracts for peer-reviewed papers for Forum Acusticum 2026 (FA2026) is 31 March. Researchers are encouraged to submit their work before the closing date.
In addition, the YAN Social Event at FA2026 will take place on Tuesday, 8 September at 19:30.
The venue is to be confirmed (TBC), and further details will be shared closer to the event.

EAA Seed Funds - Call Open

The EAA Seed Funds programme has launched its 2026 call, offering up to €10,000 to support innovative, collaborative research ideas in acoustics involving partners from at least two EAA member countries. The scheme is particularly designed to empower early-stage researchers to act as project coordinators and develop pilot studies or proof-of-concept work that can lead to larger external funding applications.

EAA Women in Acoustics (Women+) Initiative

The EAA Women in Acoustics (Women+) initiative aims to support gender diversity and inclusion within the acoustics community by providing networking opportunities, visibility for researchers, and activities that foster equitable participation across all career stages. The initiative continues to expand its activities across conferences and EAA-supported events.

POMA Student Paper Competition - ASA New Orleans Meeting

The *Proceedings of Meetings on Acoustics (POMA)* is organizing a Student Paper Competition for submissions based on presentations or posters from the 188th Meeting of the Acoustical Society of America (ASA) held in New Orleans.Students who presented their work at the meeting are invited to submit a manuscript to POMA. The submitted papers will be evaluated by editors and experts in the corresponding technical areas, and up to five winning papers will be selected.
Winners will receive a $300 award and their work will be highlighted through ASA communication channels, including the *Across Acoustics* podcast.

Oceanology International 2026: Global Marine Technology Community Meets in London

Oceanology International 2026 will take place from 10–12 March 2026 at ExCeL London, United Kingdom, bringing together the global ocean science and marine technology community. The event will showcase the latest innovations in ocean observation systems, marine robotics, and underwater sensing technologies.
Particular attention will be given to underwater acoustics, including acoustic sensing systems, sonar technologies, and acoustic monitoring methods used for marine research, environmental monitoring, and offshore engineering.
This event provides an important opportunity for researchers and professionals working in marine acoustics and ocean technology to explore emerging technologies and connect with experts from around the world.

IEEE SPS Webinar on Multichannel Acoustic Signal Processing

The IEEE Signal Processing Society will organize an online webinar titled "Multichannel Acoustic Signal Acquisition and Processing: Historical Perspective and Recent Advances." The session will explore the principles and recent developments in multichannel acoustic signal processing, including microphone array technologies and acoustic sensing systems.
The webinar will be presented by Dr. Jingdong Chen and will provide insights into modern approaches for capturing and analysing acoustic signals in complex environments.

Job Announcements

PhD: Urban sound modelling for innovative air mobility perception studies
Eindhoven University of Technology (TU/e),
Amsterdam, Netherlands

Noise and Vibration Engineer
KBR,
Leatherhead, Surrey, UK

PhD: Characterization of abiotic stress of trees using AI methods on acoustic signals
University of Dublin,
Dublin, Ireland

Research Fellow in Plant Acoustics (acoustics-focus)
University of Southampton,
Southampton, UK

PhD: Inversion of a gradient of nonlinear mechanical properties by mixing of ultrasound surface waves
Université Gustave Eiffel,
Champs-sur-Marne, France

Audio, Acoustic Engineer (Headphone Development)
Marshall Group,
Stockholm, Sweden

PhD: Towards more accurate numerical solvers for room acoustics modelling
King's College London,
London, UK

Education Application and Support Expert Iberia
dBb audio technik,
Barcelona, Spain

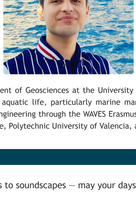
PhD: Restorative Soundscapes in Botanical Gardens: Exploring Sound in Conservation & Community Well-Being
University College London,
London, UK

Publication

Title: Pseudo-spectral model of elastic-wave propagation through toothed-whale head anatomy, and implications for biosonar

Terrestrial mammals can count on their external ears (pinnae) to tell whether a sound comes from above or below, behind or in front of them. We know that pinnae create very sharp minima (so-called "spectral notches") in the frequency spectrum of sounds arriving at the inner ear, that depend very clearly on the elevation the sound is coming from. Presumably, it is then relatively easy for our brain to figure out elevation based on the frequency where the notch is. Toothed whales don't have pinnae, though, and yet their so-called minimum audible angle, or MAA (the smallest angular separation between two sound sources that they can tell from one another), appears to be very small, in all spatial directions. The MAA of bottlenose dolphins has been observed to be as small as about 1° both horizontally and vertically, while, in comparison, the MAA of humans is also about 1° horizontally, but much worse – several degrees – vertically. People have speculated that the sound localization mechanism of dolphins must work in a profoundly different way than that of other species. It is not known whether any anatomical feature has evolved to functionally replace the pinnae, or whether a localization algorithm within their brain can process and interpret more complex information than simple spectral troughs. It is known, on the other hand, that the area of the brain that processes sound is much larger in toothed whales than in any terrestrial mammal, including ourselves. Ali and co-authors take computed tomography scans of dolphins, translate them to anatomical maps of mechanical parameters like density, compressional and shear velocity, and run computer simulations of elastic wave propagation through them. These models are quite complex, and fairly sophisticated from the programming standpoint, but still preferable to conducting laboratory experiments on real specimens! The simulations show that, because of how complex their anatomy is, the sounds that reach the inner ears of dolphins are quite different depending on what elevation they come from, even if the source is the same. At this point, however, no simple direction-dependent feature has been found: so far, there does not seem to be a toothed-whale equivalent of our "spectral notches". This might mean that even more advanced simulations have to be run -- the authors are now working hard to push their code to higher resolution, both in space and time -- or that, indeed, something very special takes place in the brains of our marine relatives. https://doi.org/10.1121/10.0041770

About the Author



Fawad Ali is a doctoral candidate in the Department of Geosciences at the University of Padova. His research focuses on the numerical modeling of how marine noise pollution impacts aquatic life, particularly marine mammals, as part of the SEASOUNDS MSCA Doctoral Network. He holds a Master's degree in Acoustic Engineering through the WAVES Erasmus Mundus Programme, a joint program delivered by Aix-Marseille University, École Centrale de Marseille, Polytechnic University of Valencia, and University of Coimbra.

Final Notes...

From concert halls to classrooms, from echoes to soundscapes — may your days resonate with new insights and bright ideas!
All the best,
The YAN Editorial Team
Young minds. Sound ideas.

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