

QUESTION:

Q1. If the sound $r_1=10$ meters from the stage at a rock concert is at the $L_1=120$ dB what is the intensity level L_2 $r_2=100$ meters away

SOLUTION:

Intensity level 10 meters from the stage is

$$L_1 = 10 \lg \frac{I_1}{I_0}$$

$$\frac{L_1}{10} = \lg \frac{I_1}{I_0}$$

$$10^{\frac{L_1}{10}} = \frac{I_1}{I_0}$$

$$I_1 = I_0 10^{\frac{L_1}{10}}$$

On the other hand sound intensity is sound power P_{acc} per unit area A :

$$I_1 = \frac{P_{acc}}{4\pi r_1^2}$$

$$P_{acc} = 4\pi r_1^2 I_1$$

$$P_{acc} = 4\pi r_1^2 \cdot I_0 10^{\frac{L_1}{10}}$$

And

$$I_2 = \frac{P_{acc}}{4\pi r_2^2}$$

$$I_2 = \frac{4\pi r_1^2 \cdot I_0 10^{\frac{L_1}{10}}}{4\pi r_2^2} = \left(\frac{r_1}{r_2} \right)^2 \cdot I_0 10^{\frac{L_1}{10}}$$

Hence intensity level 100 m away is

$$L_2 = 10 \lg \frac{I_2}{I_0} = 10 \lg \left(\frac{\left(\frac{r_1}{r_2} \right)^2 \cdot I_0 10^{\frac{L_1}{10}}}{I_0} \right) = 10 \lg \left(\left(\frac{r_1}{r_2} \right)^2 10^{\frac{L_1}{10}} \right) = 10 \left(\lg 10^{\frac{L_1}{10}} + \lg \left(\frac{r_1}{r_2} \right)^2 \right) =$$

$$= 10 \left(\frac{L_1}{10} - 2 \lg \frac{r_2}{r_1} \right) = L_1 - 20 \lg \frac{r_2}{r_1}$$

$$L_2 = 98.4 \text{ dB}$$

ANSWER:

$$L_2 = 98.4 \text{ dB}$$