

Guidelines for Use of Computer Projection at Meetings of the Acoustical Society of America

A PC computer with audio playback capability and projector will be provided in each meeting room on which all authors who plan to use computer projection should load their presentations. Authors should bring computer presentations on a CD or USB drive to load onto the provided computer and should arrive at the meeting rooms at least 30 minutes before the start of their sessions. Assistance in loading presentations onto the computers will be provided.

Note that only PC format will be supported so **authors using Macs** must save their presentations for projection in PC format. Also, authors who plan to play audio during their presentations should insure that their sound files are also saved on the CD or USB drive.

INTRODUCTION

It is essential that each speaker who plans to use his/her own laptop connect to the computer projection system in the A/V preview room prior to session start time to verify that the presentation will work properly. Technical assistance is available in the A/V preview room at the meeting, but not in session rooms. Presenters whose computers fail to project for any reason will not be granted extra time.

GUIDELINES

- Set your computer's screen resolution to 1024x768 pixels or to the resolution indicated by the AV technical support. If it looks OK, it will probably look OK to your audience during your presentation.
- Remember that graphics can be animated or quickly toggled among several options: Comparisons between figures may be made temporally rather than spatially.
- Animations often run more slowly on laptops connected to computer video projectors than when not so connected. Test the effectiveness of your animations before your assigned presentation time on a similar projection system (e.g., in the A/V preview room). Avoid real-time calculations in favor of pre-calculation and saving of images.
- If you will use your own laptop instead of the computer provided, connect your laptop to the projector during the question/answer period of the previous speaker. It is good protocol to initiate your slide show (e.g., run PowerPoint) immediately once connected, so the audience doesn't have to wait. If there are any problems, the session chair will endeavor to assist you, but it is your responsibility to ensure that the technical details have been worked out ahead of time.
- During the presentation have your laptop running with main power instead of using battery power to insure that the laptop is running at full CPU speed. This will also guarantee that your laptop does not run out of power during your presentation.

SEE NEXT PAGE FOR SPECIFIC HARDWARE CONFIGURATIONS

Macintosh

Older Macs require a special adapter to connect the video output port to the standard 15-pin male DIN connector. Make sure you have one with you.

- Hook everything up before powering anything on. (Connect the computer to the RGB input on the projector).
- Turn the projector on and boot up the Macintosh. If this doesn't work immediately, you should make sure that your monitor resolution is set to 1024x768 for an XGA projector or at least 640x480 for an older VGA projector. (1024x768 will most always work.). You should also make sure that your monitor controls are set to mirroring.

If it's an older powerbook, it may not have video mirroring, but something called simulscan, which is essentially the same.

- Depending upon the vintage of your Mac, you may have to reboot once it is connected to the computer projector or switcher. Hint: you can reboot while connected to the computer projector in the A/V preview room in advance of your presentation, then put your computer to sleep. Macs thus booted will retain the memory of this connection when awakened from sleep.
- Depending upon the vintage of your system software, you may find that the default video mode is a side-by-side configuration of monitor windows (the test for this will be that you see no menus or cursor on your desktop; the cursor will slide from the projected image onto your laptop's screen as it is moved). Go to Control Panels, Monitors, configuration, and drag the larger window onto the smaller one. This produces a mirror-image of the projected image on your laptop's screen.
- Also depending upon your system software, either the Control Panels will automatically detect the video projector's resolution and frame rate, or you will have to set it manually. If it is not set at a commensurable resolution, the projector may not show an image. Experiment ahead of time with resolution and color depth settings in the A/V preview room (please don't waste valuable time adjusting the Control Panel settings during your allotted session time).

PC

- Make sure your computer has the standard female 15-pin DE-15 video output connector. Some computers require an adaptor.
- Once your computer is physically connected, you will need to toggle the video display on. Most PCs use either ALT-F5 or F6, as indicated by a little video monitor icon on the appropriate key. Some systems require more elaborate keystroke combinations to activate this feature. Verify your laptop's compatibility with the projector in the A/V preview room. Likewise, you may have to set your laptop's resolution and color depth via the monitor's Control Panel to match that of the projector, which settings you should verify prior to your session.

Linux

- Most Linux laptops have a function key marked CRT/LCD or two symbols representing computer versus projector. Often that key toggles on and off the VGA output of the computer, but in some cases, doing so will cause the computer to crash. One fix for this is to boot up the BIOS and look for a field marked CRT/LCD (or similar). This field can be set to Both, in which case the signal to the laptop is always presented to the VGA output jack on the back of the computer. Once connected to a computer projector, the signal will appear automatically, without toggling the function key. Once you get it working, don't touch it and it should continue to work, even after reboot.