

# Vibration Noise Measurement of Refrigerator/ Air Conditioner Compressor Using Agilent USB Data Acquisition Devices

**Application Note** 



## Introduction

Modern families are fond of having appliances that can provide cooling environment and yet, preferably those that can be operated quietly.

Household appliances, such as refrigerators and air conditioners, are electronic appliances that come with compressors. Because compressors operate in both on and off modes, this leads to vibration and noise.

It is important for manufacturers of household appliances to understand the overall structure of the product. This enables them to trace the source of this noise to improve the effective measurement and, ultimately, the product itself.

## **Measurement Setup**

This application note describes the setup for measuring the vibration of the refrigerator/air conditioner during operation.

The components needed in this setup are as follows:

- Multi-channel USB data acquisition (DAQ) device
- · Vibration sensors

Figure 1 illustrates the setup for vibration measurement using Agilent USB DAO device.

When you use the refrigerator/air conditioner, the biggest problem encountered is when the compressor is in operation. The compressor produces humming sound in the range of 100 Hz to several kHz.

Several sensors are placed at different areas on the appliance. The magnitude of the vibration is measured and saved to the PC via the Agilent USB DAQ device for further analysis. Data is gathered to identify the source with the highest magnitude of vibration and noise.

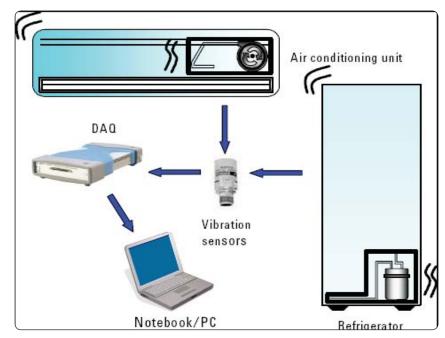


Figure 1. Set up for vibration measurement with DAQ

Further tests can be performed with the available data, such as repositioning the compressor. This can be done by putting in more dumpling materials or restructuring the tubing attached to the compressor to minimize the noise and vibration originating from the compressor operation.

## Conclusion

The Agilent USB DAQ device is a high-speed, inexpensive and simple-to-use device that can be used flexibly. It can be connected directly to the PC for various data collection.

With the data obtained using Agilent USB DAQ device, analysis can be performed easily to understand the characteristics of the noise source, leading to improvement in noise dumpling.

## **Related Agilent Literature**

 System Developer Guide-Using USB in the Test and Measurement Environment Application Note, literature number 1465-12

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