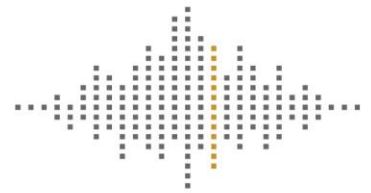


# SHARPS REDMORE

ACOUSTIC CONSULTANTS ▪ Established 1990



## Report

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**43 Chalk Farm Road,  
Camden, London**

Environmental Noise Report

**Prepared by**  
Gary King MIOA

**Date** 16th November 2016  
**Project No** 1616473

### Head Office

#### Sharps Redmore

The White House, London Road,  
Copdock, Ipswich, IP8 3JH

**T** 01473 730073

**E** [contact@sharpsredmore.co.uk](mailto:contact@sharpsredmore.co.uk)

**W** [sharpsredmore.co.uk](http://sharpsredmore.co.uk)

### Regional Locations

South England (Head Office),  
North England, Wales, Scotland

#### Sharps Redmore Partnership Limited

Registered in England No. 2593855

#### Directors

TL Redmore BEng(Hons). MSc. PhD. MIOA;  
RD Sullivan BA(Hons). PhD. CEng. MIOA. MAAS. MASA;  
DE Barke MSc. MIOA;  
KJ Metcalfe BSc(Hons). MIOA



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## 1.0 Introduction

1.1 Sharps Redmore have been instructed by Central Deli to undertake a noise assessment for a new kitchen extract system at 43 Chalk Farm Road, Camden.

1.2 Planning permission has been granted by London Borough of Camden (Ref: 2013/0756/P) for change of use from retail (Class A1) to mixed use retail/restaurant (Class A1/A3) on 11 April 2014. Condition 7 of the planning consent stated the following

*“No primary cooking shall take place on the premises. Reason: To safeguard the amenities of the adjoining premises and the area generally in accordance with the requirements of policies CS5 and CS7 of the London Borough of Camden Local Development Framework Development Policies.”*

1.3 To facilitate the sale of hot food to match the increasing quality of food on offer in the area planning permission is being sought to removal of Condition 7. A separate application for the installation of a kitchen extract duct at the rear of the premises has been submitted.

1.4 The objective of this report is to determine the noise impact from the installation of the ventilation extract system on the existing neighbouring properties to 43 Chalk Farm Road.

1.5 In determining the noise impact SR have considered the existing background noise levels along with national and local planning policy objectives.

1.6 Section 2.0 contains a discussion of the available methods of assessment and assessment criteria.

1.7 Section 3.0 of this report contains details of the environmental noise survey.

1.8 An assessment of the impact from the proposed ventilation system based on manufacturer’s data and drawings is included in Section 4.0.

1.9 A guide to the acoustic terminology used within the report is included in Appendix A.

## 2.0 Assessment Methodology and Criteria

### National Policy

- 2.1 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), March 2012, sets out the Government's planning policies for England and "these policies articulate the Government's vision of sustainable development." In respect of noise, Paragraph 123 of the NPPF state the following:

*"Planning policies and decisions should aim to:*

- *avoid noise from giving rise to significant adverse impacts on health and quality of life as a result of new development;*
- *mitigate and reduce to a minimum other adverse impacts on health and quality of life arising from noise from new development, including through the use of conditions;*
- *recognise that development will often create some noise and existing businesses wanting to develop in continuance of their business should not have unreasonable restrictions put on them because of changes in nearby land uses since they were established; and*
- *Identify and protect areas of tranquillity which have remained relatively undisturbed by noise and are prized for their recreational and amenity value for this reason."*

- 2.2 Guidance on the interpretation of the policy aims contained within the NPPF is contained within National Planning Policy Guidance (NPPG). The NPPG introduces the concept of a noise exposure hierarchy based on likely average response. The guidance contained in the NPPG is summarised in the table below:

**Table 2.1: Noise Exposure Hierarchy**

| Perception                   | Examples of Outcomes  | Increasing Effect Level                   | Action                           |
|------------------------------|---|---|----------------------------------|
| Not noticeable               | No Effect   | No Observed Effect                        | No specific measures required    |
| Noticeable and not intrusive | Noise can be heard, but does not cause any change in behaviour or attitude. Can slightly affect the acoustic character of the area but not such that there is a perceived change in the quality of life.  | No Observed Adverse Effect                | No specific measures required    |
|                              |   | Lowest Observed Adverse Effect Level      |                                  |
| Noticeable and intrusive     | Noise can be heard and causes small changes in behaviour and/or attitude, e.g. turning up volume of television; speaking more loudly; where there is no alternative ventilation, having to close windows for some of the time because of the noise. Potential for some reported sleep disturbance. Affects the acoustic character of the area such that there is a perceived change in the quality of life. | Observed Adverse Effect                   | Mitigate and reduce to a minimum |
|                              |   | Significant Observed Adverse Effect Level |                                  |

| Perception                     | Examples of Outcomes   | Increasing Effect Level             | Action  |
|--------------------------------|--|-------------------------------------|---------|
| Noticeable and disruptive      | The noise causes a material change in behaviour and/or attitude, e.g. avoiding certain activities during periods of intrusion; where there is no alternative ventilation, having to keep windows closed most of the time because of the noise. Potential for sleep disturbance resulting in difficulty in getting to sleep, premature awakening and difficulty in getting back to sleep. Quality of life diminished due to change in acoustic character of the area. | Significant Observed Adverse Effect | Avoid   |
| Noticeable and very disruptive | Extensive and regular changes in behaviour and/or an inability to mitigate effect of noise leading to psychological stress or physiological effects, e.g. regular sleep deprivation/awakening; loss of appetite, significant, medically definable harm, e.g. auditory and non-auditory   | Unacceptable Adverse Effect         | Prevent |

- 2.3 The NPPF and NPPG reinforce the March 2010 DEFRA publication, “Noise Policy Statement for England” (NPSE), which states three policy aims, as follows:

*“Through the effective management and control of environmental, neighbour and neighbourhood noise within the context of Government policy on sustainable development:*

- *avoid significant adverse impacts on health and quality of life;*
- *mitigate and minimise adverse impacts on health and quality of life; and*
- *where possible, contribute to the improvement of health and quality of life.”*

- 2.4 Together, the first two aims require that no significant adverse impact should occur and that, where a noise level which falls between a level which represents the lowest observable adverse effect and a level which represents a significant observed adverse effect, then according to the explanatory notes in the statement:

*“... all reasonable steps should be taken to mitigate and minimise adverse effects on health and quality of life whilst also taking into consideration the guiding principles of sustainable development. This does not mean that such effects cannot occur.”*

#### Local Policy

- 2.5 With regard to local policy, consideration is given to the London Borough of Camden Core Strategy. In terms of noise Policy DP28 ‘Noise and Vibration’ states the following:

*“The Council will seek to ensure that noise and vibration is controlled and managed and will not grant planning permission for:*

- a) development likely to generate noise pollution; or*
- b) development sensitive to noise in locations with noise pollution unless appropriate attenuation measures are provided.”*

In relation to plant or machinery, Policy DP 28 continues as follows:

*“The Council will only grant permission for plant or machinery if it can be operated without cause harm to amenity and does not exceed out noise threshold.”*

Details of the thresholds for planning permission will not be granted are shown below.

- 2.6 Taking an overview of National Policy it is clear that when considering the impact of noise one must consider the significance of any impact. The presence of an adverse impact in itself is not sufficient to refuse permission.
- 2.7 It is possible to apply objective standards to the assessment of noise and the effect produced by the introduction of a certain noise source may be determined by several methods, as follows:
- i. The effect may be determined by reference to guideline noise values. British Standard (BS) 8233:1999 and World Health Organisation "Guidelines for Community Noise" contain such guidelines.
  - ii. Alternatively, the impact may be determined by considering the change in noise level that would result from the proposal, in an appropriate noise index for the characteristic of the noise in question. There are various criteria linking change in noise level to effect. This is the method that is suited to, for example, the assessment of noise from road traffic because it is capable of displaying impact to all properties adjacent to a road link irrespective of their distance from the road.
  - iii. Another method is to compare the resultant noise level against the background noise level ( $L_{A90}$ ) of the area. This is the method employed by BS 4142:1997 to determine the likelihood of complaint from noise of an industrial or industrial type nature. It is best suited to the assessment of steady or pseudo-steady noise and is commonly used for the assessment of mechanical plant. The use of this standard is considered appropriate in this case.

#### **BS 4142:2014**

- 2.8 This BS described a method for rating and assessing sound of industrial and/or commercial nature according to the following summary process:
- i) Determine the background sound levels, in terms of  $L_{A90}$ , at the receptor locations of interest.
  - ii) Determine the specific sound level of the source being assessed, in terms of  $L_{AeqT}$  level ( $T = 1$  hour for day or 15 minutes at night), at the receptor locations.
  - iii) Apply a rating level acoustic feature correction if the source sound has tonal, impulsive, intermittent or other characteristic which attract attention.
  - iv) Compare the rating sound level against the background noise level; the greater the difference between the two, the higher the likelihood of complaints of the noise.
- i) Differences (rating – background) of around +10 dB is likely to be an indication of significant adverse impact (SOAEL) depending on context; a difference of +5 dB is likely to be an indication of adverse impact, depending on context. Where the rating level does not exceed the background sound level, this is an indication of the specific sound source having a low impact, depending upon context.

- 2.9 The general intent of the planning system is to ensure that a development does not result in 'significant adverse impacts on health and quality of life' (NPPF para 123). BS 4142:2014 considers that the threshold of 'significant adverse impact' is likely to be around 10 dB or more... depending on upon the context.
- 2.10 As can be seen above the significance of sound of an industrial and/or commercial nature depends upon both the margin by which the rating level of the specific sound exceeds the background sound level and the context in which it is placed.
- 2.11 As discussed in paragraph 2.5 above, Camden Council's development policy DP28 contains thresholds for plant and machinery at which planning permission will not be granted. These thresholds are based on the requirements of the previous version of BS 4142:1997 which assessed the 'likelihood of complaint' rather than the significance of impact. The noise thresholds contained within Camden Council's development policy DP 28 are shown below:

| <b>Table E: Noise levels from plant and machinery at which planning permission will not be granted</b>                           |                        |           |                      |
|--|------------------------|-----------|----------------------|
| Noise description and location of measurement  | Period                 | Time      | Noise level          |
| Noise at 1 metre external to a sensitive façade  | Day, evening and night | 0000-2400 | 5dB(A) <LA90         |
| Noise that has a distinguishable discrete continuous note (whine, hiss, screech, hum) at 1 metre external to a sensitive façade. | Day, evening and night | 0000-2400 | 10dB(A) <LA90        |
| Noise that has distinct impulses (bangs, clicks, clatters, thumps) at 1 metre external to a sensitive façade.                    | Day, evening and night | 0000-2400 | 10dB(A) <LA90        |
| Noise at 1 metre external to sensitive façade where LA90>60dB  | Day, evening and night | 0000-2400 | 55dBL <sub>Aeq</sub> |

**Table 2.2 – Extract from Camden Development Policy DP 28**

### 3.0 Survey Details

- 3.1 A series of noise measurements were taken between 27<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> October 2016 at location at the rear of 43 Chalk Farm Road. The measurements were taken externally at the rear of the premises at first floor level and selected to be representative of the nearest existing residential properties to the proposed kitchen extract.
- 3.2 Noise measurements were taken continuously from 1300 hrs on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> October to 1200 hours on Friday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2016. Weather conditions during the survey were cold and dry with slight winds (<5m/second) and satisfied the requirements of BS 4142:2014.
- 3.3 The measurements were taken using a Norsonic 118 sound level meters fitted with an environmental microphone kit. The sound level meter was calibrated at the start and end of the survey and no variation in level noted. The sound level measurements were set up to continuously store 15 minute samples over the duration of the survey. All measurements were taken in free field conditions.
- 3.4 The steady noise level dB  $L_{Aeq(5min)}$ , non-steady noise level dB  $L_{Amax}$  and background noise levels dB,  $L_{A90(5min)}$  were recorded during the survey. Table 3.1 below is a summary of the noise results recorded. Full details of the survey are shown in Appendix B.

**Table 3.1 Summary of survey results**

| Afternoon (1200-1700 hours) |                 | Evening (1700 –2200 hours) |                 |
|-----------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|-----------------|
| $L_{Aeq15mins}$             | $L_{A90,15min}$ | $L_{Aeq15min}$             | $L_{A90,15min}$ |
| 48 - 56                     | 47 - 51         | 53 - 60                    | 51 - 55         |

- 3.5 Noise levels are dominated by road traffic, general street activity on Chalk Farm Road and noise from adjacent mechanical services plant.
- 3.6 Based on survey the representative background sound level during the noise sensitive times that the plant will operate is considered to be 50 dB  $L_{A90,15mins}$ . Therefore in line with the guidance contained within Camden Council Development Policy DP 28 the rating noise level (the specific noise plus any correction for character as defined in Table E of Camden Council DP28) should not exceed 45 dB.



## 4.0 Noise Assessment

4.1 The proposed system will be fitted with an AR SILEO 500E4 Axial Fan which will be housed internally within the building. For the purposes of the assessment it has been assumed that the fan will be isolated from the rest of the ductwork and building by means of anti-vibration mounts. The ductwork will ventilate above ridge height of the building and the main noise source affecting the residential buildings will be noise break out through the ductwork.

4.2 Based on manufacturers data the Sound Power Level on the outlet of the fan during typical operation will be as follows:

| Frequency Hz |     |     |     |    |    |    |
|--------------|-----|-----|-----|----|----|----|
| 63           | 125 | 250 | 500 | 1k | 2k | 4k |
| 64           | 71  | 57  | 54  | 58 | 54 | 44 |

4.3 Using the data the noise break out from the ductwork at a distance 1 metre from the ductwork has been calculated as 43 dB  $L_{AeqT}$ . Full details of the calculation are shown in Appendix C to this report.

4.4 Table E requires that where the noise has a discrete continuous note (whine, hiss, screech, hum) then a +5 dB character correction should apply. Based on our experience and taking into account the manufacturers noise data this type of equipment tends to be bland in nature and does not contain any distinguishable tones which would mean the application of a character correction.

4.5 The predicted noise level from the operation of the kitchen extract at 43 Chalk Farm Road, in line with the current trading hours, will be 7 dB below the existing background noise levels measured during the noise survey. This level is within the threshold limits as defined within Camden Council's Development Policy DP28 and significantly below the 'low impact' criteria as defined in BS 4142:2014.

4.6 Therefore if granted the proposed development will not compromise the Government's noise policy vision, as stated in the NPPF and NPSE.

## **APPENDIX A**

### **ACOUSTIC TERMINOLOGY**

## Acoustic Terminology

- A1 Noise, defined as unwanted sound, is measured in units of decibels, dB. The range of audible sounds is from 0 dB to 140 dB. Two equal sources of sound, if added together will result in an increase in level of 3 dB, i.e.  $50\text{ dB} + 50\text{ dB} = 53\text{ dB}$ . Increases in continuous sound are perceived in the following manner:
- 1 dB increase - barely perceptible
  - 3 dB increase - just noticeable
  - 10 dB increase - perceived as twice as loud
- A2 Frequency (or pitch) of sound is measured in units of Hertz. 1 Hertz (Hz) = 1 cycle/second. The range of frequencies audible to the human ear is around 20Hz to 18000Hz (or 18kHz). The capability of a person to hear higher frequencies will reduce with age. The ear is more sensitive to medium frequency than high or low frequencies.
- A3 To take account of the varying sensitivity of people to different frequencies a weighting scale has been universally adopted called "A-weighting". The measuring equipment has the ability automatically to weight (or filter) a sound to this A scale so that the sound level it measures best correlates to the subjective response of a person. The unit of measurement thus becomes dBA (decibel, A-weighted).
- A4 The second important characteristic of sound is amplitude or level. Two units are used to express level, a) sound power level -  $L_w$  and b) sound pressure level -  $L_p$ . Sound power level is an inherent property of a source whilst sound pressure level is dependent on surroundings/distance/directivity, etc. The sound level that is measured on a meter is the sound pressure level,  $L_p$ .
- A5 External sound levels are rarely steady but rise or fall in response to the activity in the area - cars, voices, planes, birdsong, etc. A person's subjective response to different noises has been found to vary dependent on the type and temporal distribution of a particular type of noise. A set of statistical indices have been developed for the subjective response to these different noise sources.
- A6 The main noise indices in use in the UK are:
- $L_{A90}$ : The sound level (in dBA) exceeded for 90% of the time. This level gives an indication of the sound level during the quieter periods of time in any given sample. It is used to describe the "background sound level" of an area.
  - $L_{Aeq}$ : The equivalent continuous sound level in dBA. This unit may be described as "the notional steady noise level that would provide, over a period, the same energy as the intermittent noise". In other words, the energy average level. This unit is now used to measure a wide variety of different types of noise of an industrial or commercial nature, as well as aircraft and trains.

$L_{A10}$ : The sound level (in dBA) exceeded for 10% of the time. This level gives an indication of the sound level during the noisier periods of time in any given sample. It has been used over many years to measure and assess road traffic noise.

$L_{AMAX}$  The maximum level of sound measured in any given period. This unit is used to measure and assess transient noises, i.e. gun shots, individual vehicles, etc.

- A7 The sound energy of a transient event may be described by a term SEL - Sound Exposure Level. This is the  $L_{Aeq}$  level normalised to one second. That is the constant level in dBA which lasting for one second has the same amount of acoustic energy as a given A weighted noise event lasting for a period of time. The use of this unit allows the prediction of the  $L_{Aeq}$  level over any period and for any number of events using the equation;

$$L_{AeqT} = SEL + 10 \log n - 10 \log T \text{ dB.}$$

Where

$n$  = Number of events in time period T.

$T$  = Total sample period in seconds.

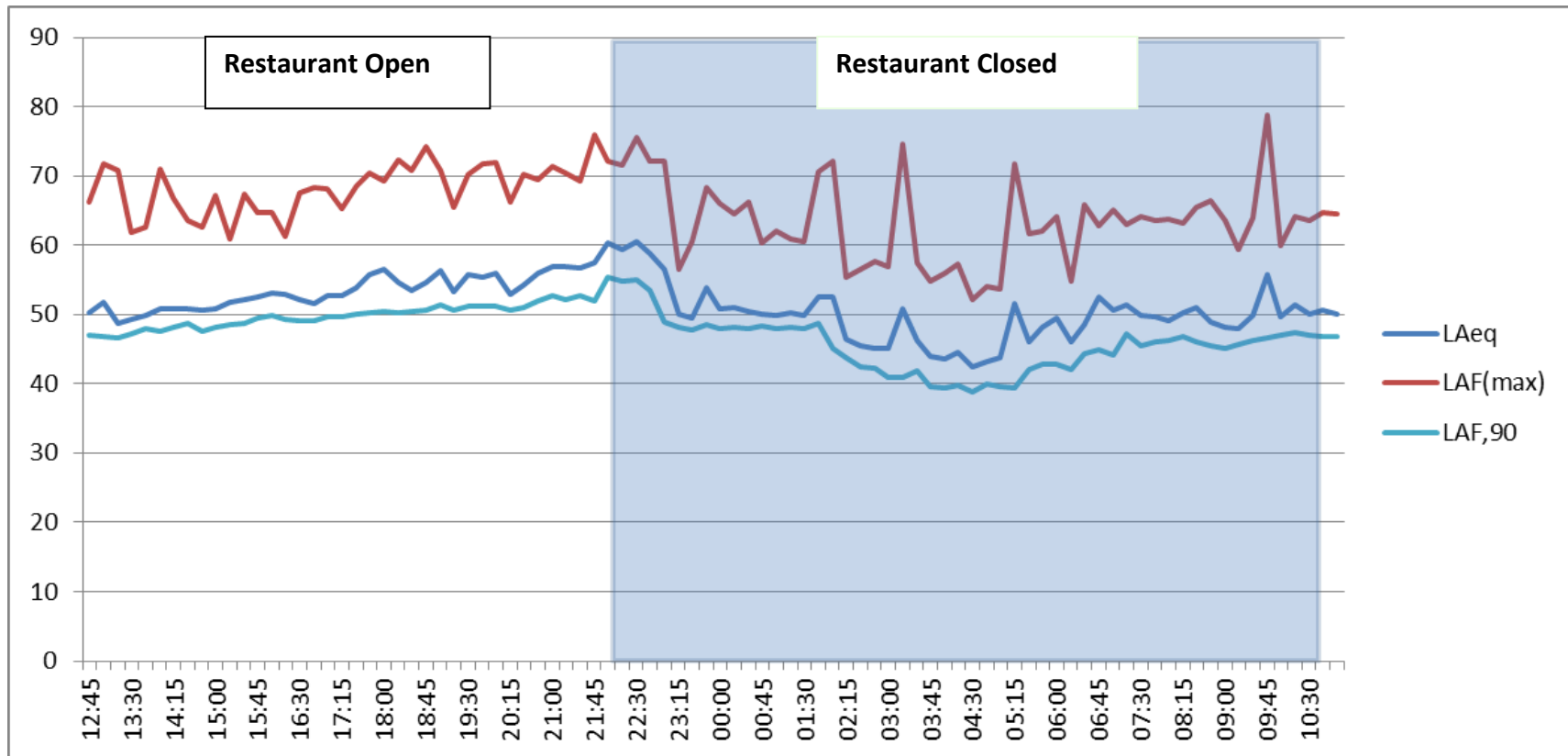
- A8 In the open, known as free field, sound attenuates at a rate of 6 dB per each doubling of distance. This is known as geometric spreading or sometimes referred to as the Inverse Square Law. As noise is measured on a Logarithmic scale, this attenuation in distance =  $20 \log$  (ratio of distances), e.g. for a noise level of 60 dB at ten metres, the corresponding level at 160 metres is:

$$60 - 20 \log \frac{160}{10} = 60 - 24 = 36 \text{ dB.}$$

## **APPENDIX B**

### **SURVEY RESULTS**

## Appendix B - Survey Results



## **APPENDIX C**

### **CALCULATIONS**

# Noise breakout from cylindrical ductwork

Instructions:

1. Copy appropriate transmission loss from tables on right  
2. Enter data in cells with bold border

Reference/title

43 Chalk Farm Road, Camden

Diameter (mm)

500

Length of ducting (m)

3.0

|                           |  | Octave band centre frequency (Hz) |     |     |     |    |    |    |
|---------------------------|--|-----------------------------------|-----|-----|-----|----|----|----|
|                           |  | 63                                | 125 | 250 | 500 | 1k | 2k | 4k |
| Enter $L_{w_{in}}$        |  | 64                                | 71  | 57  | 54  | 58 | 54 | 44 |
| +10 log(S/A)              |  | 14                                | 14  | 14  | 14  | 14 | 14 | 14 |
| Enter '-TL <sub>out</sub> |  | 45                                | 50  | 26  | 26  | 25 | 22 | 36 |
| = $L_{w_{out}}$           |  | 33                                | 35  | 45  | 42  | 47 | 46 | 22 |
| Sound reduction           |  | 31                                | 36  | 12  | 12  | 11 | 8  | 22 |

Roomside calculation

|                       |   |     |     |     |     |     |     |     |
|-----------------------|---|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| $L_{w_{out}}$         |   | 33  | 35  | 45  | 42  | 47  | 46  | 22  |
| Distance listener (m) | 1 | -11 | -11 | -11 | -11 | -11 | -11 | -11 |
| Directivity           | 1 | 3   | 3   | 3   | 3   | 3   | 3   | 3   |
| Direct $L_p$          |   | 25  | 27  | 37  | 34  | 39  | 38  | 14  |
| Awgt                  |   | -26 | -16 | -9  | -3  | 0   | 1   | 1   |
| Resultant level       |   | -1  | 11  | 28  | 31  | 39  | 39  | 15  |