

# **Critical Review**

by  
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CIMNE Seminar “Audio Signal Processing for Dynamic Noise Mapping in Smart Cities” by Prof. Dr Francesc Alías

Dr. Francesc Alías is an Associate Professor in the Department of Engineering at La Salle-URL. His main research interests are audio processing, speech analysis and synthesis, and natural interaction.

The seminar was focused on describing the key steps of the audio signal processing together with the main challenges of their application for computing dynamic traffic noise maps in real-life environments.

Dr. Alías’ seminar was divided in 6 topics. Each topic took, at least, 5 minutes except “Audio signal processing”, important topic to understand the presentation, and “Dynamic acoustic mapping”, considered as the main topic of the seminar. Each of these important topics took, at least, 15 minutes. All the topics were explained using examples, such as videos, graphics and audios. This way of explaining facts helps the audience understand difficult concepts.

Dr. Alías interacted with the audience by asking questions about his explanations in each topic. His vocabulary and language were right but, the level of his voice was low and sometime it was difficult to understand him.

Although Dr Alías’ slides were clear and easy to understand, there were some slides with considerable amount of text, this hindered understanding the topic.

Finally, Dr Alías showed conclusions and futures works, giving the chance for the public to ask questions about his research, and each question was answered with examples clarifying everything.

As conclusion, the presentation was very good, he was very clear in his explanations, slides and answers.