

Wind is a flow in a medium (air), and acoustics is about the propagation of waves in a medium (sound waves in air). Thus, wind and acoustic fields are intimately related. If one initiates specific disturbances of the flow in wind, acoustic waves will result. Although we cannot perceive wind visually, devices like wind socks, anemometers, and wind vanes can be used to determine the wind's direction and speed at points in space. Furthermore, those acoustic disturbances are analogous in many ways to electromagnetic waves. Wind fields are readily experienced in everyday life, and therefore make a common starting point for understanding field concepts. Acoustic waves are also experienced readily, and detected by individuals through built in detectors (ears). Thus, the cognitive leap from acoustic phenomena, detectable by each visitor, to electromagnetic phenomena, not so easily detectable by the individual, will be made accessible to visitors.

