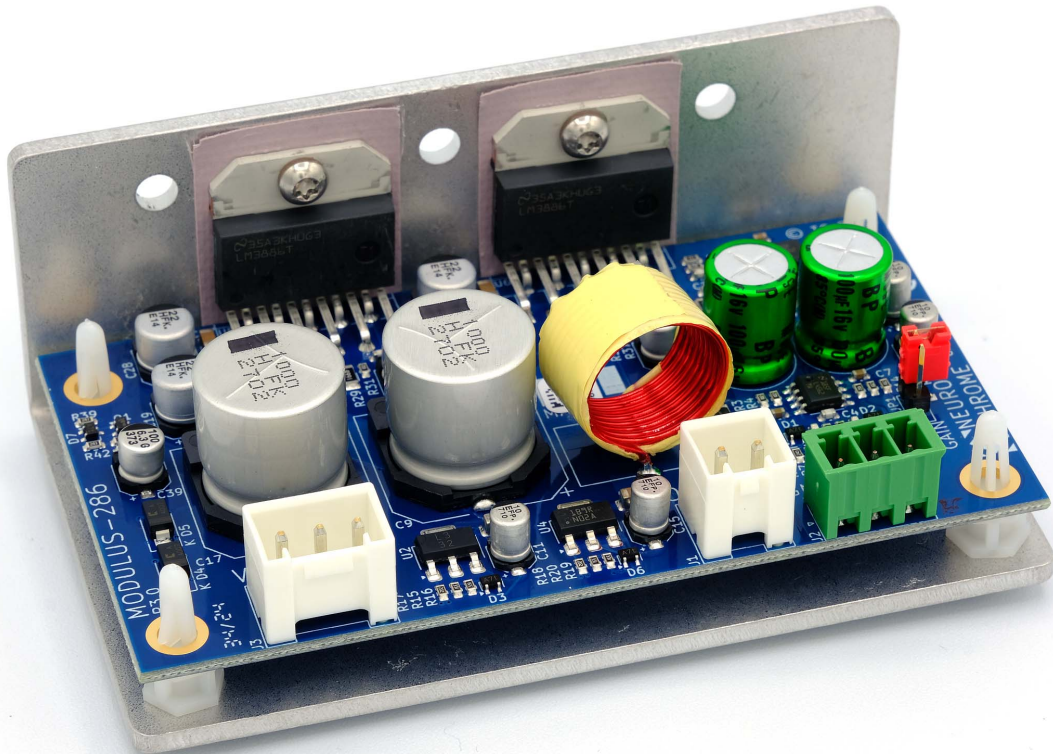


Modulus-286 R3.0 Data Sheet



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Revision History

Modulus-286 R3.0 Data Sheet

Revision	Date	Notes
1.0	28 SEP 2024	Document created.

Typical Performance Measurements

The measurements below were performed on the first batch of Modulus-286 Revision 3.0. Except where noted, they represent the typical performance that can be expected from the Modulus-286.

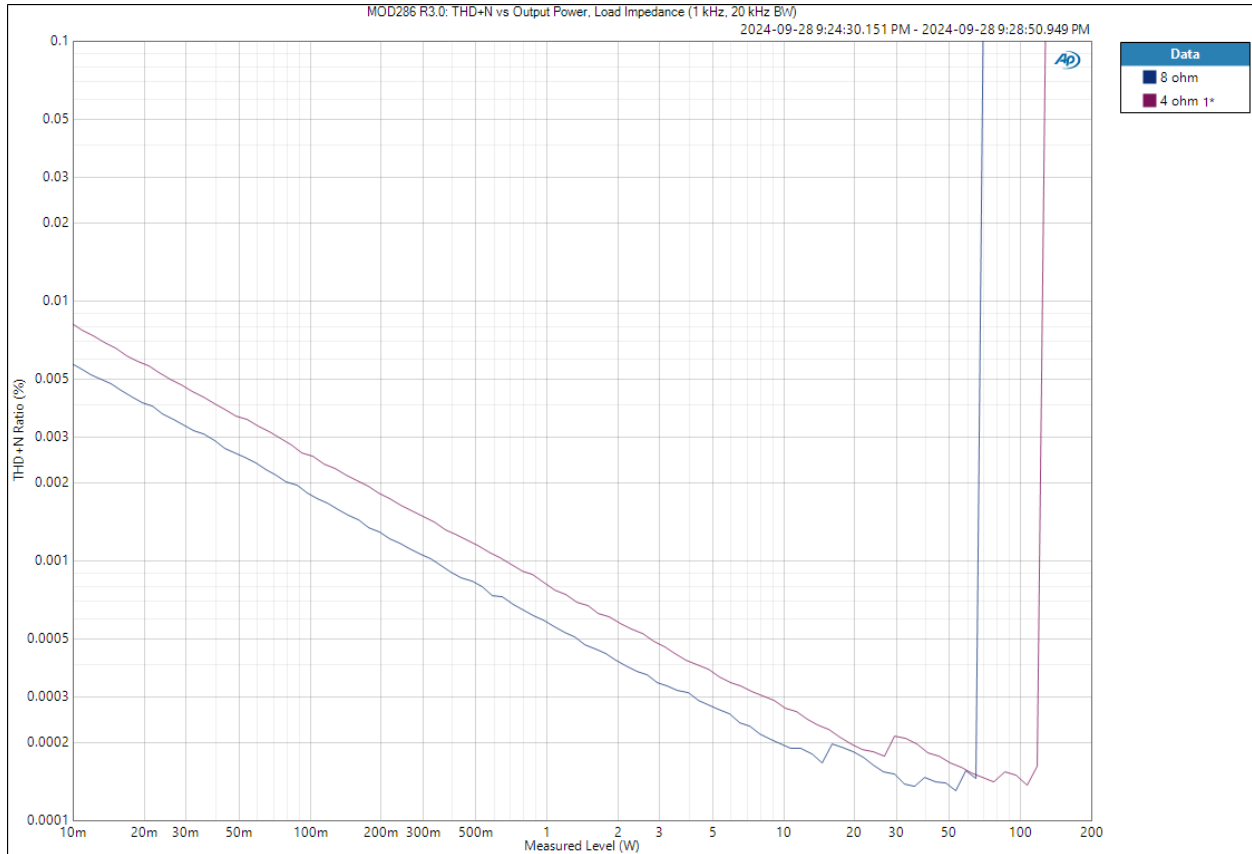
Parameter	Value	Notes
Output Power (8 Ω)	65 W	THD+N < 0.01 % @ 1 kHz
Total Harmonic Distortion	≤ -136 dBc ≤ 0.000016 %	1 kHz, 1 W, 8 Ω
Total Harmonic Distortion	≤ -130 dBc ≤ 0.000032 %	1 kHz, 50 W, 8 Ω
Total Harmonic Distortion + Noise	-118 dBc 0.00013 %	1 kHz, 65 W, 8 Ω , 20 kHz BW
Output Power (4 Ω)	125 W	THD+N < 0.01 % @ 1 kHz
Total Harmonic Distortion	≤ -125 dBc ≤ 0.000056 %	1 kHz, 120 W, 4 Ω
Total Harmonic Distortion + Noise	-116 dBc 0.00015 %	1 kHz, 120 W, 4 Ω , 20 kHz BW
IMD (SMPTE: 60 Hz + 7 kHz, 4:1)	-110 dB	50 W, 8 Ω
IMD (DFD: 18 kHz + 19 kHz, 1:1)	-121 dB	50 W, 8 Ω
IMD (DFD: 917 Hz + 5.5 kHz, 1:1)	-109 dB	1 W, 8 Ω
Multi-Tone IMD Residual	≤ -140 dBc	AP 32-tone, 50 W, 8 Ω
Gain	20 dB	1 kHz
Input Sensitivity	2.30 V RMS	65 W, 8 Ω , 1 kHz
Bandwidth	74 kHz	1 W, -3 dB
Slew Rate	12 V/ μ s	8 Ω 1 nF load
Total Integrated Output Noise and Residual Mains Hum	13.0 μ V RMS	A-weighted, 20 Hz - 20 kHz

Parameter	Value	Notes
Total Integrated Output Noise and Residual Mains Hum	16.4 μ V RMS	Unweighted, 20 Hz - 20 kHz
Output DC Offset Voltage	$\pm 320 \mu$ V ± 2 mV	Typical performance Guaranteed by design
Residual Mains Hum	≤ -138 dBV	
Dynamic Range (AES17)	120 dB	1 kHz
Common-Mode Rejection Ratio	75 dB	60 Hz
Damping factor	616	1 kHz, 8 Ω
Damping factor	232	20 kHz, 8 Ω
Output Impedance	13 m Ω	1 kHz, 8 Ω
Output Impedance	34 m Ω	20 kHz, 8 Ω
Quiescent Current Consumption	150 mA	

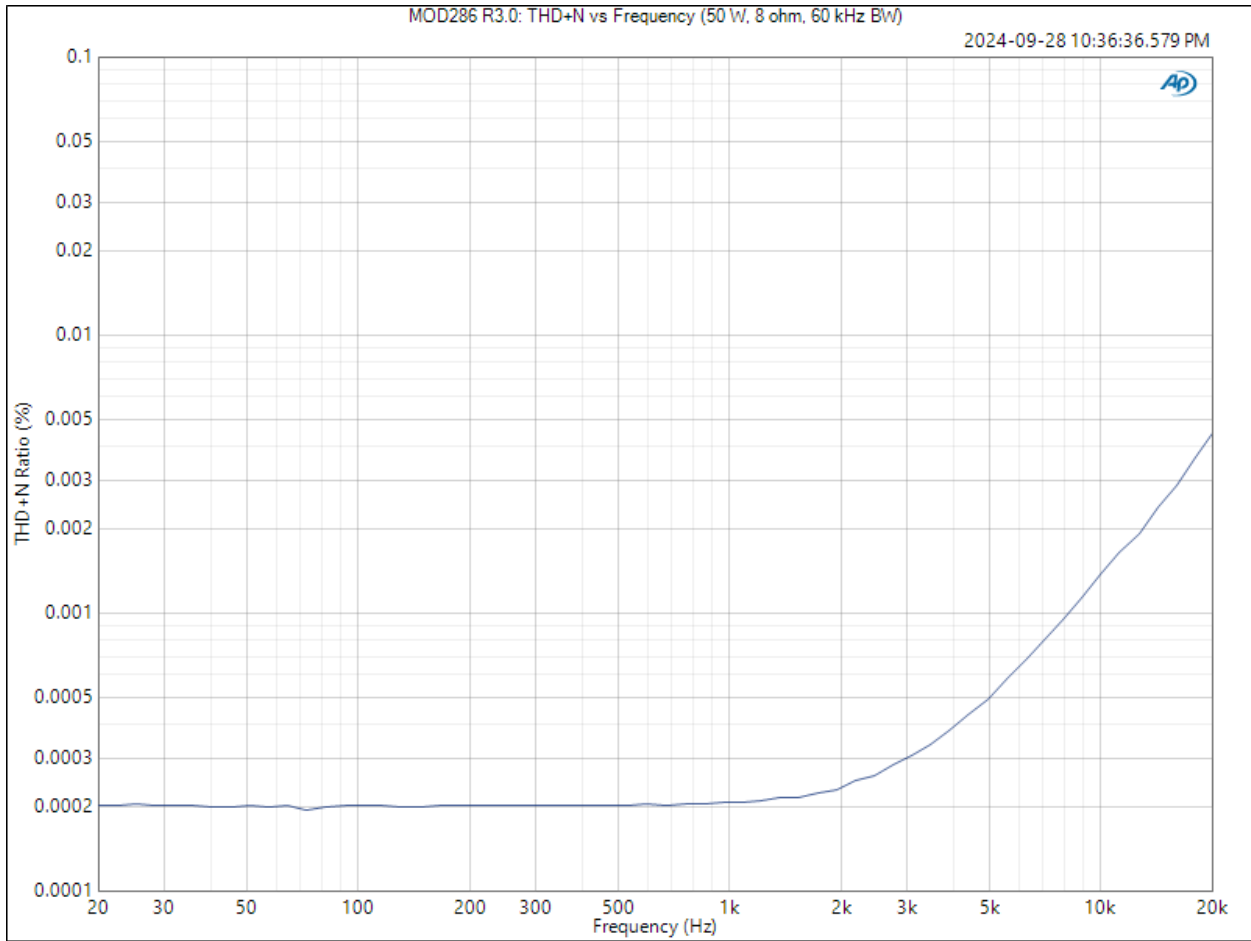
All parameters are measured at a supply voltage of ± 36 V unless otherwise noted.

Harmonic Distortion

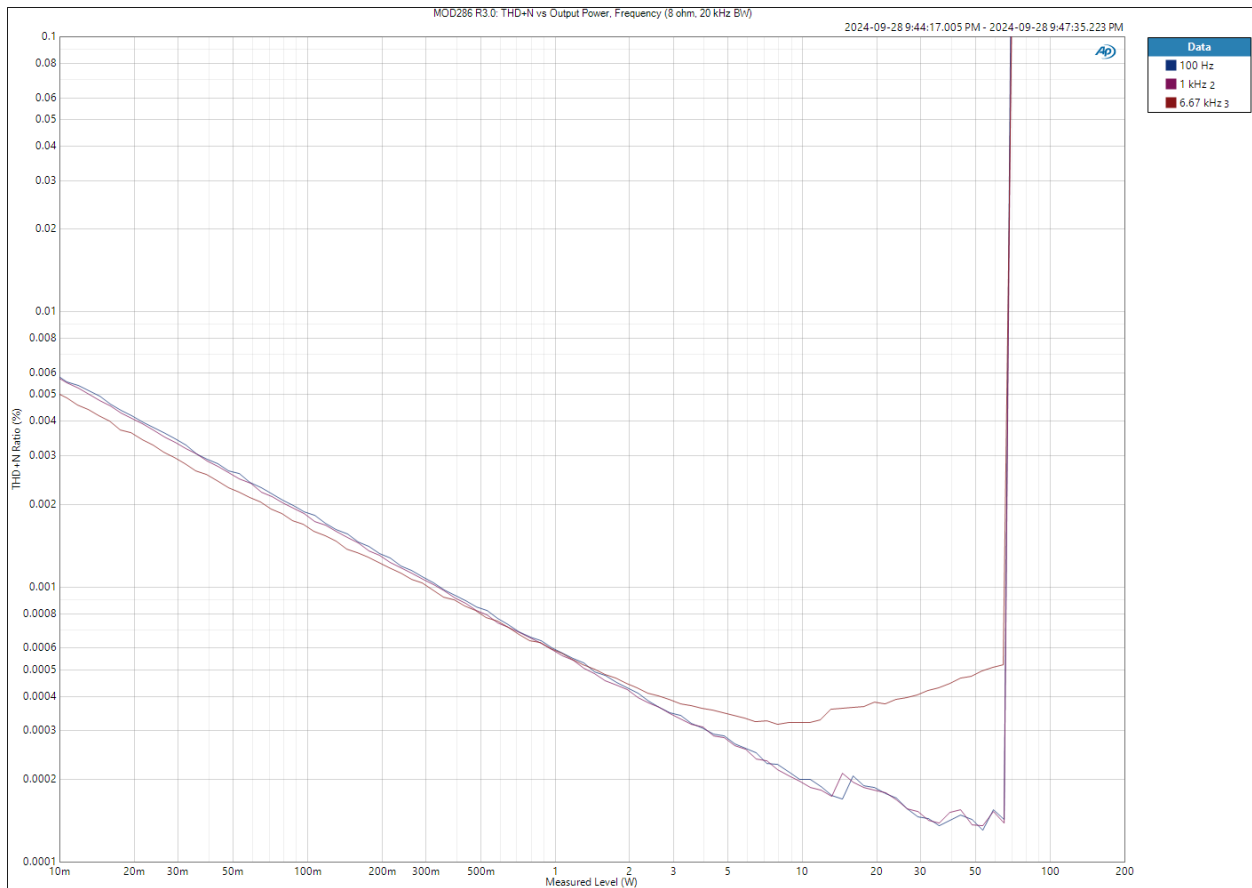
For the measurements below, the Modulus-286 was operating from a ± 36 V power supply. The graph below shows the THD+N vs output power for 4 Ω and 8 Ω load. The amplifier delivers 65 W at the onset of clipping with an 8 Ω load; 125 W with a 4 Ω load. Note that the sharp jumps at 12-15 W (8 Ω) and 30 W (4 Ω) are caused by range switching in the APx555B.



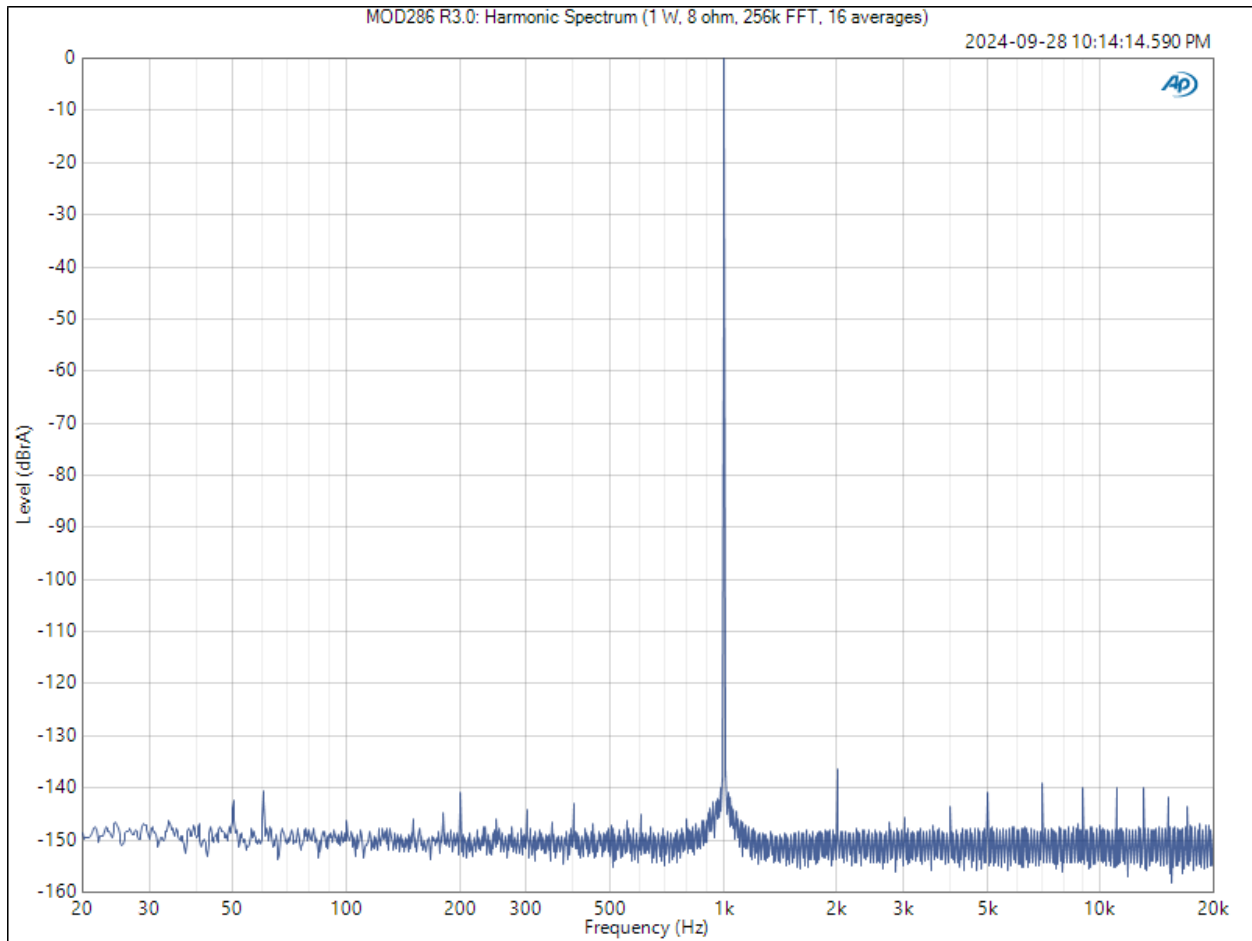
The THD+N vs frequency is shown below. The amplifier delivered 50 W into 8 Ω for this measurement.



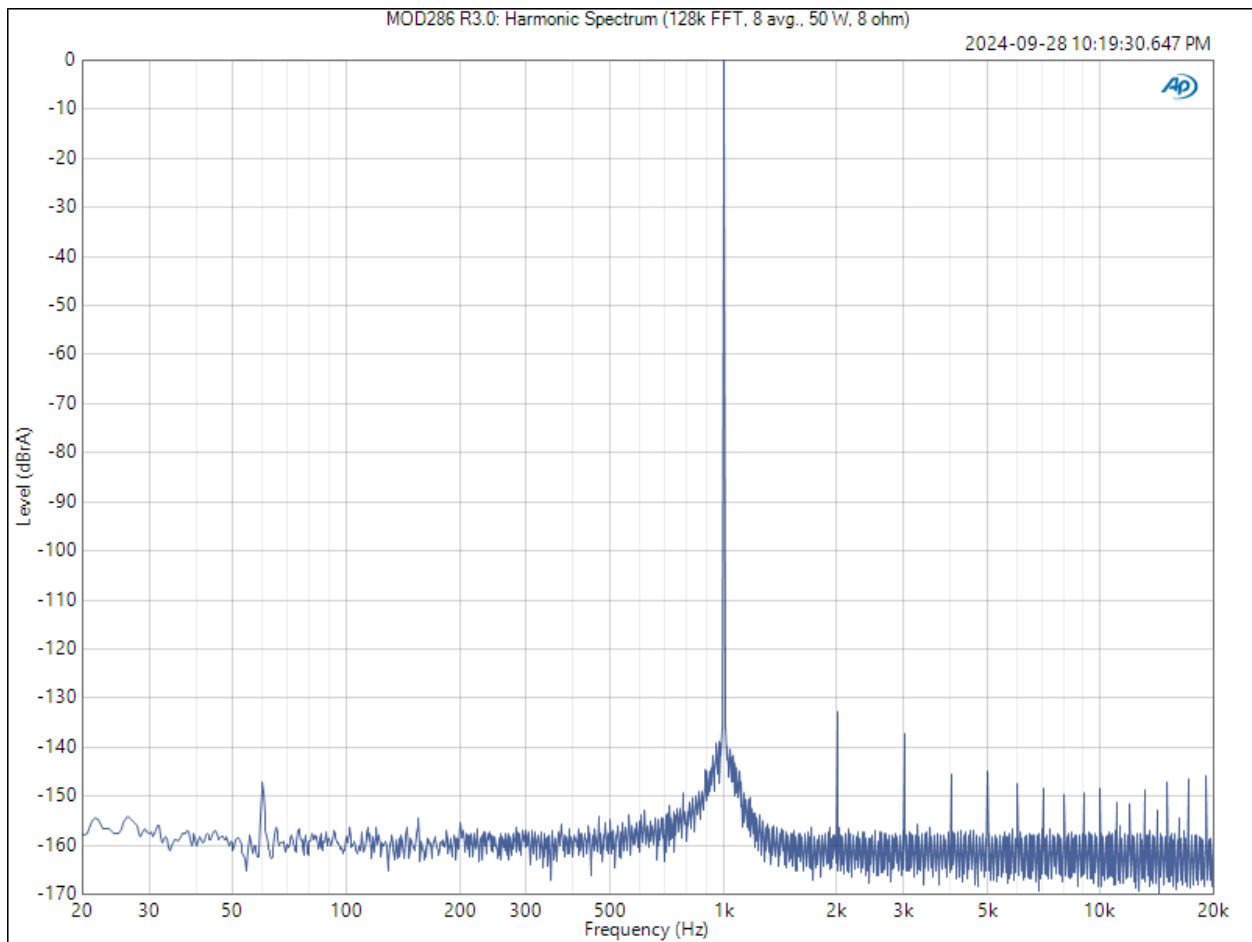
The Modulus-286 operates in Class-AB, so the plot below may appear a bit out of place as it shows the THD+N vs output power and frequency measurement commonly found in data sheets for Class-D amplifiers. It is included here to showcase that the Modulus-286 performs 10-100× better than most Class-D amplifiers.



While good performance at high output power is a good indicator of the quality of an amplifier, stellar performance at lower power is an even better indicator. After all, a typical stereo amplifier will often operate at power levels in the 0.1-10 W range during critical listening. The graph below shows the output spectrum of the Modulus-286 when providing 1 W into 8 Ω at 1 kHz.

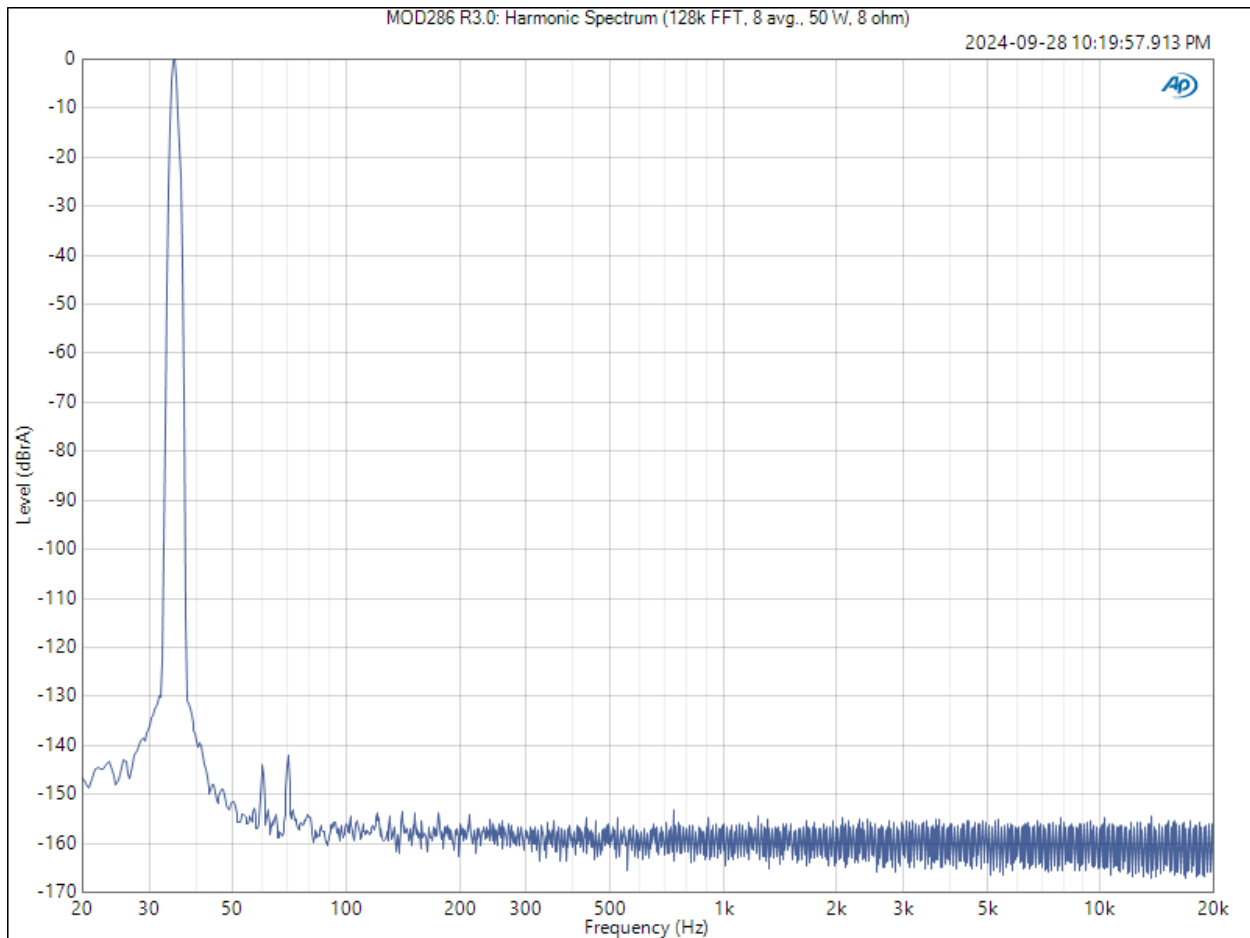


Repeating this measurement at the full output power shows that the total harmonic distortion increases only slightly as the output power is increased.

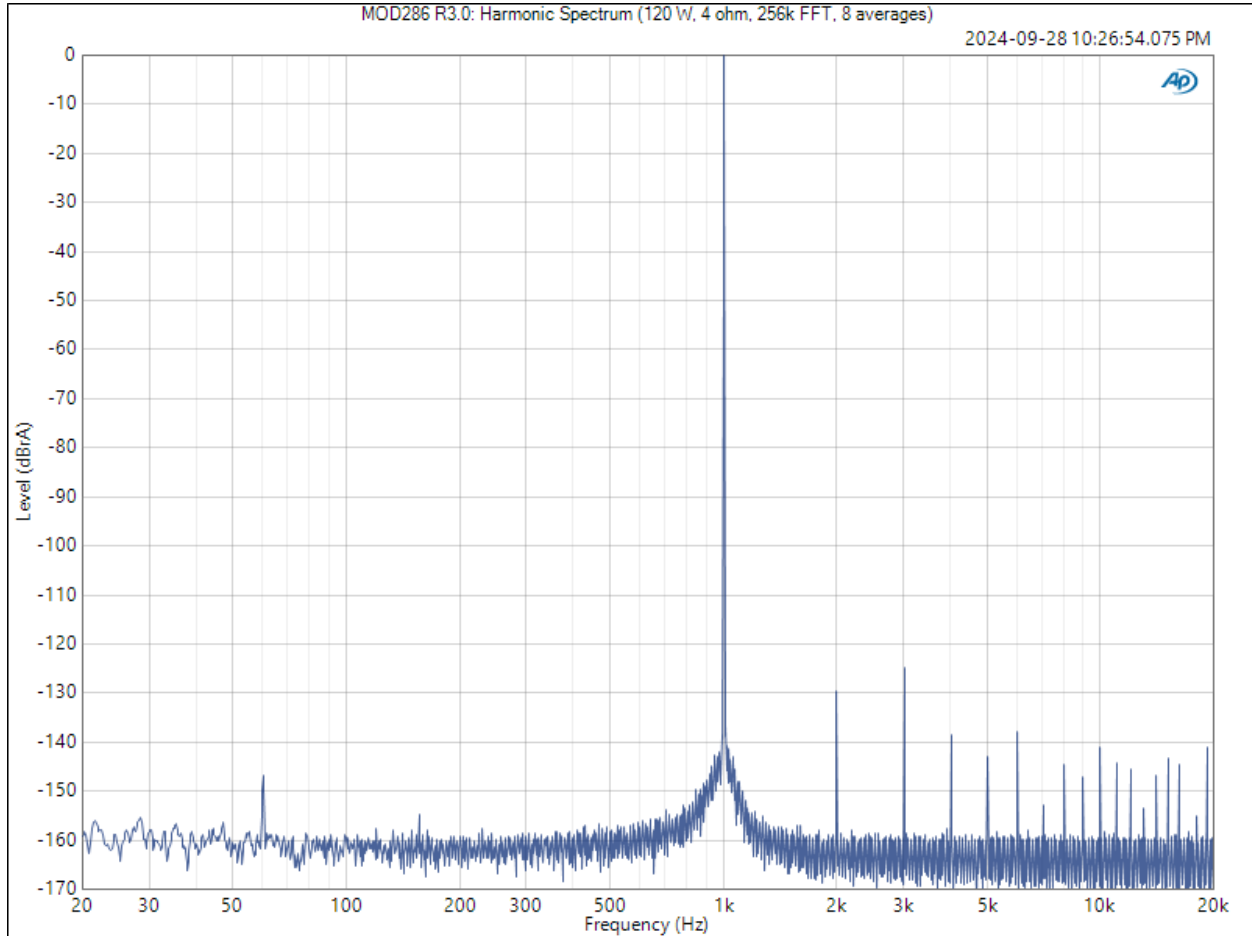


The harmonic distortion with lower signal frequencies can be a useful indicator of thermal issues within the amp. This measurement also tends to bring out distortion in resistors due to thermal cycling.

As shown below, the harmonic distortion of the Modulus-286 is incredibly low (≤ -140 dBc) with a 35 Hz input signal. This test was performed at an output power of 50 W into 8 Ω . The second harmonic (70 Hz) is visible below -140 dBc along with a tiny bit of mains hum from the measurement setup at 60 Hz.



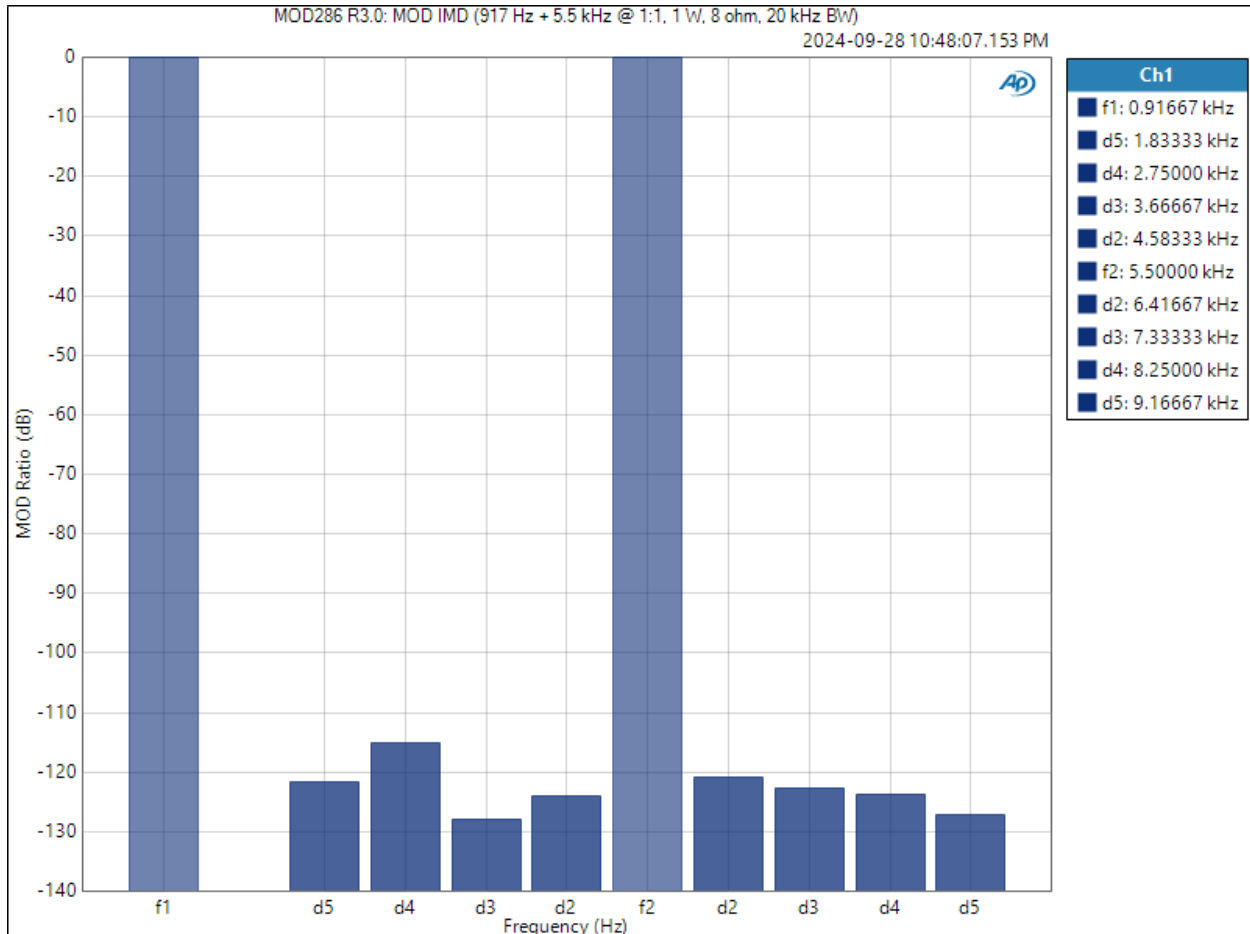
And for completeness, here is the harmonic spectrum with 125 W output into 4 Ω .



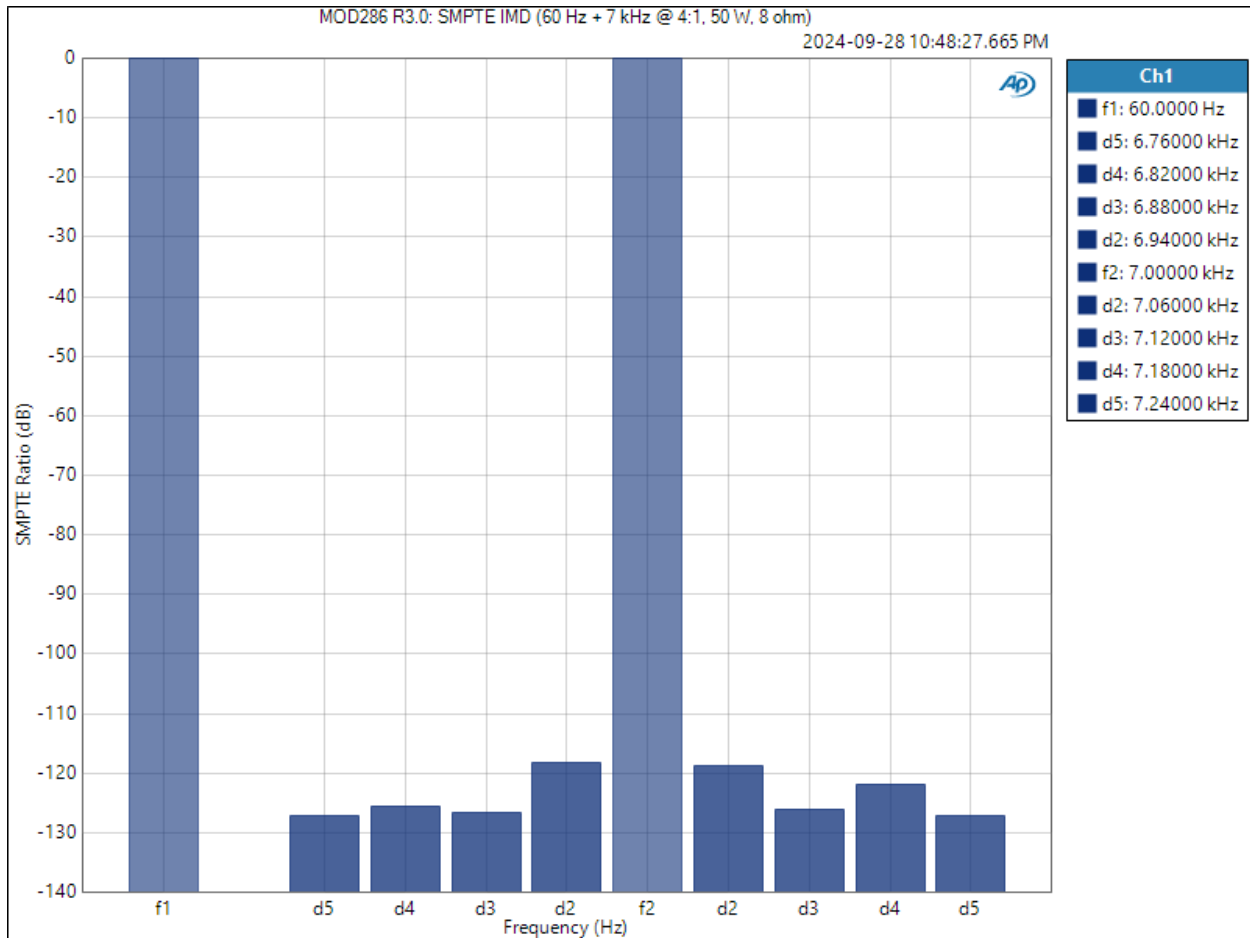
Intermodulation Distortion

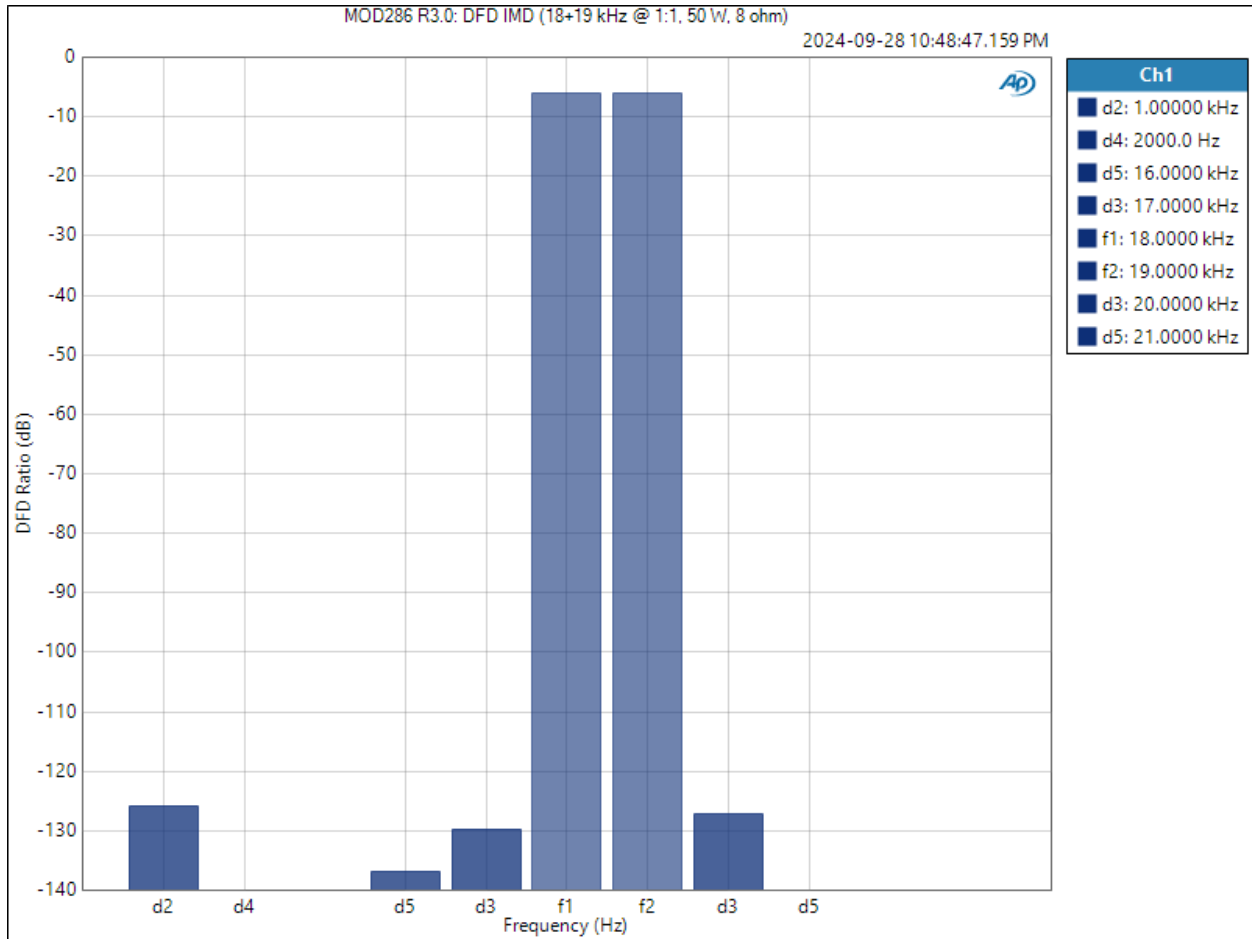
Siegfried Linkwitz argues that the 1 kHz + 5.5 kHz intermodulation distortion (IMD) measurement correlates well with the perceived sound quality. He bases this argument on the fact that IMD products in this measurement fall in the frequency range where the ear is the most sensitive.

The graph below shows the result of this measurement with the Modulus-286. Note that due to a limitation in the DFD IMD source of the APx555B, the frequencies used must be an integer multiple of each other. Thus, the measurement was performed at 917 Hz (5500/6) + 5.5 kHz. Note that the performance of the Modulus-286 is over 20 dB better than the performance of any of the amps shown on Linkwitz's website.

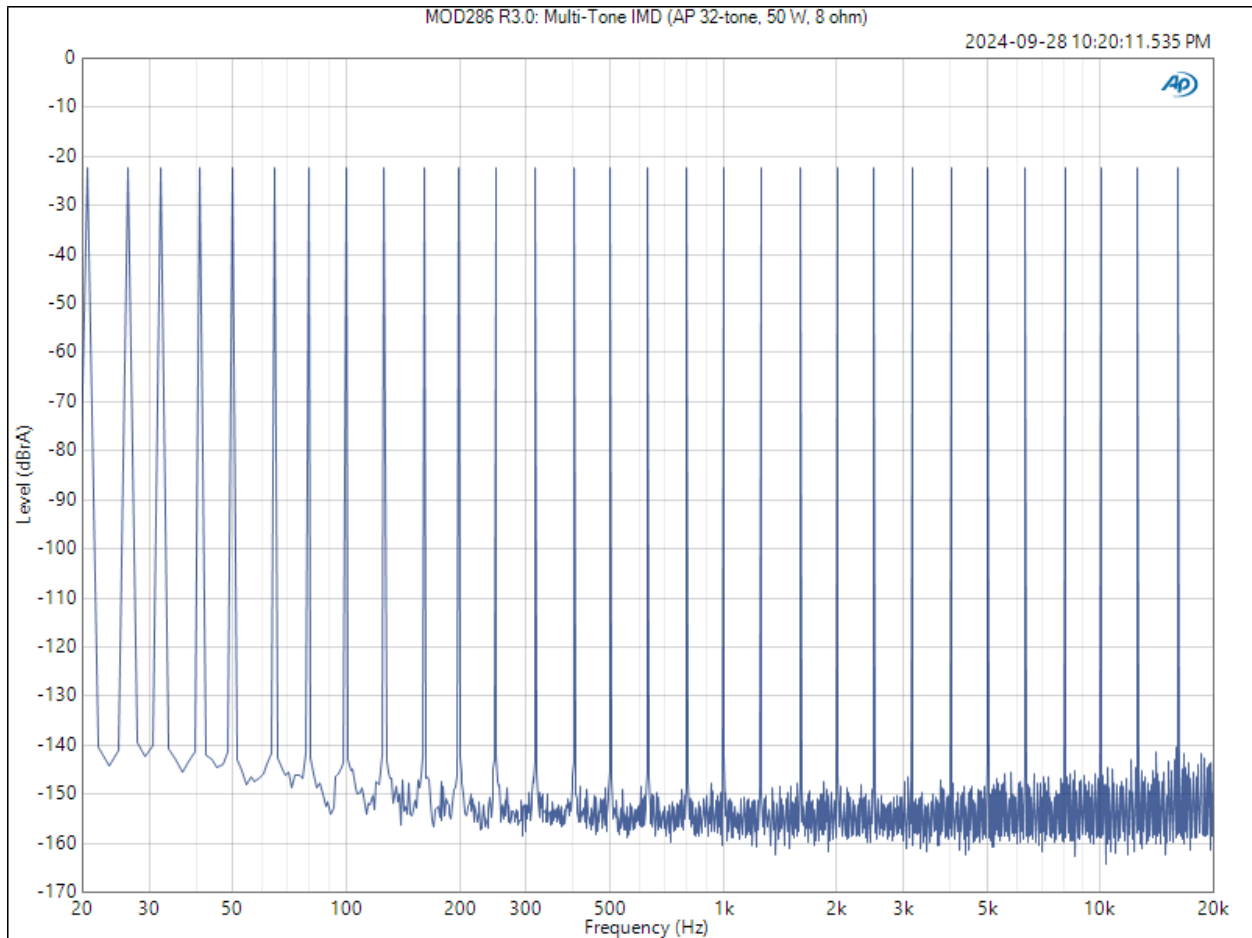


The more conventional IMD measurements are shown below. The two plots show the SMPTE (60 Hz + 7 kHz @ 4:1) IMD and DFD (18 kHz + 19 kHz @ 1:1) IMD, respectively. Poor SMPTE IMD is often indicative of thermal issues or power supply issues in the amp. The 18k+19k IMD is indicative of the loop gain available in the amp near the end of the audible spectrum, which can be telling of an amplifier's sound quality. The Modulus-286 provides excellent performance on both of these measurements.



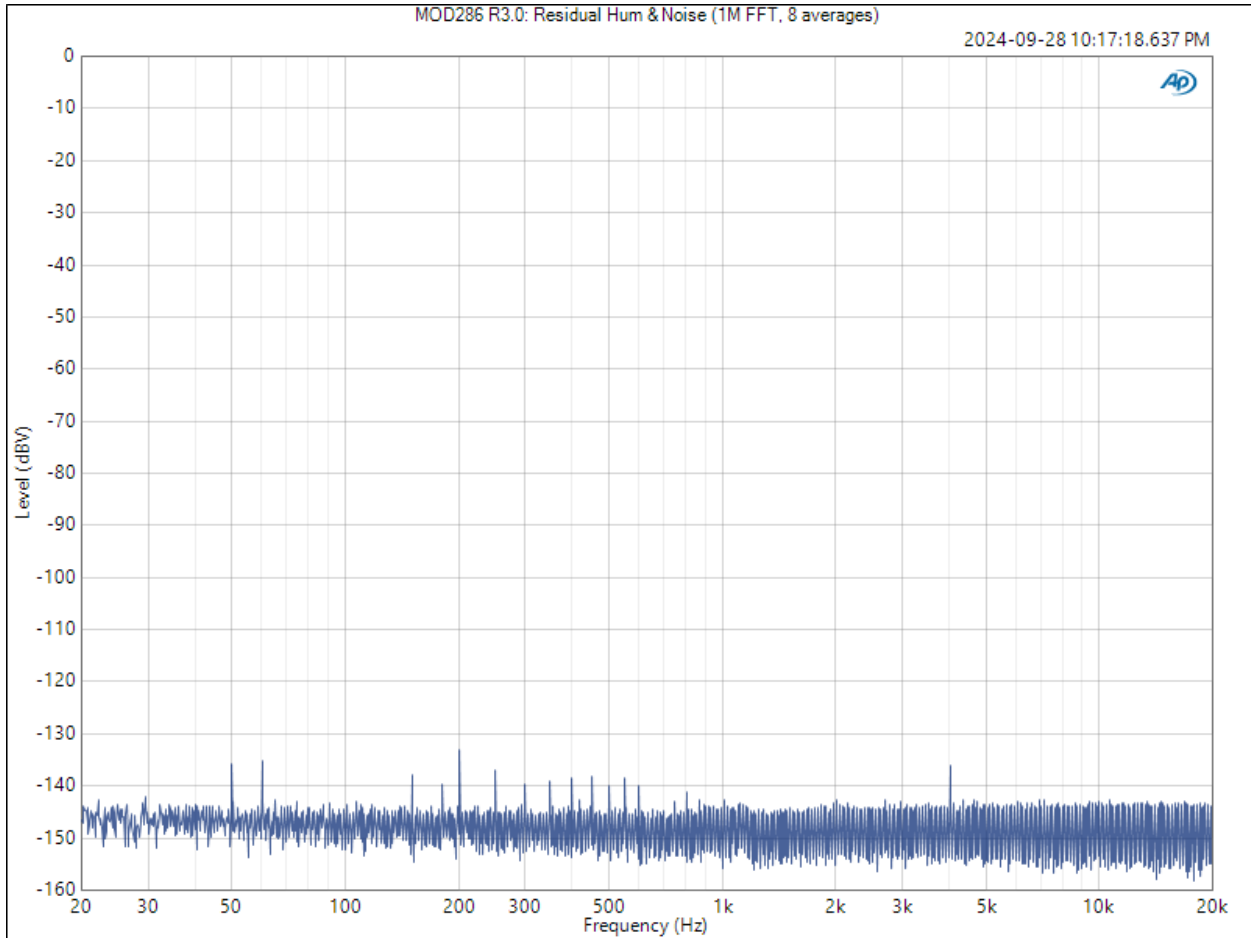


Audio Precision has developed a multi-tone test signal, which contains 32 tones from 15 Hz to 20 kHz, logarithmically spaced in frequency. This test signal sounds a bit like an out-of-tune pipe organ. It is the best approximation to music available in a deterministic test signal. Thus, this multi-tone signal should be used in an IMD test for the best correlation between measurements and perceived sound quality. This test is run slightly below clipping (50 W, 8 Ω). Note that even the tallest IMD components are 140 dB below clipping level!



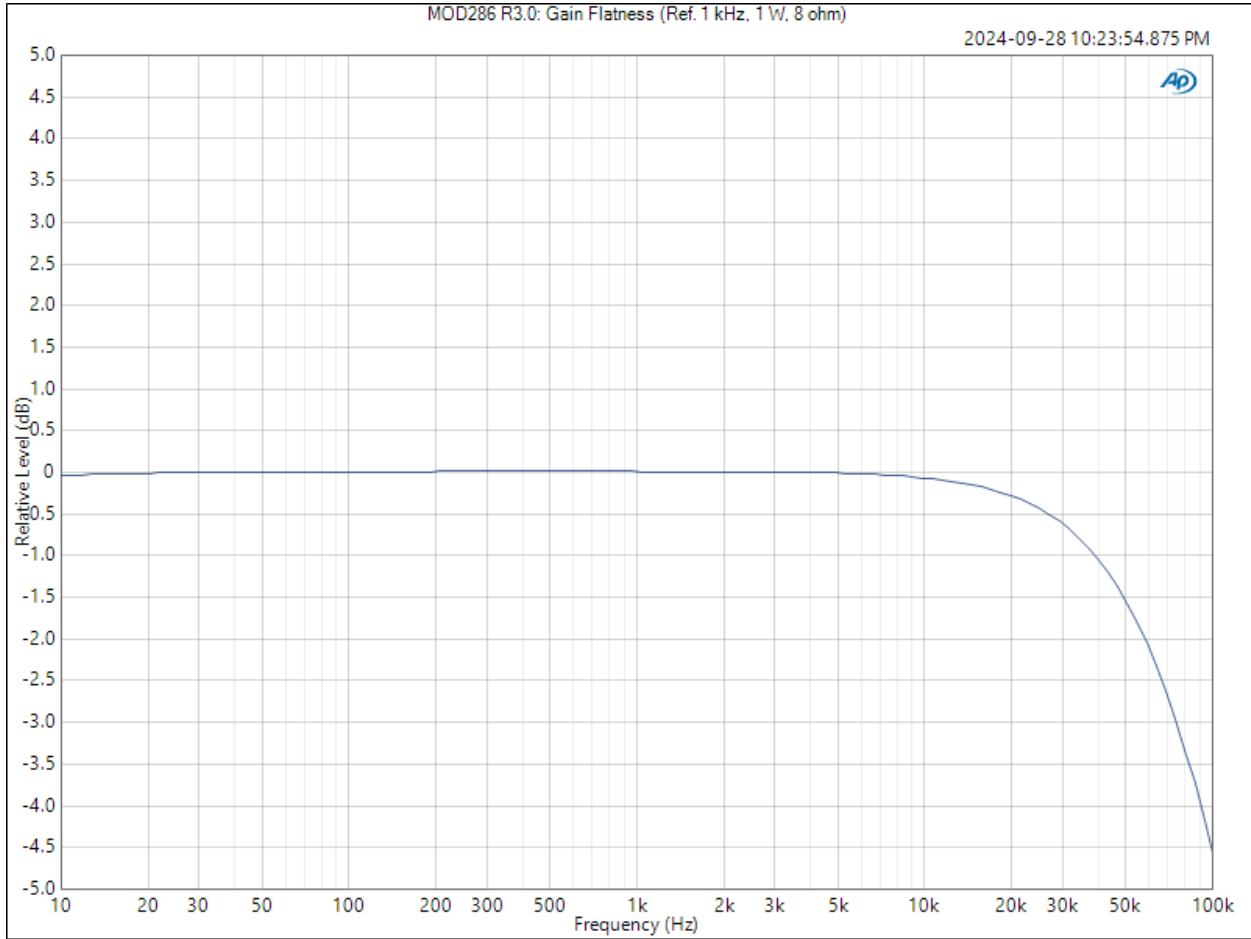
Residual Mains Hum and Noise

The Modulus-286 shows only a tiny amount of residual mains hum. Note that this measurement was taken with the amplifier board sitting unshielded on a lab bench, thus, actual performance once enclosed in a metal chassis will be better. The plot below shows the noise floor of the amplifier when powered by a pair of well-regulated laboratory power supplies (HP 6654A).

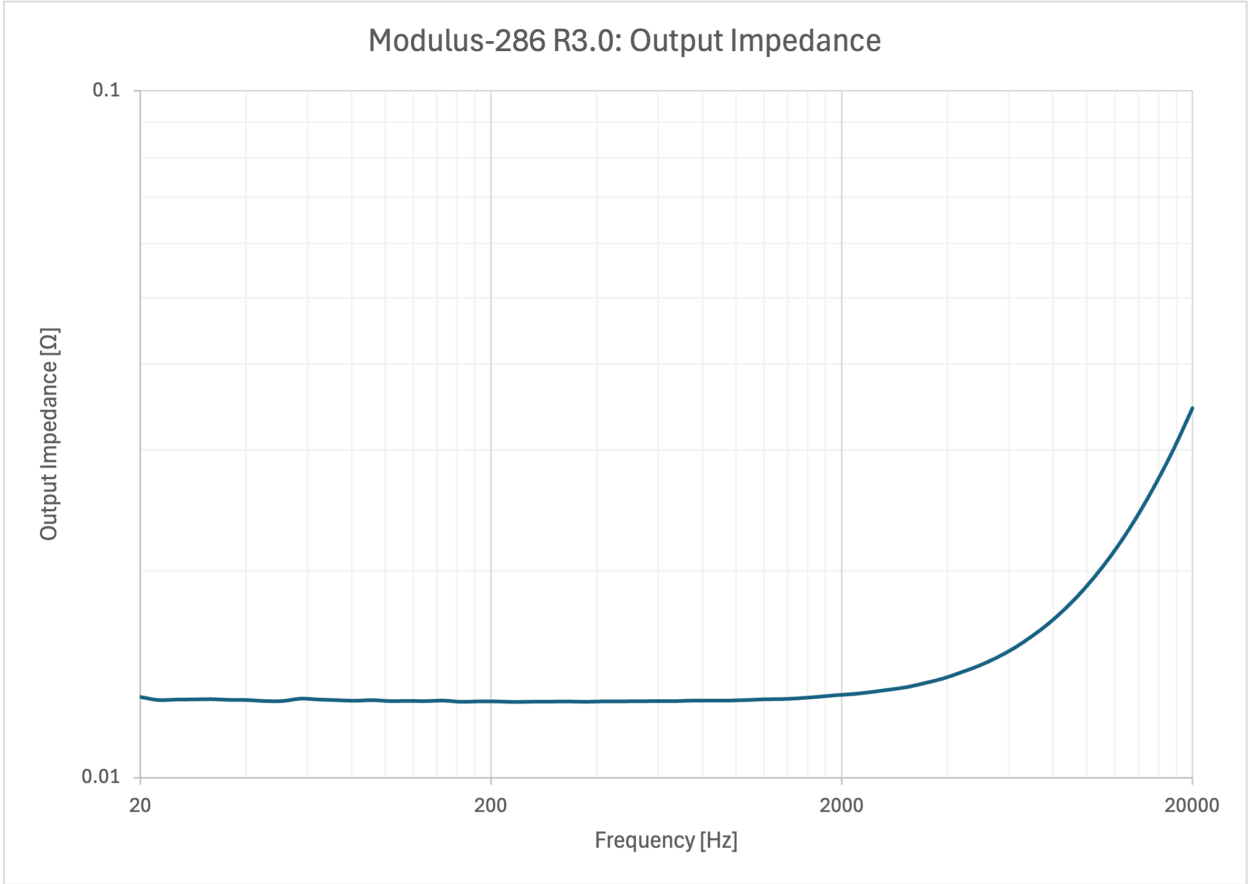


Gain Flatness, Output Impedance, and Damping Factor

The gain flatness of the Modulus-286 is shown below.



The output impedance is shown below.



The corresponding 8 Ω damping factor is shown below.

