



To Whom It May Concern:

Jon Dattorro sent me by fax an early draft of his article on signal processing that eventually appeared in the Audio Engineering Society Journal. He asked for my permission to publish a set of diagrams that showed a reverberation algorithms derived from the algorithms I developed for Lexicon reverberation products.

These algorithms were developed over a period of many years, starting in 1977 with the prototype of the Lexicon 224. I considered the algorithms to be novel and unique, but I was advised at the time that patent protection was difficult or impossible for such a piece of computer software. I decided to keep the algorithms as a Lexicon trade secret. The law changed later to allow the patenting of algorithms, but by then the products were in the market, and no patent was possible. Thus the algorithm design remained a trade secret.

After changing the wording of Jon's captions to read that the algorithms were at most "similar" to the Lexicon algorithms I gave my permission, and the article was published. Jon successfully argued that the algorithms were public knowledge anyway, and that at least somewhere they should be identified as originating from me. I had heard from various people over the years that the algorithms in the Lexicon products had been successfully decoded several times, and I have no reason to doubt this assertion. I have myself decoded other algorithms, and I know this is possible – although quite difficult. I have not personally proven that there is any commercial product on the market that uses an identical algorithm as the Lexicon units.

Adding to the strength of Jon's argument was my knowledge of an article (I believe in the Journal of Computer Music) by Bill Gardner, where very similar algorithms were presented. Bill had independently developed these algorithms, and correctly described their advantages. I later became one of Bill's Phd thesis advisors, and he remains a friend.

To summarize: I believe the algorithms that Jon identified as originating from me in his AES article did in fact originate from me. I gave him permission to publish them. I believe that they had been decoded by others and were at least in the intellectual underground. In addition the algorithms had been independently discovered and published by Bill Gardner.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "David Griesinger". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

David Griesinger