

EGT3  
ENGINEERING TRIPOS PART IIB

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Monday 6 May 2024 2 to 3.40

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**Module 4A15**

**ACOUSTICS**

*Answer not more than **three** questions.*

*All questions carry the same number of marks.*

*The **approximate** percentage of marks allocated to each part of a question is indicated in the right margin.*

*Write your candidate number **not** your name on the cover sheet.*

**STATIONERY REQUIREMENTS**

Single-sided paper

**SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS TO BE SUPPLIED FOR THIS EXAM**

CUED approved calculator allowed

Attachment: 4A15 Aeroacoustics data sheet (5 pages)

Engineering Data Book

**10 minutes reading time is allowed for this paper at the start of the exam.**

**You may not start to read the questions printed on the subsequent pages of this question paper until instructed to do so.**

**You may not remove any stationery from the Examination Room.**

1 (a) The surface  $x = 0$  in Fig. 1(a) oscillates with a velocity in the  $x$  direction equal to the real part of  $U \exp [i(\omega t - k_y y)]$ . Here  $U$  is a complex amplitude,  $y$  is the vertical coordinate,  $k_y$  is a positive constant, and the other symbols have their usual meanings. The medium in  $x > 0$  has density  $\rho_1$  and sound speed  $c_1$ , with  $\omega/c_1 < k_y$ . The pressure field therein is given by

$$p'_1 = A(x)e^{i(\omega t - k_y y)}.$$

Find  $A(x)$ . (Hint:  $p'_1$  must obey the homogeneous wave equation in  $x > 0$ .) [40%]

(b) The plane at  $x = 0$  in Fig. 1(b) forms a boundary between two media. The densities and sound speeds are  $(\rho_0, c_0)$ , in  $x < 0$ , and  $(\rho_1, c_1)$ , in  $x > 0$ . In the left-hand medium, a plane wave with complex amplitude  $I$  approaches the boundary at an angle  $\theta$  to the  $x$  axis. At the boundary it is reflected with amplitude  $R$ , so that the overall pressure is given by

$$p'_0 = Ie^{i\omega(t - x \cos \theta / c_0 - y \sin \theta / c_0)} + Re^{i\omega(t + x \cos \theta / c_0 - y \sin \theta / c_0)}.$$

(i) The sound speeds and the angle  $\theta$  are such that  $c_1 \sin \theta > c_0$ . Find  $R/I$ . [40%]

(ii) What is the mean energy flux into the right-hand medium? In the light of your answer, comment on the ratio  $R/I$ . [20%]

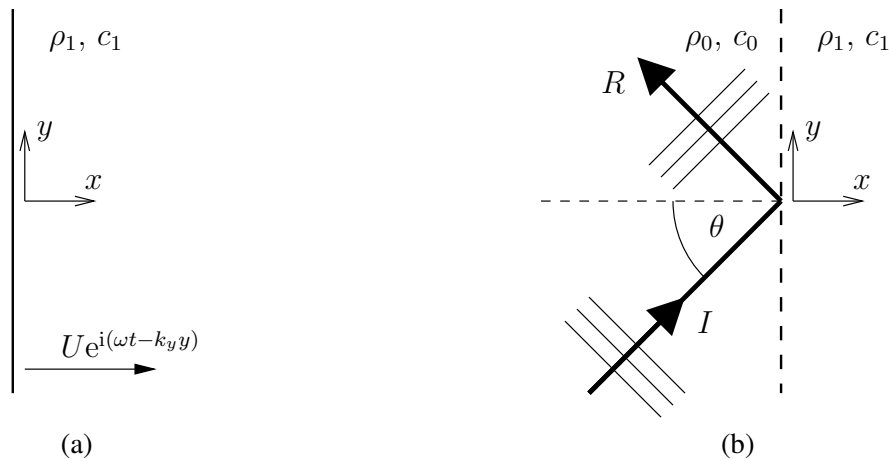


Fig. 1

2 An unsteady force distribution  $(F_1, F_2, F_3)$  has length-scale  $l$ , time-scale  $T$ , and characteristic density  $\rho_0$ . The components  $F_2$  and  $F_3$  are both zero, while  $F_1$  is expressed in terms of a function  $S$  as

$$F_1(\mathbf{x}, t) = \frac{\rho_0 l}{T^2} S\left(\frac{|\mathbf{x}|}{l}, \frac{t}{T}\right).$$

The acoustic density fluctuation  $\rho'(\mathbf{x}, t)$  due to this source is governed by the equation

$$\frac{\partial^2 \rho'}{\partial t^2} - c_0^2 \nabla^2 \rho' = -\frac{\partial F_1}{\partial x_1},$$

where  $c_0$  is the speed of sound. Symbols not explicitly defined have their usual meanings.

(a) Show that the density fluctuation in the far field can be written

$$\rho'(\mathbf{x}, t) = -\frac{1}{4\pi c_0^2 |\mathbf{x}|} \int \frac{\partial}{\partial y_1} F_1\left(\mathbf{y}, t - \frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|}{c_0}\right) d\mathbf{y}.$$

[20%]

(b) The source is such that  $l/c_0 \ll T$ . Give a physical interpretation of this relation, and state its implication for further approximation of the integral in part (a).

[20%]

(c) On the basis of the integral in part (a) and the assumption  $l/c_0 \ll T$ , obtain an order-of-magnitude estimate for the far-field density fluctuation.

[20%]

(d) An alternative formulation for the acoustic far-field is

$$\rho'(\mathbf{x}, t) = -\frac{1}{4\pi c_0^2 |\mathbf{x}|} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \int F_1\left(\mathbf{y}, t - \frac{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|}{c_0}\right) d\mathbf{y}.$$

Given that  $l/c_0 \ll T$  still, what order-of-magnitude estimate does this yield? Note that you will need to bring the  $x_1$  derivative inside the integral.

[20%]

(e) Identify which of your answers to parts (c) and (d) is incorrect, and explain why.

[20%]

3 (a) Explain why a rigid-walled annular duct of inner radius  $a$  and outer radius  $b$  can be approximated as a rectangular duct when  $(b - a)/a \ll 1$ . [10%]

(b) What are the appropriate boundary conditions for acoustic waves in the rectangular duct? [10%]

(c) Show that for acoustic disturbances of angular frequency  $\omega$  these boundary conditions lead to axial wavenumbers

$$k_{mn} = \sqrt{\frac{\omega^2}{c_0^2} - \left(\frac{m\pi}{b-a}\right)^2 - \left(\frac{n}{R}\right)^2}$$

for integers  $m$  and  $n$ . Here  $c_0$  is the speed of sound and  $R = (a + b)/2$ . [60%]

(d) Hence show that in the annular duct all modes of circumferential mode number  $n$  are “cut-off” at radian frequencies  $\omega$  less than  $nc_0/R$ . [10%]

(e) What condition on fan speed is required if the fundamental rotor-alone tone is to be cut off? [10%]

4 An acoustic liner for low frequency sound absorption consists of a perforated surface. Each hole opens onto a cavity of volume  $0.0004 \text{ m}^3$  and together the hole and cavity behave like a Helmholtz resonator. The difference between the pressure perturbation just outside a hole and within its cavity is equal to

$$\rho_0 l \frac{du'}{dt} + \alpha u'$$

where  $\rho_0$  is the mean density,  $l$  is 0.6 times the hole diameter,  $u'$  is the velocity of the air flowing through the hole,  $\alpha = \rho_0 c_0 k$ , with  $k = 0.1$ , and  $c_0$  is the speed of sound. The ambient temperature is 600 K and pressure 1 bar.

(a) What hole size would you choose to absorb sound of frequency 250 Hz? [60%]

(b) With this choice of hole size, determine the rate of absorption of sound energy at 250 Hz by a single hole in terms of the root-mean-square pressure perturbation at the hole. [40%]

**END OF PAPER**

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# Module 4A15 Aeroacoustics Data Sheet

## USEFUL DATA AND DEFINITIONS

### Physical Properties

Speed of sound in an ideal gas  $\sqrt{\gamma RT}$ , where  $T$  is temperature in Kelvins

### Units of sound measurement

$$\text{SPL (sound pressure level)} = 20 \log_{10} \left( \frac{p'_{rms}}{2 \times 10^{-5} \text{Nm}^{-2}} \right) \text{dB}$$

$$\text{IL (intensity level)} = 10 \log_{10} \left( \frac{\text{intensity}}{10^{-12} \text{watts m}^{-2}} \right) \text{dB}$$

$$\text{PWL (power level)} = 10 \log_{10} \left( \frac{\text{sound power output}}{10^{-12} \text{watts}} \right) \text{dB}$$

### Definitions

**Surface impedance**  $Z_s$ , relates the pressure perturbation applied to a surface,  $p'$ , to its normal velocity  $v'$ ;  $p' = Z_s v'$

**Characteristic impedance** of a fluid  $\rho_0 c_0$

**Specific impedance** of a surface  $Z_s / (\rho_0 c_0)$

**Wavenumber**  $k = \omega / c_0 = 2\pi / \lambda$ , where  $\lambda$  is the wavelength

**Helmholtz number** (or compactness ratio)  $= kD$ , where  $D$  is a typical dimension of the source.

**Strouhal number**  $= \omega D / (2\pi U)$  for sound of frequency  $\omega$  (in rad/s), produced in a flow with speed  $U$ , length scale  $D$ .

## Basic equations for linear acoustics

**Conservation of mass**

$$\frac{\partial \rho'}{\partial t} + \rho_0 \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}' = 0$$

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**Conservation of momentum**

$$\rho_0 \frac{\partial \mathbf{v}'}{\partial t} + \nabla p' = 0$$

**Isentropic**

$$c_0^2 = \left. \frac{dp}{d\rho} \right|_s$$

**Wave equation**

$$\frac{1}{c_0^2} \frac{\partial^2 p'}{\partial t^2} - \nabla^2 p' = 0$$

**Energy density**

$$e = \frac{1}{2} \rho_0 v'^2 + \frac{1}{2 \rho_0 c_0^2} p'^2$$

**Intensity  $\mathbf{I} = p' \mathbf{v}'$** 

**Velocity potential**  $\phi'$  satisfies the wave equation and  $p' = -\rho_0 \frac{\partial \phi'}{\partial t}$ ,  $\mathbf{v}' = \nabla \phi'$ .

**Autocorrelation**  $F(\xi)$ , the autocorrelation of  $f(y)$  is given by

$$F(\xi) = \overline{f(y)f(y+\xi)}$$
$$F(0) = \overline{f^2}$$

**Integral length scale,  $l$** 

$$l \overline{f^2} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} F(\xi) d\xi$$

**Sound power**

Sound power from a source is defined as

$$P = \int_S \bar{\mathbf{I}} \cdot d\mathbf{S} = \int_{S_\infty} \frac{\overline{p'^2}}{\rho_0 c_0} d\mathbf{S}$$

for a statistically stationary source. For an outward propagating spherically symmetrical sound field  $P = \frac{\overline{p'^2}}{\rho_0 c_0} 4\pi r^2$ , where  $p'$  is the acoustic pressure at radius  $r$ .

For a sound field, which is a function of spherical polar coordinates  $r, \theta$  only, and is independent of the azimuthal angle,

$$P = 2\pi r^2 \int_0^\pi \frac{\overline{p'^2}}{\rho_0 c_0} \sin \theta d\theta$$

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## Simple wave fields

### 1D or plane wave

The general solution of the 1D wave equation is  $p'(x,t) = f(t - x/c_0) + g(t + x/c_0)$ , where  $f$  and  $g$  are arbitrary functions. In a plane wave propagating to the right  $p' = \rho_0 c_0 u'$ ; in a plane wave propagating to the left  $p' = -\rho_0 c_0 u'$ ,  $u'$  being the particle velocity.

### Spherically symmetric sound fields

The general spherically symmetric solution of the 3D wave equation is

$$\phi'(r,t) = \frac{f(t - r/c_0)}{r} + \frac{g(t + r/c_0)}{r},$$

where  $r$  is the distance from the source;  $f$  and  $g$  are arbitrary functions.

### $\cos \theta$ dependence

The general solution of the 3D wave equation with  $\cos \theta$  dependence is

$$p'(\mathbf{x},t) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left[ \frac{f(t - r/c_0)}{r} + \frac{g(t + r/c_0)}{r} \right] = \cos \theta \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left[ \frac{f(t - r/c_0)}{r} + \frac{g(t + r/c_0)}{r} \right]$$

## Useful mathematical formulae

### Spherical polar coordinates $(r, \theta, \psi)$

#### Gradient

$$\nabla p' = \left( \frac{\partial p'}{\partial r}, \frac{1}{r} \frac{\partial p'}{\partial \theta}, \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial p'}{\partial \psi} \right)$$

#### Divergence

$$\nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}' = \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} (r^2 v'_r) + \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} (\sin \theta v'_\theta) + \frac{1}{r \sin \theta} \frac{\partial v'_\psi}{\partial \psi}$$

#### Laplacian

$$\nabla^2 p' = \frac{1}{r^2} \frac{\partial}{\partial r} \left( r^2 \frac{\partial p'}{\partial r} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin \theta} \frac{\partial}{\partial \theta} \left( \sin \theta \frac{\partial p'}{\partial \theta} \right) + \frac{1}{r^2 \sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial^2 p'}{\partial \psi^2}$$

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## Delta functions

### Kronecker Delta

$$\delta_{ij} = \begin{cases} 1 & i = j \\ 0 & i \neq j \end{cases}$$

**1D  $\delta$ -function**  $\delta(x) = 0$  for  $x \neq 0$  and  $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \delta(ax - b)f(x)dx = f(b/a)/|a|$

**3D  $\delta$ -function**  $\delta(\mathbf{x}) = \delta(x_1)\delta(x_2)\delta(x_3)$

## Convolution algebra

### Convolution of $f(\mathbf{x})$ and $g(\mathbf{x})$

$$(f \star g)(\mathbf{x}) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(\mathbf{y})g(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y})d\mathbf{y}$$

### Commutative properties

$$f \star g = g \star f$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial x_i}(f \star g)(\mathbf{x}) = f \star \frac{\partial g}{\partial x_i} = \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i} \star g$$

## Green's function

### 3D Green's function for wave equation

$$\left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} - c_0^2 \nabla^2\right) g(\mathbf{x}, t | \mathbf{y}, \tau) = \delta(t - \tau) \delta(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y})$$
$$g(\mathbf{x}, t | \mathbf{y}, \tau) = \frac{\delta\{|\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}| - c_0(t - \tau)\}}{4\pi c_0 |\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}|}$$

## Lighthill's Acoustic Analogy

### Lighthill's equation

$$\left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} - c_0^2 \nabla^2\right) \rho' = \frac{\partial^2 T_{ij}}{\partial x_i \partial x_j}$$

For cold, isentropic, low Mach-number jets,  $T_{ij}$  can be approximated as:

$$T_{ij} = \rho_0 u_i u_j$$

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**Lighthill eight power law** Acoustic power,

$$P_a \sim \frac{\rho_0 d_j^2}{c_0^5} u_j^8,$$

where  $d_j$  and  $u_j$  are the jet exit diameter and velocity, respectively.

## In a cylindrical duct of radius $a$

The pressure field is given by

$$p'(\mathbf{x}, t) = e^{i(\omega t + n\theta)} J_n(z_{mn} r/a) (A e^{-ikx_3} + B e^{ikx_3}),$$

where  $z_{mn}$  is the  $m$ th zero of  $J_n(z)$  and  $k = (k_0^2 - z_{mn}^2/a^2)^{1/2}$ .

For large azimuthal wavenumber,  $n$

$$z_{1n} \approx n + 1.85n^{1/3}$$

## In a duct of varying area $A(x)$

**Webster horn equation**

$$\frac{1}{c_0^2} \frac{\partial^2 p'}{\partial t^2} - \frac{1}{A} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( A \frac{\partial p'}{\partial x} \right) = 0$$

**Modified Webster horn equation**  $\psi(x) = \hat{p}(x) A^{1/2}$ ,  $A = \pi a^2$

$$\frac{d^2 \psi}{dx^2} + \left( k^2 - \frac{1}{a} \frac{d^2 a}{dx^2} \right) \psi = 0$$