Influence of railway track topography on acoustic propagation of railway noise: experimental setup and comparison with numerical calculations

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Outdoor sound propagation

- boundary effects
- atmospheric effects

Transportation noise

- broadband noise
- source in motion
- propagation distances up to 5 km

Numerical simulation needed to take into account all these effects

Possible methods:

• parabolic equation,

• ...



Acoustic measurement along a high speed track



TGV travelling at a speed of 320 km/h

Time domain solution of the linearized Euler equations

- Atmospheric effects taken into account (mean wind and mean temperature profile)
- Time-domain impedance boundary condition (TDBC):
 - has been studied in the CAA community to model the impedance of lining materials: Tam & Auriault (1996), Özyörük & Long (1997), Jung & Fu (2001), Rienstra (AIAA Paper 2006-2686), Reymen *et al.* (2007)
 - becomes an important issue in outdoor sound propagation studies: Salomons et al. (2002), Wilson et al. (2006), Ostashev et al. (2007)
 - TDBC proposed by Cotté et al. (AIAA J., 47(10), 2009)

• Numerical configurations over an impedance flat ground in a stratified atmosphere (Dragna *et al.*, AIAA J., 2011)

GOAL: Validation of the numerical model with experimental results obtained on a railway track site

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Experimental setup





Outdoor sound propagation model

Time domain solution of the linearized Euler equations:

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial \boldsymbol{\rho}}{\partial t} + \mathbf{V}_{\mathbf{0}} \cdot \nabla \boldsymbol{\rho} + \rho_0 \boldsymbol{c}^2 \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} &= \rho_0 \boldsymbol{c}^2 \boldsymbol{Q}, \\ \rho_0 \frac{\partial \mathbf{v}}{\partial t} + \rho_0 (\mathbf{V}_{\mathbf{0}} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{v} + \rho_0 (\mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{V}_{\mathbf{0}} + \nabla \boldsymbol{\rho} &= \mathbf{R}. \end{aligned}$$



Scheme of the problem

Time domain solution of the linearized Euler equations under the conservative form:

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{U}}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{F}}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{G}}{\partial z} + \mathbf{H} = \mathbf{S},$$

where the unknow vector $\mathbf{U} = [p, \rho_0 v_x, \rho_0 v_y, \rho_0 v_z]^T$ and the fluxes are given by:

$$\begin{split} \mathbf{E} &= \begin{pmatrix} V_{0x} p + \rho_0 c^2 v_x \\ V_{0x} \rho_0 v_x + p \\ V_{0x} \rho_0 v_y \\ V_{0x} \rho_0 v_z \end{pmatrix}, \ \mathbf{F} = \begin{pmatrix} V_{0y} p + \rho_0 c^2 v_y \\ V_{0y} \rho_0 v_x \\ V_{0y} \rho_0 v_z \end{pmatrix}, \ \mathbf{G} = \begin{pmatrix} V_{0z} p + \rho_0 c^2 v_z \\ V_{0z} \rho_0 v_x \\ V_{0z} \rho_0 v_y \\ V_{0z} \rho_0 v_z + p \end{pmatrix}, \\ \mathbf{H} &= \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ \rho_0 \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla V_{0y} \\ \rho_0 \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla V_{0x} \\ \rho_0 \mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla V_{0z} \end{pmatrix}, \ \mathbf{S} = \begin{pmatrix} \rho_0 c^2 Q \\ R_x \\ R_y \\ R_z \end{pmatrix}. \end{split}$$

Time domain solution of the linearized Euler equations under the conservative form:

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{U}}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{F}}{\partial y} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{G}}{\partial z} + \mathbf{H} = \mathbf{S},$$

Numerical techniques:

- Spatial derivatives: finite difference schemes (Bogey & Bailly, JCP, 2004)
- Time integration: optimized six-stage Runge-Kutta scheme (Bogey & Bailly, JCP, 2004)
- Spatial filtering (Bogey et al., JCP, 2009)

Non-reflecting boundary conditions:

based on far-field asymptotic expression of the linearized Euler equations (Tam & Dong, JCA, 1996)

Curvilinear FDTD solver

Topography

Ideas of the community of computational aeroacoustics (Marsden, JCA, 2005)

Mesh



• Linearized Euler equations under conservative form for the cartesian case

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{U}}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}}{\partial x} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{F}}{\partial z} + \mathbf{H} = \mathbf{S},$$

Curvilinear FDTD solver

Topography

Ideas of the community of computational aeroacoustics (Marsden, JCA, 2005)

Mesh



• Linearized Euler equations under conservative form for the curvilinear case

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{U}^*}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{E}^*}{\partial \xi} + \frac{\partial \mathbf{F}^*}{\partial \eta} + \mathbf{H}^* = \mathbf{S}^*,$$
$$\mathbf{U}^* = \frac{\mathbf{U}}{J}, \ \mathbf{E}^* = \frac{\xi_x \mathbf{E} + \xi_z \mathbf{F}}{J}, \ \mathbf{F}^* = \frac{\eta_x \mathbf{E} + \eta_z \mathbf{F}}{J}, \ \mathbf{H}^* = \frac{\mathbf{H}}{J} \text{ and } \mathbf{S}^* = \frac{\mathbf{S}}{J}.$$

Impedance boundary condition

frequency-domain boundary condition

time-domain boundary condition

$$P(\omega) = Z(\omega)V_N(\omega) \implies \qquad p(t) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} v_N(t-t')z(t')dt'$$

Translation into the time domain can be done if the impedance model is **physically possible**:

- causal model: $Z(\omega)$ is analytic and non-zero in $Im(\omega) > 0$
- real model: $Z^*(\omega) = Z(-\omega)$
- passive model: $Re[Z(\omega)] \ge 0$

For instance, Delany & Bazley impedance model is not real

Time-domain impedance boundary condition

 approximate Z(ω) by a rational function (Fung & Ju, 2001; Reymen *et al.*, 2007; Cotte *et al.*, 2009)

$$Z(\omega) pprox \sum_{k=1}^{S} rac{A_k}{\lambda_k - j\omega} + Z_{\infty}, \quad \operatorname{Re}[\lambda_k] \geq 0$$

 Z_∞ can be set to zero but has to be equal to $Z_\infty = \lim_{\omega \to +\infty} Z(\omega)$ for large broadband calculations

Recursive convolution method (PCRC method) for real poles λ_k (Luebbers & Hunsberger, 1992)

$$p^{(n)} = \sum_{k=1}^{S} A_k \phi_k^{(n)}$$
$$\phi_k^{(n)} = v_N^{(n)} \frac{1 - e^{-\lambda_k \Delta t}}{\lambda_k} + \phi_k^{(n-1)} e^{-\lambda_k \Delta t}$$

with
$$p^{(n)} = p(n\Delta t)$$
 and $v_N^{(n)} = v_N(n\Delta t)$

The velocity normal to the ground is given by:

$$v_N = \frac{1}{|\nabla \eta|} \nabla \eta . \mathbf{v}$$

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Experimental setup

Comparison with numerical calculations



Measurements carried out in La Veuve (near Reims) in May 2010:

- topographical account
- in-situ ground impedance measurements
- meteorogical measurements
- acoustical measurements:

5 receivers located at 3 m, 7.5 m, 25 m, 100 m, 200m and 300 m from the centerline of the track

blank pistol shots: 3 shots

Comparisons realized with 2D calculations



Measurement site

Topographical account

Measurement realized along the propagation line

- $\Delta x \simeq 0.1$ m for distances lower than 30 m
- $\Delta x \simeq 4$ m for distances greater than 30 m

Smooth profile terrain obtained with a quadratic spline approximation Implementation with the coordinate transform:

$$\begin{cases} x = \xi, \\ z = \eta + H(\xi), \end{cases}$$



Five different ground surfaces

- ballast bed
- earth
- grassy ground
- asphalt ground
- Iand field

In-situ measurements realized by IFSTTAR



Ground surfaces

Impedance modelling

"Classical" grounds: one-parameter Miki impedance model of a rigidly backed layer

- effective flow resistivity σ_e
- effective thickness e



Asphalt ground: perfectly reflecting surface

Ballast ground:

Porous medium

Hamet & Berengier impedance model:

- porosity $\Omega = 0.6$
- tortosity q = 1.4
- flow resistivity $\sigma_0 = 0.4 \text{ kPa.s.m}^{-2}$
- thickness *e* = 0.68 m



Refraction index close to one \rightarrow Local reaction is a poor assumption

Ballast ground:

Two simulations with different modelling for the ballast bed:



Semi-infinite ground:

 $e = \infty$

Effect of thickness:



e = 0.68 m

Meteorogical measurements

Meteorological mast located at 125 m from the track:

- humidity
- atmospheric pressure
- temperature at 1 m, 3 m and 10 m
- wind amplitude and direction at 1 m, 3 m and 10 m

Monin and Obukhov similarity theory to determine the profiles

Obukhov length: $L \simeq 150$ m characteristic of an unstable atmosphere











Numerical calculations

First numerical calculation: 2D geometry with propagation distances up to 25 m

Spatial mesh size equal to $\Delta x 0.5 \text{ cm} \rightarrow \text{up to} \sim 10\ \text{000 Hz}$

CFL number = $c_0 \Delta t / \Delta x$ set to 0.4

Source: Gaussian pulse



Influence of railway track topography on acoustic propagation of railway noise

Comparison in the time-domain



First arrival: $t \simeq 22$ ms direct wave

Second arrival: $t \simeq 24$ ms wave reflected on the ballast bed

Third arrival: $t \simeq 25$ ms wave reflected on the ground

Others arrivals predicted if the thickness of the ballast bed is taken into account

Comparison in the time-domain





First arrival: $t \simeq 74$ ms direct wave

Second arrival: $t \simeq 78$ ms reflection on the ballast bed

Third arrival: $t \simeq 79$ ms reflection on the ground

Fourth arrival: $t \simeq 84$ ms reflection and diffraction at the gap

Others arrivals predicted if the thickness of the ballast bed is taken into account



Sound level relative to the free field

Good agreement for frequencies lower than 3000 Hz



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Sound level relative to the free field

Good agreement for frequencies lower than 3000 Hz

Better agreement if the ballast is assumed as a semi-infinite ground



Sound level relative to the free field

Good agreement for frequencies lower than 3000 Hz

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Experimental setup





Conclusions:

Numerical model for outdoor sound propagation

Most of phenomena are taken into account

Limitation for locally reacting ground

Good agreement obatined with experimental results for receivers at close distances

Perspectives:

3D calculations are in progress

Coupling between near-field and far-field calculations

Sources in motion

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