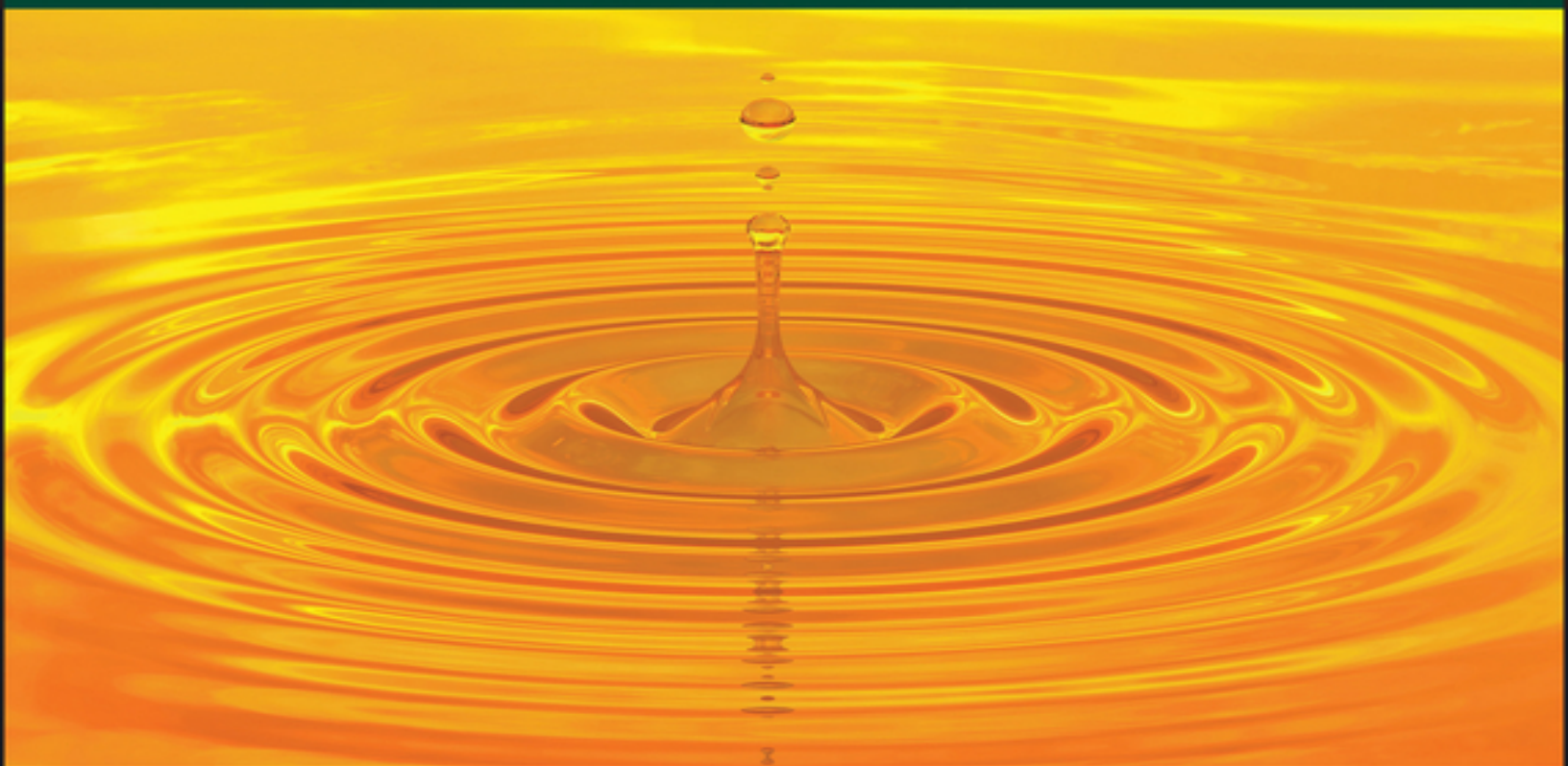


WAVES SERIES

Acoustics of Fluid Media 1

Principles and Applications

Daniel Juvé
Marie-Annick Galland
Vincent Clair



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List of Abbreviations, Acronyms and Symbols

(ρ, φ, z)	cylindrical coordinates
(r, θ, φ)	spherical coordinates
(x_1, x_2, x_3)	Cartesian coordinates
α_m	random incidence absorption coefficient
α_r	energy reflection coefficient
α_t	energy transmission coefficient
β	thermal dilation coefficient
\mathbf{I}	(vector) acoustic intensity
\mathbf{k}	wave vector
M	Mach number
δ	Dirac distribution
γ	adiabatic index
k_s	adiabatic compressibility coefficient
k_T	isothermal compressibility coefficient
λ	wavelength
λ_{th}	thermal conductivity coefficient
μ	dynamic viscosity coefficient
μ_B	volume viscosity coefficient
∇	nabla differential operator
ν	kinematic viscosity coefficient
ω	angular frequency
ϕ	acoustic potential
ρ	density
He	Helmholtz number
Pr	Prandtl number
Re	Reynolds number

σ	diffusion cross-section
$\zeta = Z/Z_0$	reduced acoustic impedance
c_0	speed of sound
c_f	bending wave velocity
c_p	constant pressure specific heat
c_v	constant volume specific heat
E	Young's modulus
E	signal energy
e	acoustic energy density
f	frequency
f_{coin}	coincidence frequency
f_{cr}	critical frequency
G_0	Green's function of the Helmholtz equation in free space
g_0	Green's function of the free-space wave equation
H	Heaviside function
h	specific enthalpy
$H_n^{(2)}$	nth-order Hankel function of the second kind
J_n	nth-order Bessel function of the first kind
k_0	acoustic wavenumber
k_f	bending wavenumber
L_i	acoustic intensity level (dB)
L_p	sound pressure level (dB)
L_w	sound power level (dB)
$p'(t)$	acoustic pressure
$p(f)$	complex amplitude of sound pressure

P_{ref}	reference sound pressure
p_{rms}	r.m.s. value of sound pressure fluctuations
R	ideal gas constant
r	gas constant
R_{pp}	autocorrelation of pressure fluctuations
s	specific entropy
T	power spectral density of pressure fluctuations
T	absolute temperature
t	amplitude transmission coefficient
T_c	temperature in degrees Celsius
T_{60}	reverberation time
$u'(t)$	acoustic velocity fluctuation
$u(f)$	complex amplitude of acoustic velocity
U	flow velocity
V_g	group speed
V_ϕ	phase speed
Y_n	nth-order Bessel function of the second kind
Z	specific acoustic impedance
Z_0	characteristic impedance
Z_{ray}	radiation impedance
Z_s	surface impedance

Preface

This book is based on courses taught by the authors at the École Centrale de Lyon and at the Université de Lyon, both at the undergraduate and graduate levels. It has also benefited from their interactions with the audience of professional training sessions, held in particular at the College de Polytechnique.

The book is intended for undergraduate students and engineering students, as well as graduate students and professionals in industry who are increasingly faced with the need to consider acoustic constraints when developing new products. It is limited to acoustics in fluids, with applications to atmospheric and underwater acoustics.

The book is divided into two volumes. The first is devoted to fundamental elements, the knowledge of which allows for a good mastery of acoustics in fluids. The second is an introduction to more advanced aspects, some of which are the subject of active research and whose status is sometimes still evolving (aeroacoustics, propagation in a moving medium, nonlinear acoustics). Some synthesis problems are also presented, focusing on noise control issues.

Volume 1 consists of 10 chapters plus an appendix of fluid mechanics reminders and a second one with some mathematical elements.

The first two chapters establish the equations of acoustics in homogeneous fluids and describe the properties of plane waves and spherical waves, as fundamental elements in the construction of more general solutions.

[Chapter 3](#) is an interlude in the physical analysis offered throughout the book. It is devoted to elements of signal

processing useful to the acoustician, to the definition of sound levels and decibel scales, and to notions of human sound perception and the characterization of the associated nuisances.

[Chapter 4](#) describes the phenomena of reflection and transmission of plane and spherical waves at the interface between two fluids or between a fluid and a solid. In particular, the transmission of plane waves through a thin wall subjected to bending vibrations is discussed.

In [Chapter 5](#), volume acoustic sources associated with mass, force or heat contributions within the fluid are introduced. The powerful method of Green's functions is then extensively discussed and used.

Integral methods, which complement the local formulations used so far, are introduced in [Chapter 6](#), as well as their application to radiation from vibrating surfaces and diffraction by obstacles.

[Chapter 7](#) describes these diffraction phenomena in more detail with their application to the characterization of the efficiency of sound barriers. This is followed by a description of wave scattering exerted by rigid obstacles, with emphasis on low-frequency (Rayleigh scattering) and high-frequency (geometric limit) behavior. The effect of fluid inclusions of low contrast relative to the surrounding medium is addressed within the framework of the Born approximation.

[Chapters 8](#) and [9](#) deal with guided propagation in ducts, first in the general form using the notion of propagation modes, and then in the low-frequency version of one-dimensional networks. This simplified formulation is very useful for defining acoustic filters such as Helmholtz resonators and passive silencers for selective reduction of sound levels.

[Chapter 10](#) is devoted to the acoustics of confined spaces and applications in room acoustics. The concept of diffuse field and the important notion of reverberation time are introduced, as well as elements for characterizing the acoustic quality of rooms from the point of view of human perception.

Each of these chapters is accompanied by a limited number of exercises, ranging from the simple application of definitions and formulas to problems requiring more advanced theoretical analyses or numerical solutions.

Throughout the book, we have striven to illustrate the theoretical results with many figures obtained from measurements and numerical simulations resulting from the evaluation of complex theoretical formulas or the use of a finite element solver. The purpose of these illustrations is to facilitate the physical interpretation of the phenomena involved by making our own Richard Hamming's aphorism, "The purpose of computing is insight, not numbers". They do not, of course, replace the theoretical developments that allow us to highlight the influence of the most influential parameters. However, theoretical formulations are all too often limited to highly simplified or asymptotic situations. Rather than resorting to too often unintuitive expressions using series of special functions, we have found it preferable, for example, to plot maps of acoustic levels that are much more meaningful.

This aspect distinguishes our work somewhat from the vast existing bibliography. The main works upon which we have relied while writing this book are listed in the references section, which is of course very far from exhaustive. In the text, we sometimes refer to some of these books or articles for additional elements or computational details that we felt it was unnecessary to develop.

We would like to warmly thank all our colleagues at the Acoustic Center of the LMFA at École Centrale de Lyon with whom we have had extensive interactions during our teaching and research activities.

July 2024

1

Equations of Linear Acoustics

In this chapter, we establish the equations that govern the propagation of small-amplitude acoustic waves in fluids under the simplest possible conditions. The fluid is considered as perfect, that is non-viscous and non-heat-conductive. Acoustic disturbances are regarded as small-amplitude perturbations of the ambient state of a time-independent homogeneous fluid at rest. External forces, such as gravity, are not taken into account.

These assumptions may seem very strong, and we will have to relax some of them in later chapters. However, they offer considerable advantages in terms of simplicity, while often remaining unrestrictive in practice. This simplicity makes it possible to emphasize the fundamental properties of acoustic waves, which are generally only slightly modified in more complex situations where, for example, the inhomogeneous nature of the medium will have to be taken into account. They also allow the construction of analytical solutions with very wide applications, which also serve as references for the numerical simulations that become necessary when the geometries of the problems under consideration become complex.

1.1. Validity of the assumptions of linear acoustics and a perfect fluid

It is important to form a first qualitative idea on the legitimacy of the assumptions of a perfect fluid and linearization of fluid dynamics equations by performing order-of-magnitude analyses in a simplified situation. We

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