



AIN SHAMS UNIVERSITY
FACULTY OF ENGINEERING
MECHATRONICS ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

***Modeling of Duct Acoustics in the High Frequency
Range Using Power Method***

A Thesis submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements of the

M.Sc. in Mechanical Engineering

By

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B.Sc., Mechanical Engineering, Mechatronics Section
Ain Shams University, 2009

Supervised by

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Associate Prof. Dr. Wael Akl

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STATEMENT

This thesis is submitted as a partial fulfillment of M.Sc. degree in Mechanical engineering, Faculty of Engineering, Ain Shams University.

The author carried out the work included in this thesis and no part of it has been submitted for a degree or qualification at any other scientific entity.

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Abstract

Duct Networks (e.g. HVAC) should be carefully designed to maintain certain flow rate, acceptable noise levels and minimum pressure drop. To accurately analyze the acoustics in a duct network in the high frequency range, the following mechanisms need to be modeled: The sound power injected into the network by sound sources (e.g. Fans), the flow noise generated in different parts in the network (e.g. junctions), and the noise reduction across different parts of the network. Traditionally, only transmission of sound power with no reflection is considered in standards, e.g., ASHRAE or VDI, for analyzing noise in HVAC systems. A more general approach is considered based on dividing the duct network into two-port elements where each element can be described by a 2×2 scattering matrix. The state variables are taken as the acoustic power flow in the up/downstream directions. Junctions are described by multi-ports depending on the number of elements connected to the junction. A source term is added to each element and junction to handle sound power injection by fans or other aeroacoustic sources. The advantage of this approach is that the same formalism (based on two-port network theory) can be used to analyze low frequency range, flow distribution and pressure drop as well as the high frequency range. The two-port power based formulation was validated against a detailed HVAC example in VDI 2081: Part 2 and a real HVAC system.

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Contents

Chapter 1: Introduction.....	1
1.1. Element Insertion Loss calculation methods.....	3
1.1.1. Finite Element Method	3
1.1.2. Boundary Element Method.....	4
1.1.3. Statistical energy method	5
1.1.4. Source-Path-Receiver model	6
1.1.5. Two-port 1D model	7
1.2. Software of solving acoustics or flow in networks	8
1.2.1. AcousticCalc	8
1.2.2. Trane Acoustics Program	9
1.2.3. MagiCAD	10
1.2.4. DONKEY	11
1.2.5. DOLPHIN.....	12
1.2.6. AFT Fathom	12
1.2.7. Flownex	13
1.2.8. FlowMaster	14
1.2.9. Pipe Flow Expert	15
1.2.10. Pipe-Flo	16
1.2.11. COMSOL Pipe Flow Module	17
1.2.12. SIDLAB	18
1.3. Conclusion	20
Chapter 2: Theoretical Background.....	21
2.1. Description of a two-port	21
2.2. Description of a one-port	23
2.3. Description of a node	25
2.4. Derivation of network equations.....	27
2.5. Sound pressure in room	29
2.6. Breakout noise.....	31
2.6.1. Breakout noise according to VDI 2081.....	31

2.6.2. Breakout noise according to ASHRAE	34
2.7. Indoor Sound Criteria.....	37
Chapter 3: HVAC network elements	39
3.1. One-port elements.....	40
3.1.1. Fan.....	40
3.1.2. Terminal Diffuser.....	46
3.2. Two-port elements	52
3.2.1. Pipe (Circular cross-section).....	52
3.2.2. Duct (Rectangular cross-section)	56
3.2.3. Lined duct.....	58
3.2.4. Diffuser	61
3.2.5. Area Expansion.....	62
3.2.6. Area contraction.....	63
3.2.7. Orifice	64
3.2.8. Bend (Circular cross section).....	66
3.2.9. Bend (Rectangular cross section)	74
3.2.10. Plenum	83
3.2.11. Damper.....	89
3.2.12. Duct silencer.....	93
3.2.13. Lined flexible duct	99
3.3. Branching elements	100
3.3.1. Flow generated noise	101
3.3.2. Attenuation	101
3.3.3. Pressure drop	102
Chapter 4: Case Studies.....	105
4.1. Case 1: VDI 2081 part2.....	105
4.2. Case 2: HVAC system 1	109
4.3. Case3: HVAC system 2	115
Chapter 5: Results and Discussion.....	119
5.1. Case 1.VDI 2081 part2	119
5.2. Case 2: HVAC system 1	120
5.3. Case 3: HVAC system 2	123
Chapter 6: Dissipative Silencer Investigation	127

6.1. Absorbing material models.....	128
6.1.1. Delany-Bazley 1970.....	129
6.1.2. Miki model 1990	130
6.1.3. Komatsu model 2008	130
6.2. Acoustic performance.....	132
6.2.1. Validation of modeling approach.....	133
Chapter 7: Conclusions.....	137
References	139

Chapter 1:

Introduction

Sound generation and propagation inside ducts have been researched for last decades for different applications. The nature of sound propagation inside ducts depends on the acoustic wavelength of the propagated wave with respect to the cross dimensions of the duct. Therefore the frequency range of interest can be divided into three different regions, where each region has its own character and consequently different techniques in modeling and characterization, see Figure 1-1.

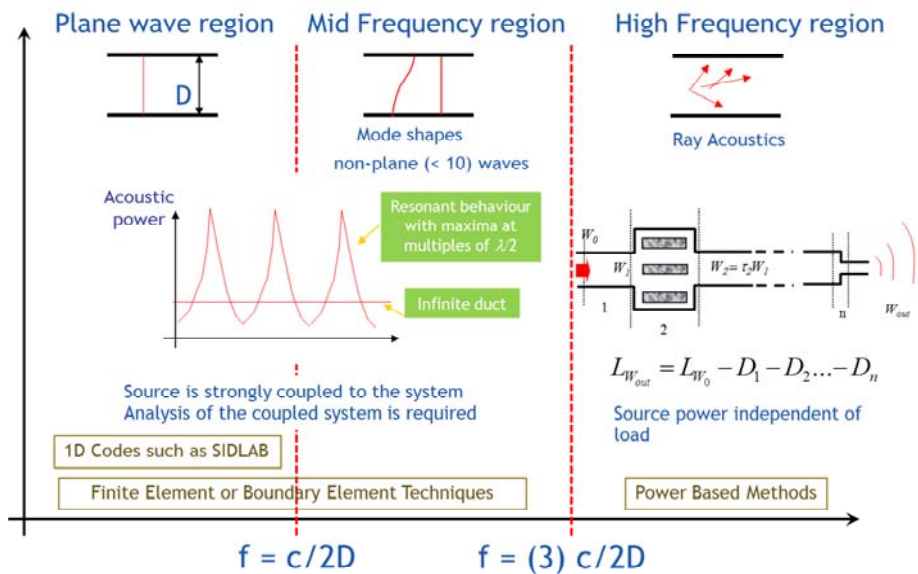


Figure 1-1. Analysis methods used in each frequency range

Low frequency range (plane wave) where frequency below cut-off frequency of plan wave, in this range a source is strongly coupled to a system and the acoustic output power varying strongly to system changes. In this range full modal description of the sound field is needed to capture the response, however because of plan wave exists only in this range 1D model can describe accurately the behavior of the acoustic wave.