



Institut d'Acoustique Graduate School



Acoustic noise in the gravitational wave detector Virgo.

Research actions at LAUM



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Collaborations

- M. Barsuglia (DR CNRS, laboratoire APC, AstroParticules et Cosmologie, UMR CNRS, Paris)
- D.Fiorucci (lecturer, INRC, Italian National Research Council, Consorzio RFX, Padua)
- I. Fiori, M. Tringali, F. Paoletti (EGO, European Gravitational Observatory, Cascina)

LABORATOIRE D'ACOUSTIQUE DE L'UNIVERSITÉ DU MANS



Joint unit CNRS - Le Mans Université

170 people60 faculty (11 CNRS)20 technical staffcommon budgetshared equipment

~500 students in acoustics

3 teams

Material



Transducers

-

1980



Guided waves and structures

2024







Porous absorbing

materials

Laser ultrasonics



Granular materials

Acoustics @LAUM



Acoustic and elastic metamaterials





Ultrasonic characterization



Thermoacoustics

Musical acoustics



Aero-acoustics



Vibro-acoustics



Acoustic transducers



Acoustic micro-systems

LAUM : Research activities in Vibroacoustics

Inverse problems

- Acoustic imaging Near field holography and beam forming
- Source identification
- Identification of effective material properties
- Defaults identification.

Vibroacoustic modelling

- Squeak and rattle noise
- Numerical modelling
- Mechanical junctions

Vibration control

- Periodic structures
- Damping using added granular media
- Microperforated panel
- Gradient of properties (ABH effect)









Acoustic Newtonian Noise (NN)



T. Accadia et al. VIR-0128A-12, 2012

D. Fiorucci et al. Phys. Rev. D, 97, 2018.

Newtonian noise is caused by mass density fluctuation, which is proportional to acoustic pressure

is a fundamental limit for gravitational astronomy as It can not be shielded

 $\delta \rho = \frac{\rho_0}{\gamma p_0} \delta p$

Density fluctuation

Acoustic pressure

Context

- Goal: analysis of the Newtonian noise due to acoustic noise in experimental halls
 - methodology for the modelling
 - estimate of the NN level
 - rules for the design





Array of infrasonic microphones in the WEB

HVAC (heating ventilation and air conditioning) = Main acoustic source

Room acoustic characteristics (TR60, f_s , α)



North End Building





SAS

M. Falxa et al, 2018* => acoustic characterization



$$TR60 = 0.161 \frac{V}{\sum_{i=1}^{n} S_i \alpha_i}$$

$$F_s = 2000 \sqrt{\frac{T_{60}}{V}}^*$$

Room volume

Reverberation time TR60 = 4.7 s

Schroeder frequency

Fs = 50 Hz

 \Rightarrow Modal acoustics if f < 50Hz

Average absorption coefficient **α** = 0.097

*VIR-0673A-18

7

HVAC acoustic source

Source of problems is a reverse blade centrifugal fan located in the technical area







*B. Jiang et al, Journal of Building Engineering, 2023

Complex aeroacoustic behavior => Set of equivalent acoustic pistons

Acoustic field modelling





Simulated acoustic pressure including room absorption at MIC ($\alpha = 10\%$)

• RMS error between simulation and all microphones of the array ~9.8%

Simplifying the model => Monopolar approximation of the inlets/outlets acoustic radiation



HVAC = collection of acoustic monopoles.

Acoustic field resulting from the radiation of the ducts' terminations



Inlets and outlets duct networks

2 models :

- Full model (computationally expensive)
- Simplified model (low cost, easier parametric study)



Simplified and full models versus measurements



Gravity field expanded over a functional basis



Modal basis for $\delta p(\vec{r},\omega)$ / functional basis for $\delta \Phi(\vec{r},\omega)$



Modal basis for $\delta p(\vec{r},\omega)$ / functional basis for $\delta \vec{g}(\vec{r},\omega)$



Estimating the Newtonian noise from the simplified acoustic model

• Impact of the Newtonian noise on the suspended test mass

$$\frac{\Delta L}{L} = -\frac{g_x(\omega)}{L\omega^2}$$



Propositions to limit the Newtonian noise

• Absorption of the experiment hall walls.



Simulating different absorption coefficients throught the damping ξ_n .

• Rotational speed of the fan from the HVAC.



Concluding remarks

- Acoustics in the Virgo Terminal buildings
 - Dominant role of the HVAC (Air Conditionning system)
 - Acoustic pressure field is well described by a modal approach (f<30Hz)
 - In situ measurement validate the modal description.
 - Spectra and also spatial organisation are correctly represented
- Estimate of the newtonian noise from acoustic origin is a direct consequence
 Structure of the gravity field is described using a functional basis.
- Rules for the design
 - Fan rotation speed as low as possible (thermal insulation)
 - Acoustic Absorption could be pertinent but very difficult below 30 Hz
 - Inlets and outlets should be located on acoustic nodes of the first modes
 - Importance of leaks effect at low frequency
 - Locations with minimal NN
- Applications of Acoustic (+vibration !) modelling

Transfer Path analysis - identification of technical noises - Acoustic/vibration budget NN from building vibration origin ?

Scattered light noise ?

PhD of L. Maurin (12/2024- 12 /2027)

Possible application of the methodology to the caverns of ET





