

Nonlinear effects saturating wave amplitude growth in thermoacoustic prime movers : a review.

Guillaume Penelet

Laboratoire d'Acoustique de l'Université du Maine, UMR CNRS 6613
avenue Olivier Messiaen, 72085 Le Mans cedex 9, France
guillaume.penelet@univ-lemans.fr



Nonlinear effects saturating wave amplitude growth in thermoacoustic prime movers : a review **an overview.**

Guillaume Penelet

Laboratoire d'Acoustique de l'Université du Maine, UMR CNRS 6613
avenue Olivier Messiaen, 72085 Le Mans cedex 9, France
guillaume.penelet@univ-lemans.fr



Plan

Introduction, linear theory

Nonlinear saturating processes

Example : the dynamics of a ThermoAcoustic Oscillator above onset

Conclusion

Plan

Introduction, linear theory

- Basic principles

- Basic equations

- Sound amplification, SW vs TW engines

- Examples, advantages, limitations, applications

- Design of thermoacoustic engines

Nonlinear saturating processes

Example : the dynamics of a ThermoAcoustic Oscillator above onset

Conclusion

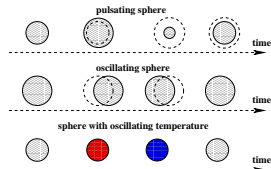
Elementary sources of sound emission, unsteady heat release

- ▶ The *linearized* equations of motion for an *inviscid* and *non-heat-conducting* ideal gas

$$\partial_t \rho' + \rho_0 \operatorname{div} \mathbf{v} = Q(\mathbf{r}, t), \quad Q : \text{mass addition}$$

$$\rho_0 \partial_t \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{grad} p = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{r}, t), \quad \mathbf{f} : \text{force}$$

$$\rho_0 C_p \partial_t \tau - \partial_t p = \dot{q}(\mathbf{r}, t), \quad \dot{q} : \text{Heat release}$$

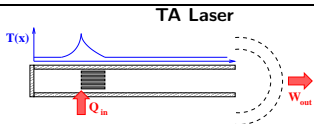


- ▶ The resulting inhomogeneous wave equation (using $p = RT_0 \rho' + R \rho_0 \tau$) is

$$\Delta p - \frac{1}{c_0^2} \partial_{tt}^2 p = -\frac{\partial_t \dot{q}}{T_0 C_p} - \rho_0 \partial_t Q + \operatorname{div} \mathbf{f}$$

- ▶ Contrarily to Q and f , \dot{q} is **difficult to derive in realistic cases** because
 - The heat conductivity of the gas should be considered
 - Generally, $\dot{q} = \dot{q}(p, \mathbf{v})$, which may lead to **self-sustained oscillations** (e.g. Rijke tube etc ...)

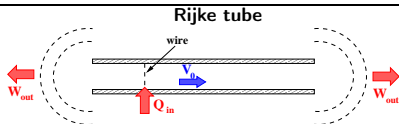
Autonomous thermoacoustic oscillators : two examples



$$\dot{q} = f(d_x T, p, v_x, \text{stack} \dots)$$

★ not acoustically compact

★ Paradigmatic of TA engines
(energetic applications)



$$\dot{q} = f(T_{\text{wire}}, v_x, V_0 \dots)$$

★ acoustically compact

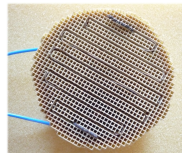
$$(\dot{q} \approx \dot{q}(t)\delta(x - x_{\text{wire}}))$$

★ Paradigmatic of combustion instabilities

Common features

- ★ Autonomous oscillators **driven by heat** (which both fulfill the "Rayleigh criterion" $\int p \dot{q}.dt > 0$)
- ★ **Simple** in terms of geometry, but **complicated** operation **above threshold** ...

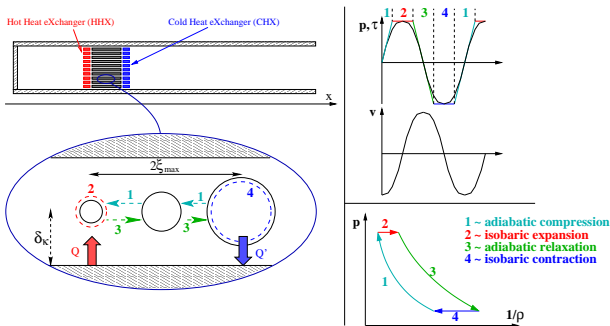
The ThermoAcoustic Laser : a prototypical example



- ▶ Heat input \Rightarrow sound output (**self-sustained** acoustic oscillations at the frequency of the most unstable mode(s))
- ▶ Keywords : heat engine (prime-movers and heat pumps), autonomous oscillator
- ▶ **Paradigmatic** of the challenges that need to be taken up to understand more deeply the processes controlling the operation of TA engines

The TA Laser : a conceptual, very simplified approach . . .

- ★ Simplistic description => Lagrangian approach, follow a gas parcel submitted to a **standing wave** through a channel with an **axial temperature gradient** $d_x T_0$



=> Work production if $|d_x T| \xi_{max} > \tau_{max}$ and $d_x T < 0$

- ★ But actual processes are actually **more complex** (heat exchange occurs continuously)
- ★ A key point : need of an **imperfect thermal contact**
 - => "efficient" gas parcels should be at about δ_κ from the wall, where $\delta_\kappa = \sqrt{2\kappa/\omega}$ is the (frequency-dependent) **thermal boundary layer thickness**
- ★ Threshold of thermoacoustic instability (for a given mode)?
 - => Sound **amplification** must be **larger than losses**

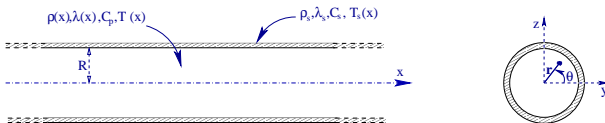
Basic equations (1)

★ **Plane wave** propagation through a **viscous** and **heat-conducting** gas along a duct submitted to a **temperature gradient**.

★ Both the production of **acoustic work** and the “bucket brigade” **heat transport by sound** along the duct are then described by **second-order quantities**.



the “bucket brigade”



Main assumptions

★ **Low amplitudes**

$$P(x, r, t) = P_0(x) + p(x, r, t)$$

$$\rho(x, r, t) = \rho_0(x) + \rho'(x, r, t)$$

$$T(x, r, t) = T_0(x) + \tau(x, r, t)$$

$$\mathbf{v}(x, r, t) \ll c_0$$

$$S(x, r, t) = S_0(x) + s(x, r, t)$$

★ **Typical wavelength $\gg R$**

\Rightarrow planes waves

$$p(x, r, t) = p(x, t)$$

\Rightarrow “boundary layer approximation”

$$|\partial_r \zeta| \gg |\partial_x \zeta|$$

$$(\zeta = p, \rho', \tau, \mathbf{v}, s)$$

★ **No mean flow**

★ **ideal gas**

$$\star \rho_s C_s \gg \rho_0 C_p$$

$$\star \lambda_s \gg \lambda$$

Basic equations (2)

★ From the governing equations (with $\partial_r \gg \partial_x$) and the boundary conditions $\tau|_{r=R} = 0$ and $v_x|_{r=R} = 0$, all variables are expressed in terms of \tilde{p} and $\partial_x \tilde{p}$, and averaged over the duct's cross-section, which leads to :

$$\begin{aligned} \langle \tilde{v}_x \rangle &= \frac{i}{\rho_0 \omega} \partial_x \tilde{p} (1 - f_\nu) \\ \langle \tilde{\tau} \rangle &= \frac{\tilde{p}}{\rho_0 C_p} (1 - f_\kappa) - \frac{d_x T_0}{\rho_0 \omega^2} \partial_x \tilde{p} \left(1 - \frac{\text{Pr} f_\nu - f_\kappa}{\text{Pr} - 1} \right) \\ \langle \tilde{\rho}' \rangle &= \frac{1 + (\gamma - 1) f_\kappa}{c_0^2} \tilde{p} - \frac{d_x T_0}{T_0 \omega^2} \partial_x \tilde{p} \left(1 - \frac{\text{Pr} f_\nu - f_\kappa}{\text{Pr} - 1} \right) \end{aligned}$$

where $\zeta(x, r, t) = \Re \left(\tilde{\zeta}(x, r) e^{i\omega t} \right)$, $\nu = \mu / \rho_0$, $\kappa = \lambda / (\rho_0 C_p)$, $\text{Pr} = \nu / \kappa$, $\gamma = C_p / C_v$ and $f_{\kappa, \nu}$ depends on both $\delta_{\kappa, \nu} / R$ and the waveguide geometry^{1,2}

★ Eliminating $\tilde{\rho}'$, \tilde{v}_x and $\tilde{\tau}$ leads to the thermoacoustic wave equation in the Fourier domain* :

$$\rho_0 \partial_x \left(\frac{1 - f_\nu}{\rho_0} \partial_x \tilde{p} \right) - \frac{f_\kappa - f_\nu}{1 - \text{Pr}} \frac{d_x T_0}{T_0} \partial_x \tilde{p} + \left(\frac{\omega}{c_0} \right)^2 (1 + (\gamma - 1) f_\kappa) \tilde{p} = 0$$

[1] N. Rott, *Adv. Appl. Mech.*, 1980; [2] G.W. Swift, *J. Acoust. Soc. Am.*, 1988.

* For the wave equation in the time domain, see for instance [N. Sugimoto, *J. Fluid. Mech.*, 2010]

Sound amplification

★ From the knowledge of the acoustic variables, it is possible to calculate the time-average second order acoustic power produced (or absorbed) per unit volume w_2 ($[w_2] = \text{W} \cdot \text{m}^{-3}$):

$$w_2 = \partial_x (\overline{p \langle v_x \rangle}).$$

★ After some calculations³,

$$w_2 = w_\kappa + w_\nu + w_{sw} + w_{tw}$$

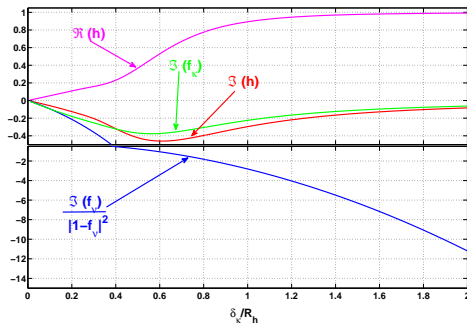
$$w_\kappa = \frac{1}{2} \frac{(\gamma - 1)\omega}{\rho_0 c_0^2} \Im(f_\kappa) |\tilde{p}|^2$$

$$w_\nu = \frac{1}{2} \omega \rho_0 \frac{\Im(f_\nu)}{|1 - f_\nu|^2} |\langle \tilde{v}_x \rangle|^2$$

$$w_{sw} = -\Im(h) \frac{d_x T_0}{T_0} \frac{1}{2} \Im(\tilde{p} \langle \tilde{v}_x^* \rangle)$$

$$w_{tw} = \Re(h) \frac{d_x T_0}{T_0} \frac{1}{2} \Re(\tilde{p} \langle \tilde{v}_x^* \rangle)$$

$$h = \frac{f_\kappa - f_\nu}{(1 - \text{Pr})(1 - f_\nu)}$$



[3] A. Tominaga, *Cryogenics*, 1995.

Heat transport by sound

★ From the knowledge of the acoustic variables, it is also possible to calculate the thermoacoustic heat flux q_2 ($[q_2] = \text{W} \cdot \text{m}^{-2}$) :

$$q_2 = \rho_0 T_0 \overline{(s \langle v_x \rangle)}, \quad s = \frac{C_p}{T_0} \tau - \frac{1}{\rho_0 T_0} p$$

★ After some calculations,

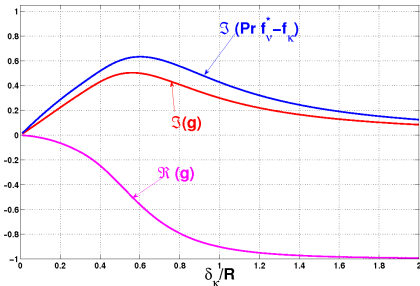
$$q_2 = q_{sw} + q_{tw} + \lambda_{ac} d_x T_0$$

$$q_{sw} = -\Im(g) \frac{1}{2} \Im(\tilde{p} \langle \tilde{v}_x^* \rangle)$$

$$q_{tw} = \Re(g) \frac{1}{2} \Re(\tilde{p} \langle \tilde{v}_x^* \rangle)$$

$$\lambda_{ac} = \frac{\rho_0 C_p}{2\omega(1 - \text{Pr}^2)} \frac{\Im(\text{Pr} f_\nu^* - f_\kappa)}{|1 - f_\nu|^2} |\langle \tilde{v}_x \rangle|^2$$

$$g = \frac{f_\nu^* - f_\kappa}{(1 + \text{Pr})(1 - f_\nu^*)}$$

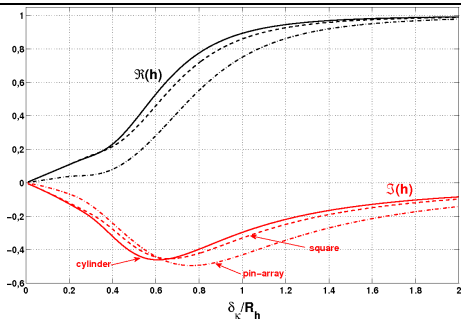
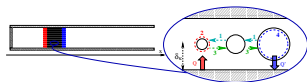


Amplification of a standing wave

$$w_2 = \underbrace{w_\kappa + w_\nu}_{\text{losses}} + \underbrace{w_{sw} + w_{tw}}_{\text{production}}$$

$\propto -\Im(h)$ $\propto \Re(h)$
↖ ↗

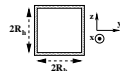
$$h = (f_\kappa - f_\nu) / [(1 - \text{Pr})(1 - f_\nu)]$$



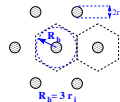
CYLINDER



SQUARE



PIN-ARRAY



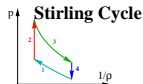
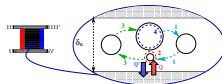
- ★ In case of a **standing wave**, one need $\delta_\kappa \leq R_h$ (stack) and always have $|\Im(h)| < 1$
 \Rightarrow **intrinsic irreversibility**⁴ due to the need of an **imperfect thermal contact**
- ★ But in case of a **travelling wave phasing**, we have $|\Im(h)| \approx 1$ if $\delta_\kappa \geq R_h$
 \Rightarrow a **travelling wave phasing** combined with a **regenerator** ($\delta_\kappa \geq R_h$) should be better!

[4] J. C. Wheatley et al., J. Acoust. Soc. Am., 1983

How to build an intrinsically reversible Thermoacoustic engine?

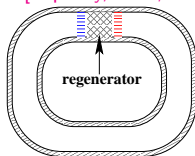
$$\omega_2 = \underbrace{\omega_{\kappa} + \omega_{\nu}}_{\text{losses}} + \underbrace{\omega_{SW} + \omega_{TW}}_{\text{production}}$$

$\propto -\Im(h)$ $\propto \Re(h)$
 losses production



\Rightarrow use a **regenerator** ($\delta_{\kappa} \geq R_h$) and a **travelling wave** phasing between p and v_x

* [Ceperley, JASA, 1979]



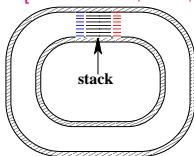
\Rightarrow closed-loop resonator

- $\tilde{p}, \tilde{v}_x \propto e^{-i(kx - \omega t)}$,
- $Z = \frac{\tilde{p}}{\tilde{v}_x} = \rho_0 c_0$
- $f \approx c_0/L$

\Rightarrow does not sing...

because $\omega_{TW} < \omega_{\nu}$

* [Yazaki et al., PRL, 1998]



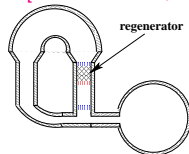
\Rightarrow closed-loop resonator

- $\tilde{p}, \tilde{v}_x \propto e^{-i(kx - \omega t)}$,
- $Z = \frac{\tilde{p}}{\tilde{v}_x} = \rho_0 c_0$
- $f \approx c_0/L$

\Rightarrow does sing...

...but employs a stack

* [Backhaus et al., Nature, 1999]



\Rightarrow acoustic feedback loop

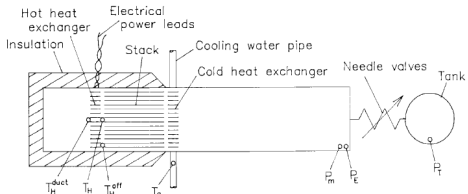
- local TW phasing,
- $Z \gg \rho_0 c_0$ locally
- $f \ll c_0/L$

\Rightarrow does sing...

...quite well

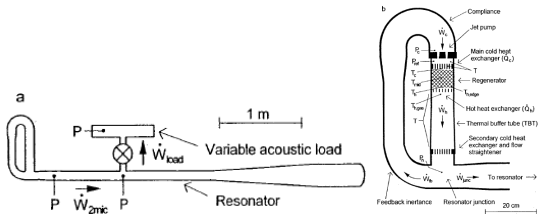
Typical examples (from G.W. Swift and co-workers, LANL, USA)

A Standing wave engine [Swift, JASA, 1992]



- fluid[†] : 13.8 bar Helium
- frequency : 120 Hz
- drive ratio p/P_0 : 6%
- T_H : 1000 K
- W_{load} : 630 W
- Q_H : 7 kW
- $\eta = 0.09$ ($0.13\eta_c$)

A thermoacoustic-Stirling engine [Backhaus & Swift, Nature, 1999]



- fluid[†] : 30 bar Helium
- frequency : 80 Hz
- drive ratio p/P_0 : 6-10%
- T_H : 1000 K
- W_{load} : 710 W
- Q_H : 2.4 kW
- $\eta = 0.3$ ($0.42\eta_c$)

[†] Need a large γ , low Pr , and high P_0 (in 1-bar air at 120 dB_{SPL}, $W_{ac} \approx 10^{-2} \text{W}\cdot\text{m}^{-2} \dots$)

Advantages of TA engines (and heat pumps)

- ★ **Simple**, no or not much moving parts => potential reliability
- ★ Working gas = pressurized inert gas => **harmless**, environmental friendly
- ★ **Good efficiencies** (currently up to 32% in thermo-acoustic conversion for engines⁵), with potential improvements.

Limitations

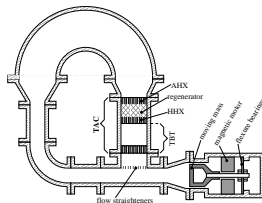
- ★ Moderate output powers => **up to a few kW**
- ★ Good efficiencies => **to be improved**.
- ★ Development limited to a few research labs and start-up companies

Potential applications

- ★ Waste heat recovery, micro-cogeneration
- ★ Thermoacoustically driven pulse-tube refrigeration (cryogeny ...)
- ★ Domestic refrigeration? electronics cooling?

...

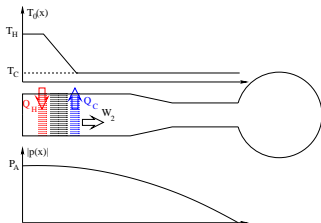
[5] Tijani et al., J. Appl. Phys., 2011; [6] Backhaus et al., Appl. Phys. Lett., 2004.



Sketch of a thermo-acousto-electric generator. Such kind of engine has been demonstrated to achieve a global efficiency of 18 %⁶

Basic principles of design simulation tools

- ★ The basic principles of design tools may be summarized as
 - ▶ A **two-port** modeling of acoustic wave propagation under an assigned $T_0(x)$ through the device, leading to a **characteristic equation**
 - ▶ An **energy balance** under an assigned heat input Q_H , which accounts for the **thermoacoustic heat transport by sound** Q_2 .
- ★ A simplistic illustration would be, for instance, as follows



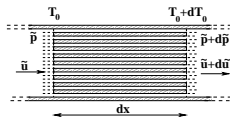
1. Assign Q_H and set $P_A = 0$ (and thus $Q_2 = 0$)
2. Solve heat transfer \Rightarrow get $T_0(x)$
3. Solve acoustics \Rightarrow get spatial distribution $\tilde{p}(x)$ and working frequency f
4. Fix arbitrary amplitude P_A
5. Calculate thermoacoustic heat transport Q_2
6. Solve heat transfer \Rightarrow get $T_0(x)$ (accounting for Q_2)
7. Repeat steps 3-6 until equilibrium, i.e. $Q_H = Q_C + W_2$, with $Q_C = Q_{C_0} + Q_2$.

Two-ports modeling of wave propagation

★ Back to the governing equations, expressed in terms of pressure \tilde{p} and volume velocity $\tilde{u} = S\langle\tilde{v}_x\rangle$ (S : cross-sectional area of the duct)

$$d\tilde{p} = -\frac{i\omega\rho_0 dx}{S} \frac{1}{1-f_\nu} \tilde{u}$$

$$d\tilde{u} = -\frac{i\omega S dx}{\gamma P_0} [1 + (\gamma - 1)f_\kappa] \tilde{p} + \frac{(f_\kappa - f_\nu)}{(1-f_\nu)(1-\sigma)} \frac{dT_0}{T_0} \tilde{u}$$



★ Then make use of [electroacoustic analogy](#)⁷

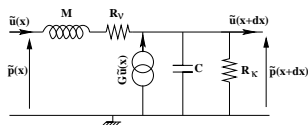
$$d\tilde{p} = -(i\omega M + R_\nu) \tilde{u}$$

$$d\tilde{u} = -(i\omega C + 1/R_\kappa) \tilde{p} + G \tilde{u}$$

$$M = \frac{\rho_0 dx}{S} \frac{1 - \Re(f_\nu)}{|1 - f_\nu|^2} \quad C = \frac{S dx}{\gamma P_0} (1 + (\gamma - 1)\Re(f_\kappa))$$

$$R_\nu = \frac{\omega\rho_0 dx}{S} \frac{\Im(-f_\nu)}{|1 - f_\nu|^2} \quad \frac{1}{R_\kappa} = \frac{\gamma - 1}{\gamma} \frac{\omega S dx \Im(-f_\kappa)}{P_0}$$

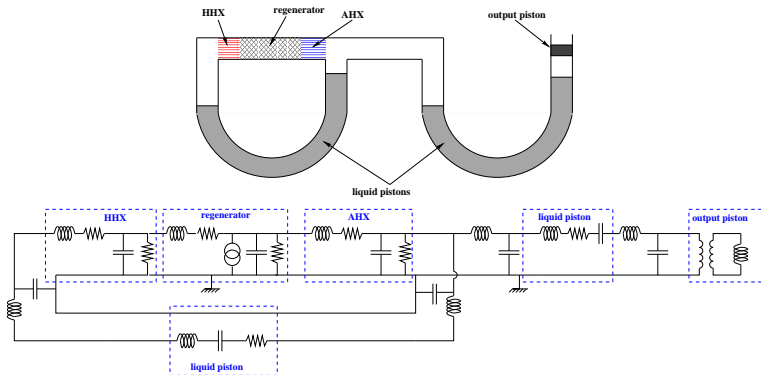
$$G = \frac{f_\kappa - f_\nu}{(1 - f_\nu)(1 - \sigma)} \frac{dT_0}{T_0}$$



[7] G.W. Swift, « Thermoacoustics : a unifying perspective for some engines and refrigerators », 2002.

Two-ports modeling of wave propagation (2)

★ A simple example using **lumped elements** : the fluidyne engine⁸

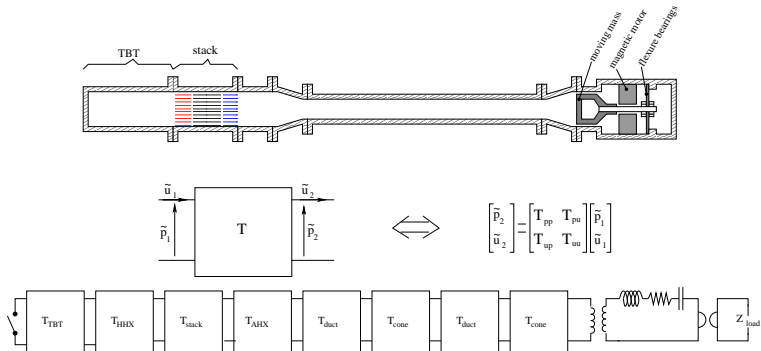


$$M_{liq} = \frac{\rho_{liq} L_{liq}}{S}, \quad R_{liq} = \frac{\omega \rho_{liq} L_{liq}}{S} \Im \left(\frac{-f_{v,liq}}{|1-f_{v,liq}|^2} \right), \quad C_{liq} = \frac{S}{2\rho_{liq}g}$$

[8] C.D. West, *Liquid Piston Stirling Engines*, V. N. Reinhold, New-York, 1983

Two-ports modeling of wave propagation (3)

★ When the lumped elements assumption cannot be retained, use of the T-matrices formalism (see example below)



† T_{TBT} and T_{stack} calculated numerically from the thermoacoustic wave equation . . .

‡ The two-port model, which leads to a characteristic equation, need to be coupled with the energy balance to determine steady-state conditions.

Limitations of the existing design tools

- ★ Up to now, the design of TA engines is always realized from the linear TA theory.
- ★ A famous, free-downloadable software developed at Los Alamos : DELTA-EC⁹
- ★ Efficient tool for design purposes, which works quite-well for the prediction of steady-state operation of Low-Amplitude TA engines

But ...

- ★ These tools are restricted to the **linear** (or weakly nonlinear) regime
- ★ These tools are restricted to a **1-D** description of the phenomena
- ★ They predict performance in **steady-state**
- ★ The user need to be experienced in the field[†]

[9] W.C. Ward et al., J. Acoust. Soc. Am., 1994

[†] « Intuition is required from the start and successful solutions yield intuition », W.C. Ward, Acoustics'08, Paris, 2008

Plan

Introduction, linear theory

Nonlinear saturating processes

- Thermoacoustic heat transport by sound

- Cascade process of higher harmonics generation

- Acoustic streaming

- Aerodynamical and thermal edge effects

- Turbulence

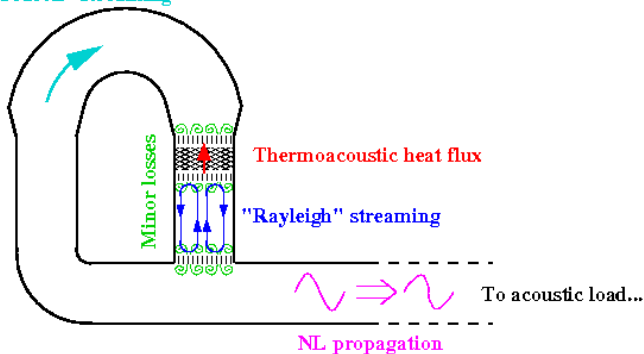
Example : the dynamics of a ThermoAcoustic Oscillator above onset

Conclusion

Autonomous oscillators => nonlinear saturation processes ...

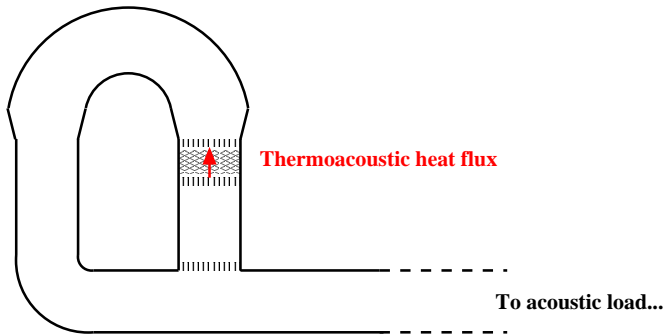
- ★ Thermoacoustic engines = **self-sustained oscillators**
- ★ Most of the **nonlinear** processes controlling wave saturation are **well identified ...**

"Gedeon" streaming



- ★ Some of them are well-predicted by theory (at least for moderate pressure levels) ...
- ★ ...but most of them are poorly described

Heat transport by sound ...



Heat transport by sound ...

- ★ As in any heat engine, work production is accompanied with heat flow from hot to cold ...
- ★ A second-order (and therefore nonlinear) effect which is taken into account in the linear thermoacoustic theory ...
- ★ Its definition is unambiguous (for low amplitudes) :

$$q_2 = \frac{1}{2} \Re \left[\frac{f_\nu^* - f_\kappa}{(1 + \text{Pr})(1 - f_\nu^*)} \tilde{p} \langle \tilde{v}_x^* \rangle \right] + \frac{\rho_0 C_p}{2\omega(1 - \text{Pr}^2)} \Im \left(\text{Pr} f_\nu^* - f_\kappa \right) \frac{|\langle \tilde{v}_x \rangle|^2}{|1 - f_\nu|^2} d_x T_0$$

But ...

- ★ The thermal and viscous functions are only known for simple geometries like parallel plates, circular tubes¹⁰, pin-array¹¹ ...
- ★ Actual stack/regenerators employ more complex materials



mesh grids



NiCr foam



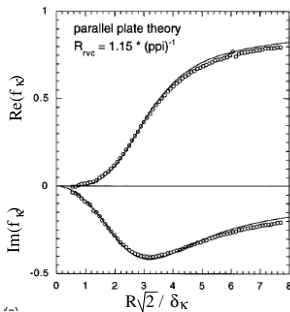
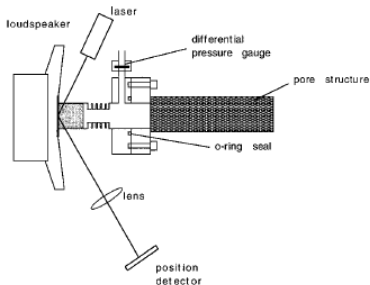
RVC foam

[10] Rott, *Adv. Appl. Mech.*, 1980; [11] Swift et al., *JASA*, 1993.

Determination of $f_{\nu, \kappa}$ for tortuous media ...

- ★ Measure the complex compressibility (related to f_{κ}) of different materials^{13–15}

$$C(\omega) = -\frac{1}{V_0} \frac{\tilde{V}_1(\omega)}{\tilde{P}_1(\omega)}$$

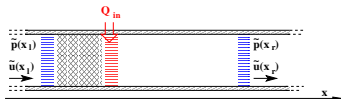


- ★ Other approaches => use results established for steady flow
- ↳ Use experimental data of viscous drag and heat exchange coefficient for steady flow within heat exchangers (e.g. in ref. [16]), and proceed to conversion for oscillating flows¹⁷
 - ↳ Shortcoming => validity of this “quasi-steady” flow assumption ?

[12] Roh et al., JASA, 2007; [13] Hayden et al., JASA, 1997; [14] Wilen, JASA, 2001; [15] Petculescu et al., JASA, 2001; [16] Kays and London, *Compact Heat exchangers*, Mc Graw Hill, NY, 1964; [17] Swift et al., *J. Thermophys. Heat Transf.*, 1996

Digression : description of stack/regenerators...

- ★ The knowledge of $f_{\nu, \kappa}(\omega)$ is
 - ↳ required for the evaluation of both q_2 and w_2 ,
 - ↳ not sufficient, since we need to know the thermophysical properties of the stack



- ★ How to know $T_0(x)$ from Q_{in} ?
=> not trivial (anisotropy ...)
- ★ What about the 1-D assumption ?
Is T_0 uniform through a section ? => no ...

- ★ A solution explored at LAUM : get information from the measured T-matrix of the ThermoAcoustic Core (TAC) under various heating conditions
 - ↳ Measure $T_{TAC}(\omega, Q_{in})$ using a two-load method¹⁸,
 - ↳ Use the experimental T-matrix to design a TA engine that uses the TAC characterized beforehand¹⁹, or to calculate the thermophysical properties if the stack²⁰.

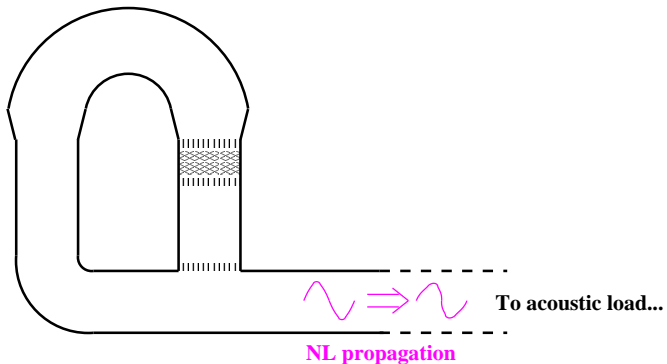
$$\begin{pmatrix} \tilde{p}(x_r) \\ \tilde{u}(x_r) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} T_{pp}(\omega, Q_{in}) & T_{pu}(\omega, Q_{in}) \\ T_{up}(\omega, Q_{in}) & T_{uu}(\omega, Q_{in}) \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{p}(x_l) \\ \tilde{u}(x_l) \end{pmatrix} = T_{TAC}(\omega, Q_{in}) \times \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{p}(x_l) \\ \tilde{u}(x_l) \end{pmatrix}$$

Advantages = "black box" approach, no need to know $f_{\nu, \kappa}$ or T_0

Shortcoming = linear approach, only valid for low amplitudes

[18] M. Guedra et al., JASA, 2011; [19] F.C. Bannwart et al., JASA, 2013; [20] M. Guedra et al., submitted to J. Appl. Therm. Eng., 2013.

Cascade process of higher harmonics generation



Higher harmonics generation : basic concepts (1)

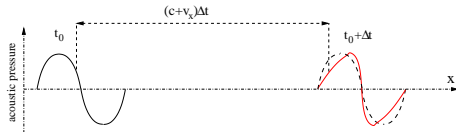
- ★ Starting with the 1-D governing equations in the time domain, without dissipation :

$$\begin{aligned}\rho (\partial_t v_x + v_x \partial_x v_x) &= -\partial_x P \\ \partial_t \rho + \partial_x (\rho v_x) &= 0 \\ P &= K \rho^\gamma\end{aligned}$$

- ★ Assuming $v_x = v_x(p)$, a particular solution analogous to a plane wave travelling along $x \uparrow$ can be found^[21] :

$$\partial_t p + (c + v_x) \partial_x p = 0$$

where $1/c^2 = d_\rho p$.



wave distortion \sim cascade process of **higher harmonics generation**

- ★ Impact on the operation of TA engines ?

- ▶ Increase of viscothermal losses, since $\langle w_{\nu, \kappa} \rangle \propto \sqrt{\omega}$
- ▶ Decrease of thermoacoustic amplification, since δ_{κ} depends on ω
- ▶ An effect which can be promoted if higher harmonics coincide with resonance frequencies of the TA engine ...

[21] A.D. Pierce, *Acoustics*, Acoustical Society of America, NY, 1991

NL acoustics : a brief review

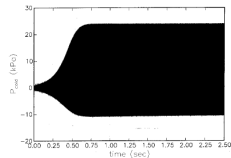
An extensively studied topic . . .

- ★ Discussed in several reference textbooks^{22,23}
- ★ Also studied both analytically (Multiple Scale Method²⁴ , Burgers equation²⁵) and numerically^{26,27} in the frame of thermoacoustics
- ★ Proposal for optimum resonator's shape²⁸ or for active control methods²⁹
- ★ but a **lack of quantitative comparison with experiments**

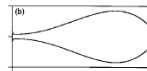
...which however seems not to be predominant in thermoacoustics

- ★ High-power thermoacoustic engines employ **inharmonic** resonators, anyway.
- ★ Waveform distortion may be observed, but no efforts to include NL propagation in design tools (not trivial and too tedious . . .)

[22] Rudenko & Soluyan, consultant bureau, NY, 1977; [23] Hamilton & Blackstock, Ac. Soc. Am., 1998; [24] Karpov et al., JASA, 2000; [25] Gusev et al., Acust. Acta Acust., 2000; [26] Karpov et al., JASA, 2002; [27] Hamilton et al., JASA, 2002; [28] Ilinskii et al., JASA, 2001; [29] Gusev et al., JASA, 1998.



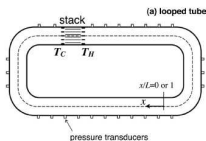
Transient behavior in a SW TA engine under an assigned ΔT , from [26]



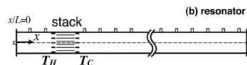
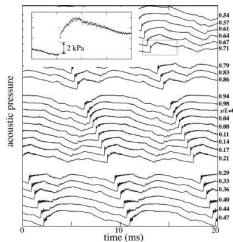
An optimum resonator's shape that maximize the Q of a resonator, from [28]

Higher harmonics generation : shock waves

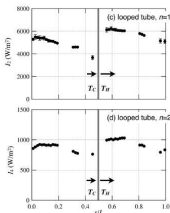
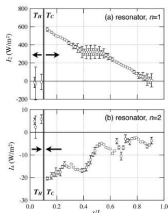
- ★ Still, the study of NL propagation in TA engines is an interesting topic . . .
- ★ Recently, **shock waves** reported in a **closed-loop**, stack based TA engine [Biwa et al., JASA, 2011], and **acoustic intensity measurements** were performed.



TW engine
=> shock wave along $x \uparrow$



SW engine
=> no shock waves

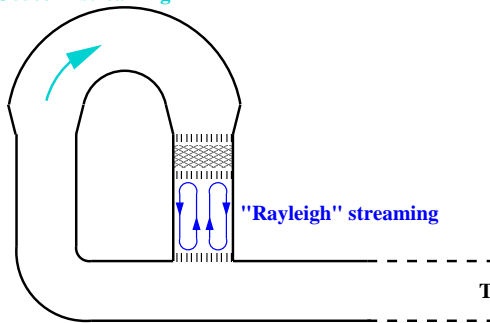


damped SW
vs
amplified TW?

Complex processes
within the TAC?

Acoustic streaming

"Gedeon" streaming



To acoustic load...

Acoustic streaming : basic concepts

★ Start with the Navier-Stokes equation, with $\partial_y \gg \partial_x$, then make successive approximations ($\zeta = \zeta_0 + \zeta_1 + \zeta_2 \dots$) up to second order, and after time averaging, one gets :

$$\nu_0 \partial_{yy}^2 \overline{v_{x2}} = 1/\rho_0 \partial_x \overline{p_2} + \partial_x \left(\overline{v_{x1}^2} \right) + \partial_y \left(\overline{v_{x1} v_{y1}} \right) - \partial_y \left(\overline{v_{1y} v_{x1}} \right)$$

★ A steady velocity $\overline{v_{x2}}$ generated by acoustic oscillations :

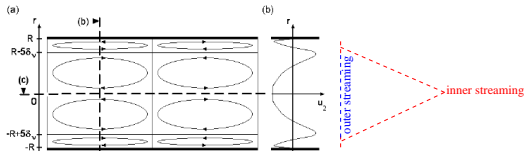
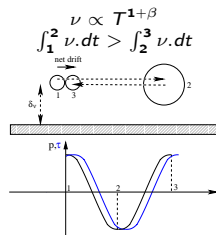
- because of the **convective derivative** :

$$\partial_x \left(\overline{v_{x1}^2} \right) + \partial_y \left(\overline{v_{x1} v_{y1}} \right)$$

- because ν depends on temperature ($\nu = \nu_0(T_0) + \nu_1(\tau)$)

$$\partial_y \left(\overline{\nu_1 \partial_y v_{x1}} \right)$$

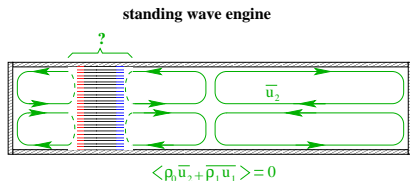
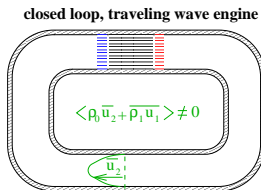
- ...and actually **many other sources** of streaming



Acoustic streaming, theoretical works : a brief review (not exhaustive)

- * Faraday (1831) : first experimental observation
- * Rayleigh (1883) : outer streaming, large ducts ($R \gg \delta_\nu$)
- * Schlichting (1932) : inner streaming
- * Rott (Z.A.M.P., 1974) : outer streaming, large ducts, **thermal effects** ($d_x T_0$, $\mu = \mu(T)$)
- * Gedeon (Cryocoolers, 1997), Gusev (JASA, 2000) : **closed-loop, travelling wave devices**
- * Menguy et al. (JASA, 2000) : **inertia effects** at larger amplitudes (as $Re_{nI} = \sqrt{M/Sh} \approx 1$).
- * Waxler, Bailliet et al. (JASA, 2001) : arbitrary duct radius and thermal effects
- * Since around 2000, many numerical studies

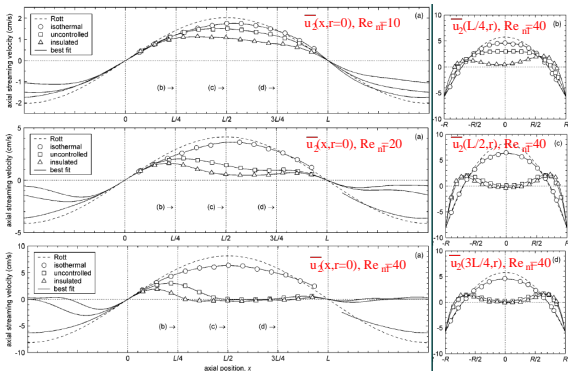
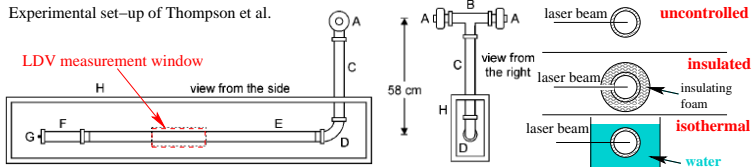
Up to now, many experimental and numerical studies of $\overline{v_2}$ in **empty resonators**, but only a very few in TA engines (even simple ones).



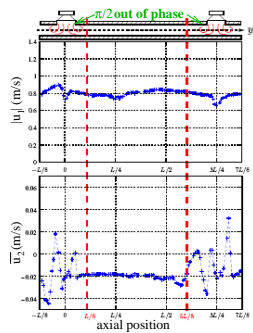
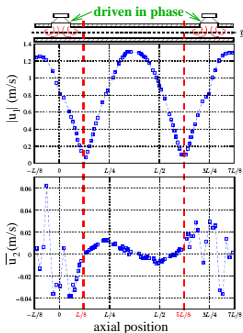
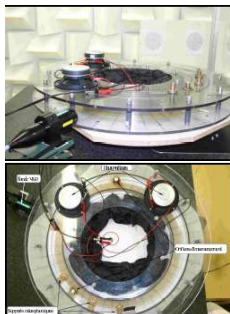
Acoustic streaming in SW resonators

★ Thompson et al. (JASA, 2004) : outer streaming at high Re_{nl} ($Re_{nl} = \sqrt{M/Sh}$, impact of temperature distribution and fluid inertia)

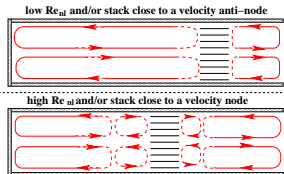
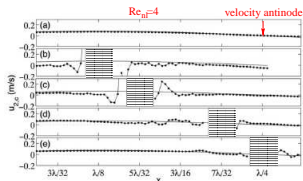
Experimental set-up of Thompson et al.



Acoustic streaming in a closed-loop resonator (Desjoux et al., JASA, 2009)



Acoustic streaming in SW resonators with a stack (Moreau et al., JASA, 2009)



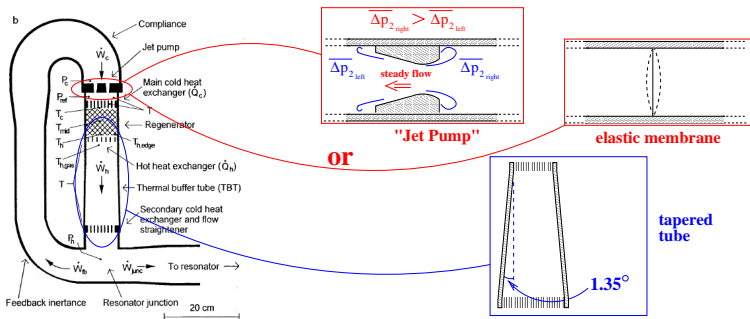
Acoustic streaming from the engineering standpoint

★ Acoustic streaming well-described only in simple devices at low amplitudes .

=> Empirical solutions to remove acoustic streaming

=> "jet pumps"³⁰ (makes $\rho_0 \overline{u_2} + \overline{\rho_1 u_1} = 0$) or membranes³¹ (makes $\overline{u_2} = 0$) to suppress Gedeon streaming

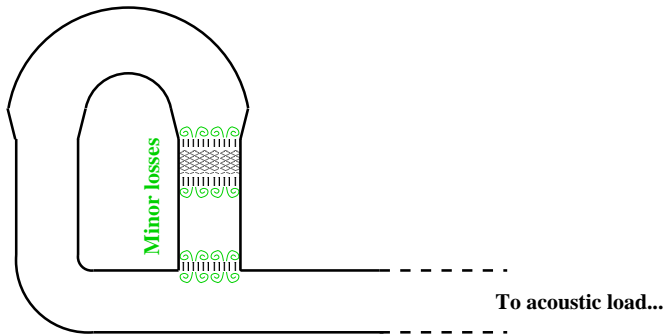
=> "tapered" tube^{30,32} to diminish Rayleigh streaming in the TBT



★ Open questions : Heat transport by $\rho_0 \overline{v_2} + \overline{\rho_1 v_1}$? Is acoustic streaming always undesirable for TA engines?

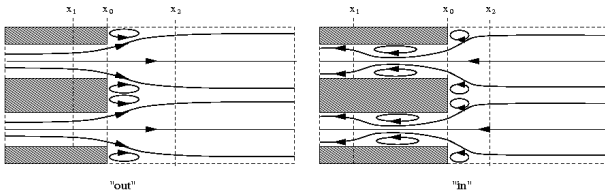
[30] Backhaus et al., JASA, 99 ; [31] Tijani et al, JASA, 2011 ; [32] Olson et al., Cryogenics, 1997

Aerodynamical and thermal edge effects



Basic concepts

- ★ Geometrical singularities \Rightarrow Vorticity and minor losses[‡]



Specificity of acoustic flow ?

- ★ Memory effects ? \Rightarrow are established results for steady flows applicable to oscillating flows (quasi-steady assumption)

Impact on thermoacoustics : only losses or more complex processes ?

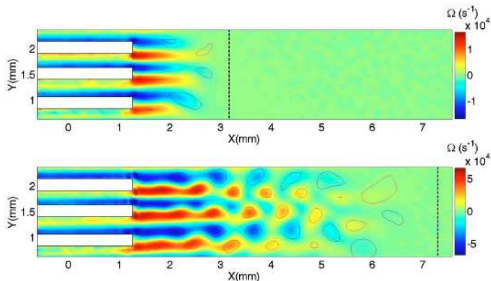
- ★ Not only losses, e.g. effect of vortex shedding in oscillating flow ?
- ★ Temperature oscillations also affected by the singularity

\Rightarrow Impact on the aerodynamical heat exchange between stack and HX ?

[‡] Minor losses does not mean negligible losses

Aerodynamical edge effects : academic studies

- ★ Many computational and experimental studies since around 2000, among which :
 - ↳ Pressure drop³³ or nonlinear acoustic impedance measurements³⁴
 - ↳ Flow visualization^{35–37} compared with numerical modeling^{38,39}
- ★ Main outcomes
 - ↳ Estimated Δp from steady flow (quasi-steady assumption) are in the same order of magnitude than those measured (to be confirmed however . . .)
 - ↳ At high amplitudes, observation of vortex shedding³⁷, possibly responsible for oscillatory heat transfer between stack and HX³⁸

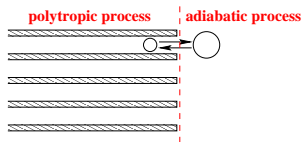


Vorticity field at the edge of a stack, for $p_{ac} = 1000 \text{ Pa}$ and $p_{ac} = 4000 \text{ Pa}$ (from [37])

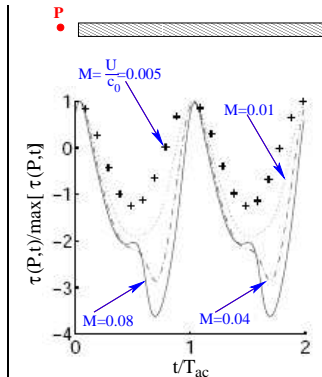
[33] Wakeland et al., JASA, 2004; [34] Petculescu et al., JASA, 2003; [35] Blanc-Benon et al., C.R. Meca. 2003; [36] Berson et al. Heat Mass Transf.,2008; [37] Berson et al.,JASA, 2008; [38] Besnoin et al., Acust. Acta Acust. 2004; [39] Marx et al., JASA, 2003

Thermal edge effects, also

★ Stack termination is also a strong singularity in terms of heat transfer
 $\Rightarrow \tau$ highly NL at the edges of the stack [Gusev et al., JSV, 2000 ; Gusev et al., JASA, 2001]



Abrupt transition in terms of heat transfer when the gas parcel passes through the stack's termination



Computation of temperature fluctuations τ at point P along two acoustic cycles, for various Mach numbers (from [D. Marx, PhD, 2003])

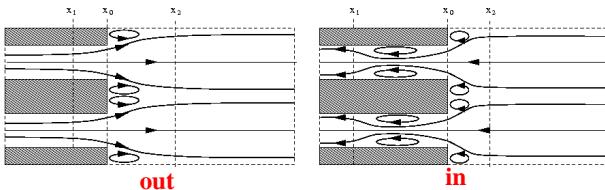
NB : Results also confirmed experimentally using Cold wire Anemometry ([Berson et al., Int. Journ. Heat Mass Transf., 2011])

Aerodynamical and thermal edge effects : open questions

- ★ Impact of vortex shedding and highly NL temperature oscillations on heat transfer between stack and HX?
- ★ Optimum distance between stack and HX (specifically for TA heat pumps)?

Estimate of minor losses (from the engineering standpoint)

=> Evaluation of $\overline{\Delta p}$, and therefore of additional NL losses from the time-averaging of well-known results of fully developed steady flows (e.g. in [Idelchik, handbook of hydraulic resistances, 1986])



$$\omega t \leq \pi, \Delta p_{out}(t) = -\frac{1}{2} K_{out} \rho_0 U^2 \sin(\omega t)$$

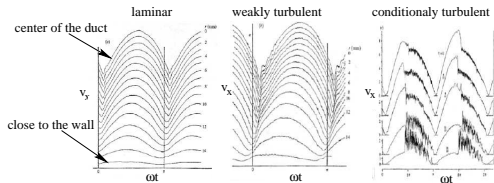
$$\omega t \geq \pi, \Delta p_{in}(t) = \frac{1}{2} K_{in} \rho_0 U^2 \sin(\omega t)$$

$$W_{minor} = \overline{S \Delta p(t) U \sin(\omega t)} \propto U^3$$

Turbulence ?

Specificity of turbulent oscillating (acoustic) flows ?

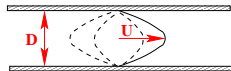
- ★ Extensively studied in steady flows
- ★ Poorly studied in oscillating flows
- ★ Often pointed out as responsible for discrepancies between experience and theory.



- ★ Reference works : Merkli and Thomann⁴⁰ (1975) and a few others⁴¹⁻⁴⁷

- ★ Specificity of turbulent oscillating (acoustic) flows ? => Turbulence and subsequent losses[§] are controlled by 2 dimensionless numbers (vs 1 for steady flows), e.g.

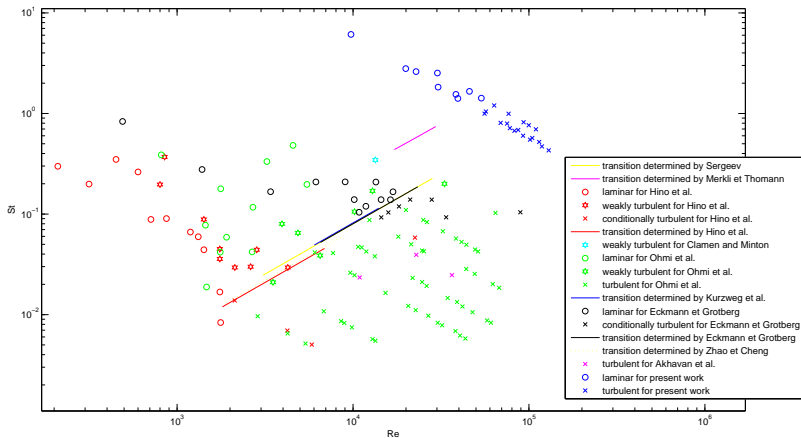
$$St = \frac{\omega D}{U} \quad \& \quad Re = \frac{UD}{\nu}$$



- [40] Merkli & Thomann, JFM, 1975; [41] Sergeev, Fluid Dyn., 1966; [42] Hino et al., JFM, 1976; [43] Ohmi et al., JSME, 1982; [44] Kurzweg et al., Phys. Fluid A, 1989; [45] Eckman et al., JFM, 1991; [46] Zhao et al. Int. J. Heat Fluid Flow, 1996; [47] S. Moreau, Phd, Poitiers, 2006.

[§] Wall's roughness being left apart

Experiments : transition laminar → conditionally turbulent (1)

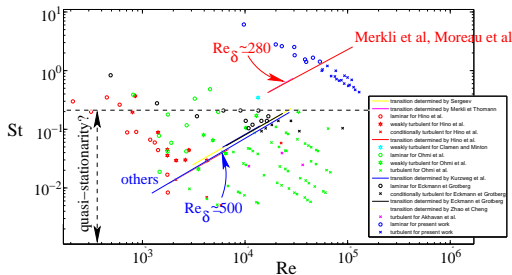


Transition laminar → conditionally turbulent as function of Re and St (from [S. Moreau, Phd, Poitiers, 2006])

Experiments : transition laminar → conditionally turbulent (2)

Authors	year	Fluid	Method	Freq. (Hz)	Ampl. param.	Freq. param.
Sergeev	1966	water	V	0.6-4	Re	$Wo = R\sqrt{\omega/\nu}$
Merkli et al.	1975	air	HW + V	50-150	$Re_\delta = U\delta/\nu$	$Sto = R/\delta$
Hino et al.	1976	air	HW	0.2-8		
Ohmi et al.	1982	air	HW	0.05-6	Re	$\sqrt{\omega'} = R\sqrt{\omega/\delta}$
Kurzweg et al.	1989	water	V	0.6-6	Re_δ	Wo
Eckman et al.	1991	air	HW+LDV	0.1-1.5	Re_δ/Wo	Wo
Zhao et al.	1996	air	HW	0.1-10	x_{max}/D	$D^2\omega/\nu$
Moreau et al.	2006	air	LDV	80-120	Re	Wo

V=visualization, HW=Hot Wire, LDV=Laser Doppler Velocimetry



loss of
quasistationarity?

Compressibility?

Evaluation of losses due to turbulence (DELTA-EC)

⇒ modification of $\langle w_\nu \rangle$ from the time-averaging of well-known results of fully developed steady flows :

- ▶ steady flows

$$\Delta p = f_M \frac{L}{D} \frac{1}{2} \rho_0 \langle v_x \rangle^2$$

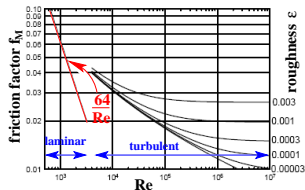
$$\langle w_{\nu, turb} \rangle = \frac{\Delta p \langle v_x \rangle}{L} = \frac{\rho_0 f_M \langle v_x \rangle^3}{2D}$$

- ▶ oscillating flows ($Re(t) = \frac{\langle v_x(t) \rangle D}{\nu}$)

$$\langle w_{\nu, turb} \rangle = \frac{\rho_0 f_M |\langle v_x \rangle|^3}{2D},$$

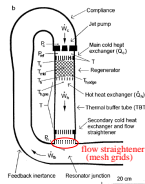
$$f_M(Re(t)) \approx f_M + \frac{df_M}{dRe} (|Re(t)| - Re_{max})$$

where both f_M and $\frac{df_M}{dRe}$ are evaluated at Re_{max} from Moody chart, knowing ϵ and Re (approach considered unsatisfactory by the authors themselves ...)



Avoiding turbulence from the engineering standpoint

- ▶ polish internal surfaces of ducts
- ▶ use of “flow straighteners”



Plan

Introduction, linear theory

Nonlinear saturating processes

Example : the dynamics of a ThermoAcoustic Oscillator above onset

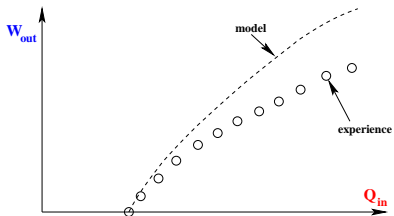
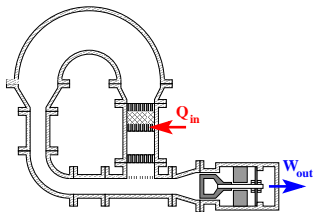
The dynamics of a closed-loop, stack based TAO

The dynamics of a standing-wave TAO

Nonlinear coupling between a TAO and an external sound source

Conclusion

Introduction

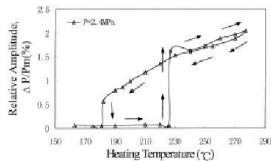
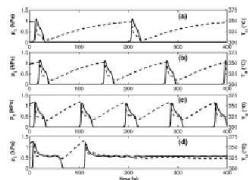
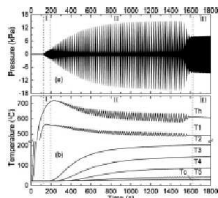


- ★ How to fit experiments and theory? \Rightarrow adjust any poorly known parameter?
- ★ Is it satisfactory? Not at all...
- ★ How to dissociate the role of each NL process?

\Rightarrow study the transient regime

Why studying the dynamics of thermoacoustic oscillators

- ★ Much more information in the transient regime than in steady-state
- ★ TA Oscillators can exhibit complicated dynamics^{48–53}

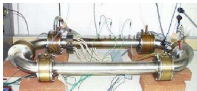
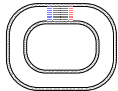
Hysteresis⁵³Switch on/off⁵¹"Fishbone-like instability"⁵⁴

A key point : each of the NL processes operates with its own time-scale.

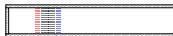
⇒ Back to basics :

Are we able to predict, even qualitatively, the transient regime of wave amplitude growth/saturation in simple thermoacoustic devices?

A closed loop, stacked-based, travelling wave engine

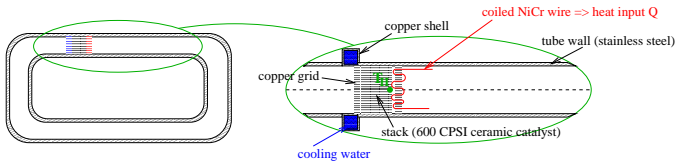


A quarter wavelength, standing wave engine



[48] Penelet et al., *Cryogenics*, 2002; [49] Swift, *JASA*, 1992, [50] Zhou et al., *Cryogenics*, 1998; [51] Penelet et al., *Phys. Let. A*, 2006; [52] Penelet et al., *Int. J. Heat Mass Trans.*, 2012; [53] Chen et al., *Cryogenics*, 1999; [54] Yu et al. *JASA*, 2010.

The dynamics of a closed-loop TAO : experiments



★ Experimental protocol

- b Set $Q = Q_0$ slightly below $Q_{onset} \approx 55W$
- b At $t = t_0$, set Q to $Q_0 + \Delta Q \Rightarrow$ onset.

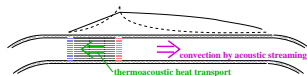
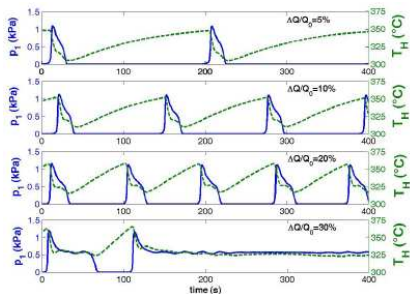
★ Experimental results⁵¹

- b Low ΔQ , periodic switch on/off
- b Larger ΔQ , stabilization after overshoot

NB : $T_H|_{t \rightarrow \infty} < T_H|_{t=0}$

\Rightarrow the details of $T_0(x)$ impacts TA amplification !

\Rightarrow NL effects involving heat transport by sound seem to be predominant !



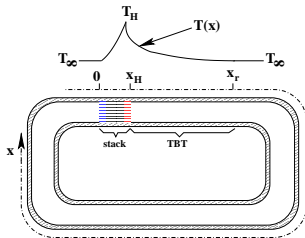
The dynamics of a closed-loop TAO : modeling (1)

* Description of wave amplitude growth/attenuation.

b For a given temperature distribution $T(x)$ through the TAC, each element is described by its T-matrix, leading to a characteristic equation⁵⁵

$$\begin{pmatrix} \tilde{p}(x_r) \\ \tilde{u}(x_r) \end{pmatrix} = M_{stack} \times M_{TBT} \times M_{loop} \times \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{p}(x_r) \\ \tilde{u}(x_r) \end{pmatrix} \\ = \begin{bmatrix} \mathcal{M}_{pp} & \mathcal{M}_{pu} \\ \mathcal{M}_{up} & \mathcal{M}_{uu} \end{bmatrix} \times \begin{pmatrix} \tilde{p}(x_r) \\ \tilde{u}(x_r) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\Rightarrow \det (M_{stack} \times M_{TBT} \times M_{loop} - I_2) = 0$$



$$\Rightarrow f(\omega, T(x)) = 1 + \mathcal{M}_{pp}\mathcal{M}_{uu} - \mathcal{M}_{pu}\mathcal{M}_{up} - (\mathcal{M}_{pp} + \mathcal{M}_{uu}) = 0$$

- b Allow the angular frequency ω to be complex⁵⁶, and find $\omega = \Omega + i\epsilon$ so that $f(\omega, T(x)) = 0$.
 b Quasi-steady state assumption (i.e. $\epsilon \ll \Omega$) :

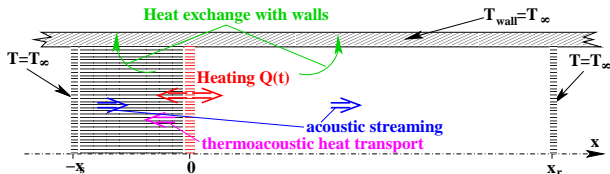
$$\frac{dp_{rms}}{dt}(x_0, t) \approx \epsilon [T(x)] p_{rms}(x_0, t)$$

where $\epsilon = \Im(\omega)$ is the **amplification rate** ($\epsilon > 0$: amplification, $\epsilon < 0$: attenuation)

[55] Penelet et al., *Acust. Acta Acust.*, 2005; [56] Guedra et al., *Acust. Acta Acust.* 2012.

The dynamics of a closed-loop TAO : modeling (1)

* Unsteady heat transfer⁵⁷ (simplified and summarized).



$$\text{Stack } (x < 0) : \quad \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} + \frac{\phi \rho_0 c_p}{\rho_s c_s} \frac{\dot{m}}{\rho_0} \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} = \frac{\lambda_s + \Gamma_\lambda P^2}{\rho_s c_s} \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial x^2} - \gamma^{s \leftarrow w} (T - T_\infty),$$

$$\text{TBT } (x > 0) : \quad \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} + \frac{\dot{m}}{\rho_0} \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} = \kappa_f \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial x^2} - \gamma^{f \leftarrow w} (T - T_\infty),$$

$$\text{HHX } (x=0) : \quad (\lambda_s + \Gamma_\lambda P^2) \left. \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} \right|_{x=0^-} = \lambda_f \left. \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} \right|_{x=0^+} + \frac{Q(t)}{\pi R^2}$$

Delay for streaming :

$$\frac{d\dot{m}}{dt} + \frac{\dot{m}}{\tau_v} = \frac{\Gamma_{str} P^2}{\tau_v}$$

where Γ_λ , Γ_{str} and $\tau_v \approx 0.9s$ are evaluated from refs. [58], [59], and [60], respectively.

Nomenclature

$$\dot{m} = \rho_0 \overline{v_{x2}} + \overline{\rho_1 v_{x1}} \propto P^2$$

$\rho_0 c_p$ (resp. $\rho_s c_s$)

λ_f (resp. λ_s)

P

ϕ

steady mass flow rate due to acoustic streaming

volumetric heat capacity of fluid (resp. of stack)

thermal conductivity of fluid (resp. of stack)

peak amplitude of acoustic pressure at some reference point

porosity of stack

[57] G. Penelet et al., Phys. Rev E, 2005; [58] T. Yazaki, J. Heat Transf., 1983; [59] V. Gusev et al., JASA, 2000; [60] m. Amari et al., Acust. Acta Acust., 2003.

The dynamics of a closed-loop TAO : modeling (2)

* **Modeling of the transient regime : summary.**

Equations describing **unsteady heat transfer** (including heat transport by sound) ...

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} + \frac{\Phi \rho_0 C_p}{\rho_s C_s} \frac{\dot{m}}{\rho_0} \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} &= \frac{\lambda_s + \Gamma_\lambda P^2}{\rho_s C_s} \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial x^2} - \gamma^{s \leftrightarrow w} (T - T_\infty), \\ \frac{\partial T}{\partial t} + \frac{\dot{m}}{\rho_0} \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} &= \kappa_f \frac{\partial^2 T}{\partial x^2} - \gamma^{f \leftrightarrow w} (T - T_\infty), \\ \left(\lambda_s + \Gamma_\lambda P^2 \right) \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} \Big|_{x=0^-} &= \lambda_f \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} \Big|_{x=0^+} + \frac{Q(t)}{\pi R^2} \\ \frac{d\dot{m}}{dt} + \frac{\dot{m}}{\tau_v} &= \frac{\Gamma_{str} P^2}{\tau_v} \end{aligned}$$

...coupled to that describing **wave amplification** ¶ (possibly with additional dissipation due to minor losses) :

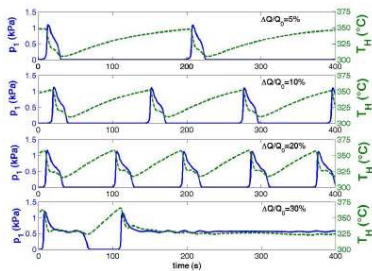
$$\frac{dP}{dt} = \epsilon [T(x, t)] P - \epsilon_{minor} P^2$$

=> Nonlinear set of differential and partial differential equations, solved using a finite difference scheme

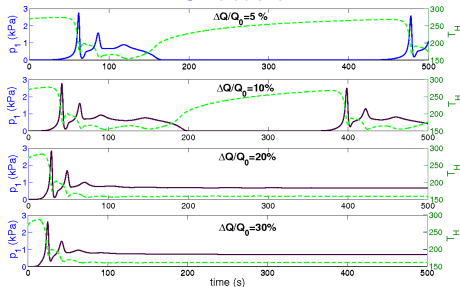
¶ The variations of $T(x)$ being assumed negligible at the time-scale of a few acoustic periods

The dynamics of a closed-loop TAO : Theoretical results (1)

Experiments



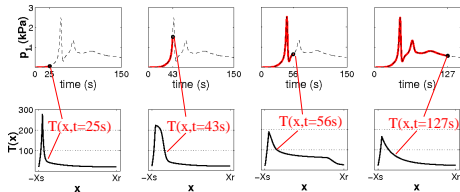
Simulations



⇒ The spontaneous and periodic onset damping is reproduced qualitatively

From the results of simulation this complicated behavior is due to acoustic streaming

The dynamics of a closed-loop TAO : Theoretical results (2)

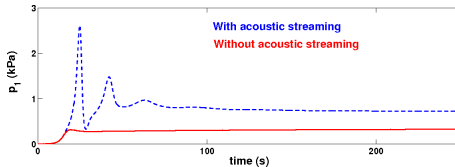


★ $T_H \searrow$ while $P \nearrow \Rightarrow$ the shape of the temperature field, notably in the TBT, strongly impacts TA amplification within the stack

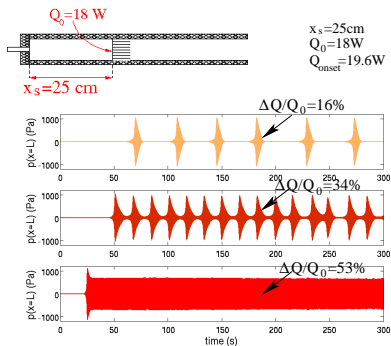
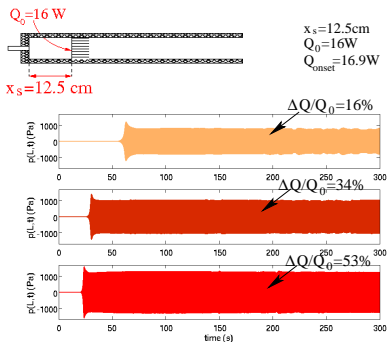
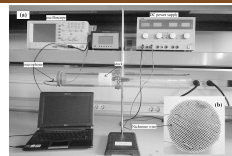
★ Acoustic streaming plays a crucial role.

★ Impact of acoustic streaming? not obvious ...

...does not necessarily lowers the engine's efficiency



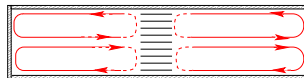
The transient regime of a TA Laser : experiments



=> observation of periodic switch on/off while

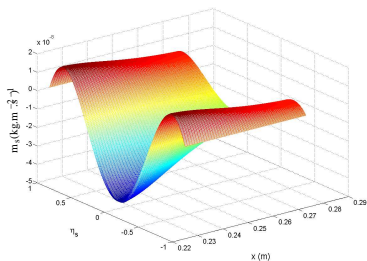
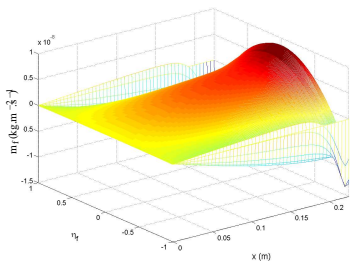
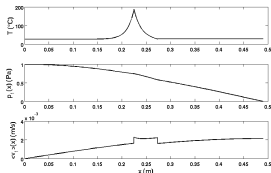
$$\rho_0 \langle \overline{v_{x2}} \rangle + \langle \overline{\rho_1 v_{x1}} \rangle = 0 !!!$$

=> "Rayleigh" streaming ?



The transient regime of a TA Laser : simplistic modeling (1)

- ★ Spatial distribution of acoustic streaming
- ↳ Fix x_s , fix Q_0 to Q_{onset} , and calculate $T(x)$
- ↳ Calculate the spatial distribution of acoustic variables, and set $p_1(x=0) = P = 1$ Pa.
- ↳ Calculate the spatial distribution of the time average mass flow $\dot{m} = \rho_0 \overline{v_{x2}} + \overline{p_1 v_{x1}}$ within the stack and the waveguide



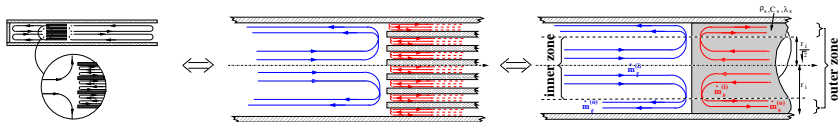
Spatial distributions of \dot{m} within the waveguide (\dot{m}_f , left) and within one channel of the stack (\dot{m}_s , right), for $x_s=22.5$ cm, and $Q_0 = 20.17$ W. (Calculated from [Bailliet et al., JASA, 2001])

★ $\dot{m}_{f,s}$ is 2D \Rightarrow Rough simplifications are needed

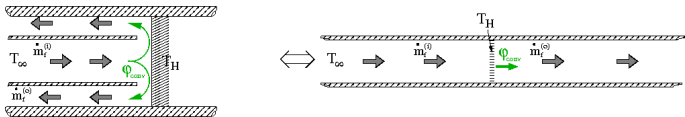
★ Stack & waveguide treated as isolated systems to compute $\dot{m} \Rightarrow$ How is \dot{m} at the interface?

The transient regime of a TA Laser : simplistic modeling (2)

★ Simplistic account of heat convection by acoustic streaming, **without equations**



⇒ Separate the waveguide and stack cross-sections into an **inner zone** with temperature $T^{(i)}$, and an **outer zone** with temperature $T^{(o)}$



⇒ Account for the **heat removed** by acoustic streaming at the **stack's interface**

The transient regime of a TA Laser : simplistic modeling (3)

* Simplistic account of heat convection by acoustic streaming, with equations⁶¹

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Waveguide} \quad x \leq x_s, \quad \frac{\partial T^{(i)}}{\partial t} + \frac{\langle \dot{m}_f \rangle}{2\rho_f} \frac{\partial T^{(i)}}{\partial x} &= \kappa_f \frac{\partial^2 T^{(i)}}{\partial x^2} - \frac{T^{(i)} - T_\infty}{\tau_f}, \\ x \leq x_s, \quad \frac{\partial T^{(o)}}{\partial t} - \frac{\langle \dot{m}_f \rangle}{2\rho_f} \frac{\partial T^{(i)}}{\partial x} &= \kappa_f \frac{\partial^2 T^{(o)}}{\partial x^2} - \frac{T^{(o)} - T_\infty}{\tau_f}, \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Stack} \quad x \geq x_s, \quad \frac{\partial T^{(i)}}{\partial t} - \frac{\Phi \rho_f C_f}{\rho_s C_s} \frac{\langle \dot{m}_s \rangle}{2\rho_f} \frac{\partial T^{(i)}}{\partial x} &= (\kappa_s + \Gamma_\kappa P^2) \frac{\partial^2 T^{(i)}}{\partial x^2} - \frac{T^{(i)} - T_\infty}{\tau_s}, \\ x \geq x_s, \quad \frac{\partial T^{(o)}}{\partial t} + \frac{\Phi \rho_f C_f}{\rho_s C_s} \frac{\langle \dot{m}_s \rangle}{2\rho_f} \frac{\partial T^{(i)}}{\partial x} &= (\kappa_s + \Gamma_\kappa P^2) \frac{\partial^2 T^{(o)}}{\partial x^2} - \frac{T^{(o)} - T_\infty}{\tau_s}, \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Interface} \quad \frac{Q}{\pi r_f^2} = \lambda_f \left. \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} \right|_{x_s^-} - (\lambda_s + \Gamma_\lambda P^2) \left. \frac{\partial T}{\partial x} \right|_{x_s^+} + \frac{C_f}{2} (\langle \dot{m}_f \rangle + \Phi \langle \dot{m}_s \rangle) (T|_{x_s} - T_\infty),$$

$$\text{Amplification} \quad \frac{dP}{dt} = \epsilon \{ T(x, t) \} P,$$

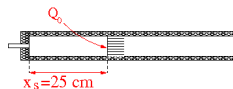
$$\text{Streaming} \quad \frac{\partial \dot{m}_f}{\partial t} = \frac{\Gamma_f P^2}{\theta_f} - \frac{\dot{m}_f}{\theta_f}, \quad \frac{\partial \dot{m}_s}{\partial t} = \frac{\Gamma_s P^2}{\theta_f} - \frac{\dot{m}_s}{\theta_s},$$

- ~ streaming, - ~ TA heat pumping

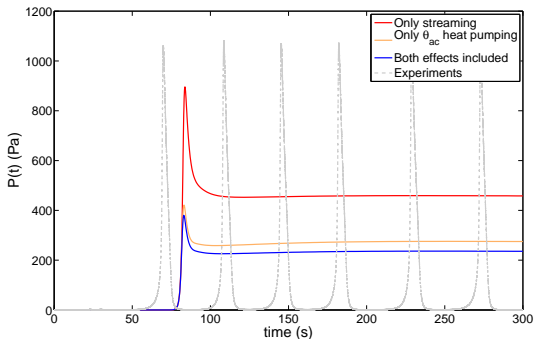
$$\text{with } T(x, t) = \frac{T^{(i)}(x, t) + T^{(o)}(x, t)}{2} \text{ and } T|_{x=0} = T|_{x=x_s+d_s} = T_\infty,$$

[61] Penelet et al., Int. Journ. Heat Mass Transf., 2012

The transient regime of a TA Laser : Theoretical results

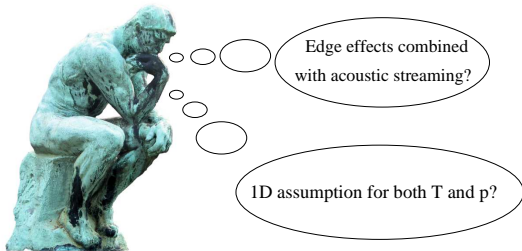


$x_s = 25$ cm, $Q_0 = 19.5$ W, ($Q_{onset} = 21.2$ W), $\Delta Q/Q_0 = 16$ %



The transient regime of a TA Oscillators : the big deal ...

What is the mechanism responsible for the switch on/off process ? ...



...and how can we claim understanding TA engines if we cannot reproduce such an effect ?

The ThermoAcoustic Oscillator as an interesting dynamical system

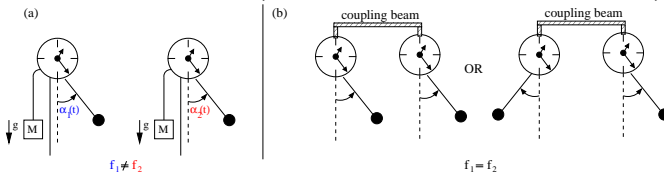
- ★ An autonomous oscillator driven by heat
 - ▶ which is almost **out of control** above threshold
 - ▶ and which exhibits complicated dynamical behaviors (overshoot, “integrate and fire regime”, ...)

- ★ Investigate the **nonlinear coupling between a TAO and an external sound source**, with two objectives
 - ▶ revisit **universal aspects of synchronization**⁶² phenomena in the frame of thermoacoustics (notably for teaching purpose).
 - ▶ investigate the **active control** of TA engine to ↗ their efficiency

[62] A. Pitkovsky, M. Rosenblum, J. Kurths, « **Synchronization : A Universal Concept in Nonlinear Science** », Cambridge University Press, NY, 2001.

Synchronization phenomena

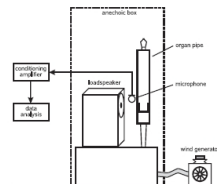
- ★ First observations : **Huygens** (1665, « sympathy of two pendulum clocks »)



- ★ Use or observation of synchronization phenomena are nowadays **abundant**
- ↳ **biology, medicine** (singing crickets, circadian rhythm, cardiac pacemaker ...),
 - ↳ **electronics engineering** (triode generators for radio communications ...),
 - ↳ **mechanics** (clocks, organ pipes ...), **physics/chemistry** (B-Z reaction, ...),
 - ↳ **social life** (clapping audience).

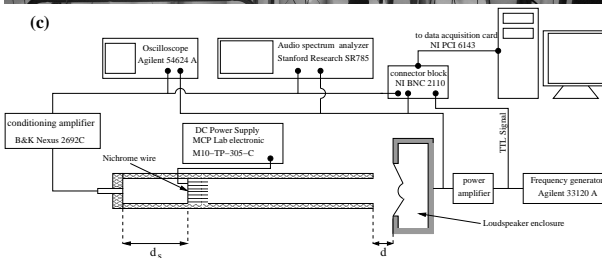
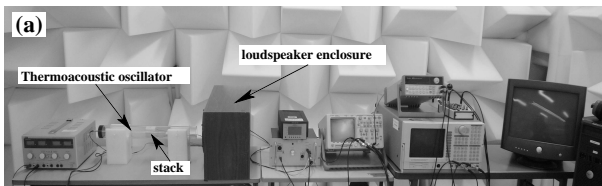
- ★ An example in the field of acoustics : synchronization of organ pipes

- ↳ Former study by **Lord Rayleigh** : mutual synchronization of two organ pipes and the **quenching** effect (oscillation death)
- ↳ ...but even recent studies^{63,64} :



Sketch of the exp. by Abel et al.⁶⁴

[63] Abel et al, *J. Acoust. Soc. Am.* 119 :2467, 2006 ; [64] Abel et al. *Phys. Rev. Let.*, 103 :114301, 2009.

Synchronization of a TAO by an external sound source⁶⁵

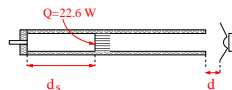
(a) Photograph of the complete experimental set-up. (c) Sketch of the experimental set-up.

[65] Penelet & Biwa, *Am. Journ. Phys.*, 2013

Synchronization by a sound source : experimental protocol

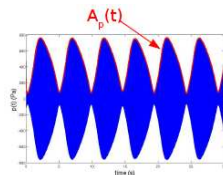
★ Experimental protocol

- ↳ Fix heat power $Q=22.6$ W ($Q > Q_{onset}$)
- ↳ Fix both d and d_s
- ↳ Proceed to measurements^{||} by varying the driving frequency f and the loudspeaker voltage U_{rms}



★ Signal processing

- ↳ Make both FFT and Hilbert transforms of $p(t)$ and $U(t)$
- ↳ Quantities of interest for data analysis :
 - Frequency spectra $p(f)$ and $U(f)$
 - Amplitude modulation $A_p(t)$
 - Instantaneous phase difference $\Psi(t) = \Phi_p(t) - \Phi_U(t)$



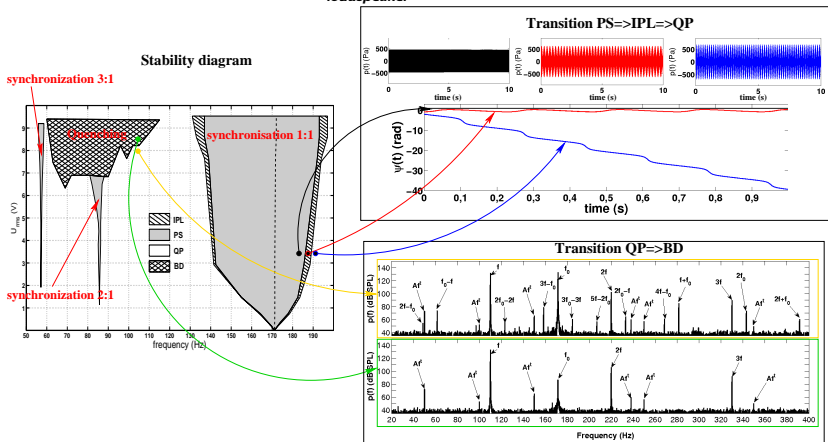
★ Different possible states

(PS)	(IPL)	(QP)	(BD)
Perfect Synchronization	Imperfect Phase Locking	QuasiPeriodicity	Beating Death
$f_{TAO} = f$ (or $f_{TAO} = \frac{f}{n}$)	$f_{TAO} \neq f$ (or $f_{TAO} \neq \frac{f}{n}$)	$f_{TAO} \neq f$ (or $f_{TAO} \neq \frac{f}{n}$)	
$A_p(t) = c^{te}$	$A_p(t) \neq c^{te}$	$A_p(t) \neq c^{te}$	$A_p(t) = c^{te}$
$\Psi(t) = c^{te}$	$\Psi(t) \neq c^{te}$ but bounded	$\Psi(t) \neq c^{te}$ (unbounded)	

^{||} Each set of measurements \sim 12-24 hours of total duration !!

Synchronization by a sound source : the stability diagram

★ Stability diagram as a function of $U_{\text{loudspeaker}}$ and f , for $d=1$ mm, $d_s=8$ cm and $Q=22.6$ W



♣ Some universal aspects of synchronization are retrieved by this experiment

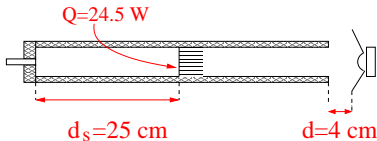
♣ Some aspects are intrinsic to the TAO itself :

⇒ why are the Arnold tongues asymmetric ?

⇒ why does quenching occurs around $f \approx f_{\text{TAO}}/2$?

Other phenomena related to the external forcing of a TAO

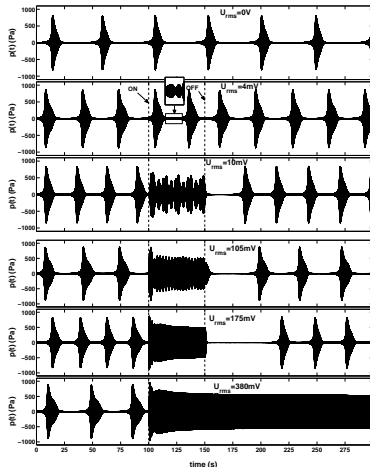
★ What if the TAO is operated as a relaxational oscillator?



Loudspeaker off \Rightarrow "integrate and fire regime", with $f_{TAO} \approx 177.1 \text{ Hz}$

★ Experimental procedure

- 1.- Settle f to 176.9 Hz ($\neq f_{TAO}$)
- 2.- Switch the loudspeaker on at $t=100 \text{ s}$
- 3.- Switch the loudspeaker off at $t=150 \text{ s}$
- 4.- Repeat steps 1-3 with another driving voltage



interpretation? \Rightarrow Simply quenching or more complicated processes?

\Rightarrow does external forcing lead to the transformation of a bistable regime (with periodic switch between two stable states) into a stable one?

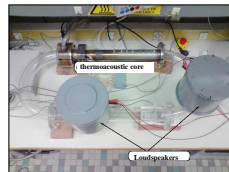
And to conclude . . . what about Active Control of a TAO to increases its efficiency

Basic ideas

- Above threshold (and at fixed heat input Q_0), TA engines are "out of control"
- Is there a possibility to ↗ the efficiency of a TA engine with auxiliary acoustic sources?

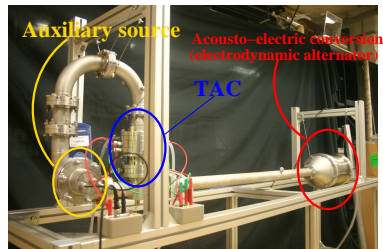
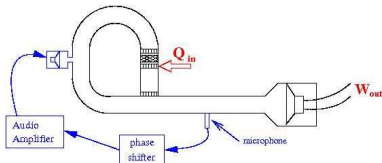
A proof of concept study performed successfully⁶⁶

- Closed-loop, stack based, TA engine
- Active control by 2 sources controlled in both amplitude and phase



A new proof of concept study which is being performed . . .

- Thermo-Acousto-Electric engine
- Active control by 1 source and a feedback loop



. . . see the presentation by C. Olivier et al. to the next workshop !

Plan

Introduction, linear theory

Nonlinear saturating processes

Example : the dynamics of a ThermoAcoustic Oscillator above onset

Conclusion

Conclusion

★ Conclusion of part 1 (linear theory, design tools)

Design tools are available, but

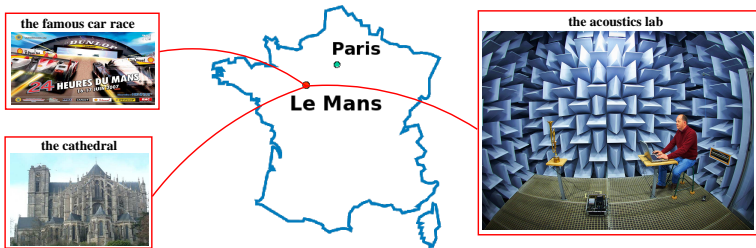
- they are based on the linearization to 1st order of the governing equations,
- they are based on a 1-D description both acoustics and heat transport,
- they predict steady-state operation.

★ Conclusion of part 2 (nonlinear processes)

NL process	Academic understanding	Appropriate modeling	Impact on TA Engines
TA Heat pumping	😊	😊	significant
NL acoustics	😊		not much
Streaming	😊	😞	significant
Edge effects	😊	😊	significant
Turbulence	😞	😞	?

★ Conclusion of part 3 (dynamics of TA Oscillators)

- ↳ Even simplest TA devices exhibits complicated behaviors which are not very well understood
- ↳ The study of the transient regime may provide a deeper physical insight on the mechanisms responsible for sound saturation . . .
- ↳ and may therefore provide new opportunities to increase the engine's efficiencies



Thank you for your attention ...

The thermoacoustics team



Pierrick LOTTON
(Senior Researcher)



Guillaume PENELET
(Associate Professor)



Gaëlle POIGNAND
(Research Engineer)



Côme OLIVIER
(PhD Student)