

A Simple Derivation of the Acoustic Boundary Condition in the Presence of Flow

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In modeling the noise propagation in a duct of a ducted fan engine, the authors needed the boundary condition satisfied by the acoustic pressure on a lined duct wall in the presence of flow. The result in the form used by the authors was derived by M.K. Myers [1] who presented a formal derivation of a related result by K. Taylor [2]. A good review of the subject can be found in reference 3. Here a brief and simple derivation of the acoustic boundary condition of Myers is given. The main difference in the derivation from that in reference [1] is that the Gaussian coordinate system $(q^1, q^2, q^3(q^1, q^2, t))$ is used to specify the instantaneous position, i.e. Lagrangian variable, of the point on the mean position of the wall with curvilinear (Gaussian) coordinates (q^1, q^2) . Myers uses a locally orthogonal coordinate system which is somewhat less specific than what is used here.

One assumes that one has a base or background flow with velocity $\vec{u}_0(\vec{x})$ which is time independent perturbed by a small velocity distribution $\varepsilon\vec{u}_1(\vec{x}, t)$ where $0 < \varepsilon \ll 1$. One also assumes that the wall boundary's mean position S_0 is independent of time and specified by the position vector $\vec{x}_0(q^1, q^2)$ where (q^1, q^2) are the curvilinear (Gaussian) coordinates on the boundary surface. The position of the time dependent boundary S is given by

$$\vec{x}(q^1, q^2, q^3, t) = \vec{x}_0(q^1, q^2) + \varepsilon q^3(q^1, q^2, t) \vec{n}_0(q^1, q^2), \quad (1)$$

where \vec{n}_0 is the local unit normal to S_0 and εq^3 is the distance along the normal \vec{n}_0 from S_0 to S at (q^1, q^2, t) . The fundamental physical requirement at the boundary is

$$(\vec{u}_0 + \varepsilon \vec{u}_1) \cdot \vec{n}_0 = \varepsilon \frac{\partial q^3}{\partial t}. \quad (2)$$

This is the instantaneous equality of the normal fluid velocity and the surface velocity. Note that the symbol ε will be retained for order of magnitude comparison for now.

The left side of equation (2) will now be expanded as follows and equated to the right side:

$$\begin{aligned} & \left[\vec{u}_0(\vec{x}_0 + \varepsilon q^3 \vec{n}_0) + \varepsilon \vec{u}_1(\vec{x}_0 + \varepsilon q^3 \vec{n}_0) \right] \cdot \vec{n}_0 \\ &= \vec{u}_0(\vec{x}_0) \cdot \vec{n}_0 + \varepsilon \left[q^3 \vec{n}_0 \cdot \nabla \vec{u}_0(\vec{x}_0) + \vec{u}_1(\vec{x}_0) \right] \cdot \vec{n}_0 = \varepsilon \frac{\partial q^3}{\partial t}. \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

The equality of the zeroth and first order terms from both sides gives

$$\vec{u}_0(\vec{x}_0) \cdot \vec{n}_0 = 0 \quad (4)$$

and

$$q^3 \vec{n}_0 \cdot \left[\vec{n}_0 \cdot \nabla \vec{u}_0(\vec{x}_0) \right] + \vec{u}_1(\vec{x}_0) \cdot \vec{n}_0 = \frac{\partial q^3}{\partial t}. \quad (5)$$

Equation (4) tells us that the normal velocity based on the mean flow is zero on the mean surface.

Equation (5) can be written as

$$\vec{u}_1(\vec{x}_0) \cdot \vec{n}_0 = \frac{\partial q^3}{\partial t} - q^3 \vec{n}_0 \cdot \left[\vec{n}_0 \cdot \nabla \vec{u}_0(\vec{x}_0) \right]. \quad (6)$$

One now assumes $\varepsilon = 1$ and thus $|\vec{u}_1| \ll |\vec{u}_0|$ and q^3 is the local normal distance between S_0 and S as a function of time. Note that $\partial q^3 / \partial t$ is the local normal velocity of S in terms of the Lagrangian variables (q^1, q^2) . Using Eulerian variables \vec{x}_0 , one can define a new function $g(\vec{x}_0, t)$ such that

$q^3 = g(\vec{x}_0, t)$. Note that since q^3 is the normal distance between S_0 and S , one has $|\nabla g| = 1$. One notes that

$$\frac{\partial q^3}{\partial t}(q^1, q^2) = \frac{\partial g}{\partial t} + \vec{u}_0(\vec{x}_0) \cdot \nabla g. \quad (7)$$

Using this result in equation (6) gives equation (11) of Myers [1]:

$$\vec{u}_1(\vec{x}_0) \cdot \vec{n}_0 = \frac{\partial g}{\partial t} + \vec{u}_0(\vec{x}_0) \cdot \nabla g - g \vec{n}_0 \cdot [\vec{n}_0 \cdot \nabla \vec{u}_0(\vec{x}_0)], \quad (8)$$

which is the condition that the perturbation velocity \vec{u}_1 must satisfy on the mean surface S_0 .

One now derives the liner boundary condition based on equation (8). For a time harmonic disturbance proportional to $e^{i\omega t}$, the complex acoustic pressure p and g are related to each other by the following relation on S_0 :

$$g = -\frac{p}{i\omega Z}, \quad (9)$$

where Z is the complex normal impedance. Using this result in equation (8) gives

$$\vec{u}_1 \cdot \vec{n}_0 = -\frac{p}{Z} - \frac{1}{i\omega} \vec{u}_0 \cdot \nabla \left(\frac{p}{Z} \right) + \frac{p}{i\omega Z} \vec{n}_0 \cdot (\vec{n}_0 \cdot \nabla \vec{u}_0), \quad (10)$$

which is the liner boundary condition, equation (15), in Myers [1]. Equation (10) is implemented in a ducted fan noise prediction code developed for NASA Langley Research Center by the authors [4].

References

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