

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT URBANA-CHAMPAIGN

JOINT SEMINAR

AERONAUTICAL AND ASTRONAUTICAL ENGINEERING  
AND  
THEORETICAL AND APPLIED MECHANICS

"WALL VIBRATION AND BOUNDARY LAYER EFFECTS  
IN WIND INSTRUMENTS"

BY

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Professor Benade has authored numerous articles and several well-known books on musical acoustics, including the text Fundamentals of Musical Acoustics published in 1976, by the Oxford University Press.

3:00 P.M., FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 1981  
314 ALTGELD HALL

RECEPTION AT LEVIS FACULTY CENTER,  
MUSIC ROOM FROM 5:00-7:00

# Wall Vibration and Boundary Layer Effects in Wind Instruments

U of Illinois. 18 Nov 1981 A.H. BENADEF

(I)

## INTRO REMARKS

Transparency 1

## Folk Theorems

(a) Tell about the first flute I ever heard and saw while being made ....  
and 2nd... paper one was failure.

(b) DEMO WITH 2 PLASTIC FLUTES  
cornet rounded + unrounded

(c) Tell a little about reproducibility of data with musical instr. and about room effects.

(d) PLAY the flutes again

Transparency 2

Spectra of  
to two flutes

(II)

(II)

Describe self-sustained osc behavior briefly

SLIDE 1

Water trumpet

SLIDE 2

Single res. break-even

DEMO

with clarinet { (a) Normal  
(b) Single res... chokes up  
(c) normal again

## Cooperation

SLIDE 3

Regeneration Eqns

$$\text{internal Spec } p_n \approx \frac{\Sigma n p_n^n}{1 - A \Sigma n}$$

SLIDE 4

Spectral implications  
internal  $\Rightarrow$  external

Most of the energy produced at low freq., but very little is radiated

(II)

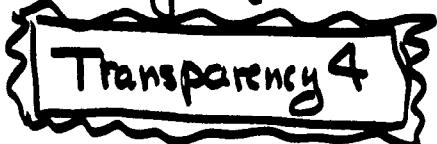
Where does the energy go?

(3)



Refers back to loss of flatness of  
deck in slide?

Thermal losses to the walls are not  
small — but how much does  
change of material affect it?



Thermal effects

What is player's sensitivity? 2%  
change in clamping is detectable

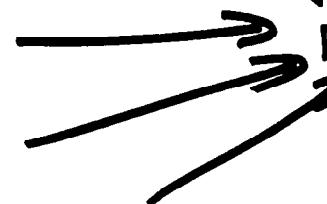
→ In the complete pot of low-level dissipation  
Wood vs Metal only  $\frac{1}{2}$  enough!  
(Less at strong playing levels)

(IV)

But players insist (most can  
tell) diff between wood +  
metal — so can?/  
(Listeners also in many cases)

(4)

Porosity?



Varnish can get thin small  
& players mostly like the result.  
But not always good idea.

Plastic  $\approx$  Wood if varnished

Tell about Alex Murray's question...  
Hot day etc etc

(V)

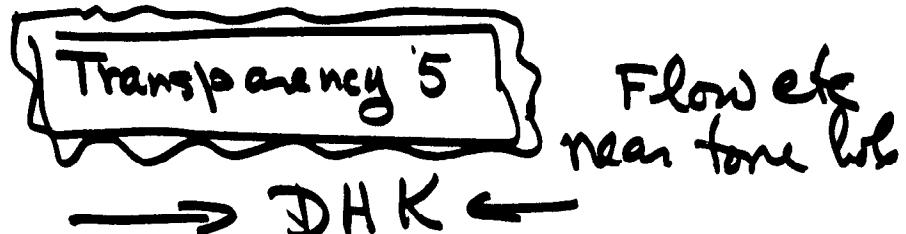
TURBULENCE?? —

Kinematic Visc — Reynolds No

Sharp corners are bad —  
→ Workman & his materials —

(5)

Demo the flutes again + explain  
This time about corners.



Prone ness to complication  
and turbulence

$$\frac{\partial^2 v_{\text{Nex}}}{\partial x \partial y} \text{ etc etc} \rightarrow (V^2/8^2)$$



DEMO DHK's THL's

Comment on flutes -  
etc

(6)

## VI Wall Vibrations

(a) Tell about DCM's expts (1909)  
organ pipe

(b) blow into plastic bottles

(c) Tell about David Shostak's flute

physics principles are useful

some  
more  
etc

etc  
etc  
etc

but  
Conclusion

VII Describe my New Clarinet  
& demo slightly

As time permits

(a) Alignment errors vs damping. (See L11)  
stack for

(b) Radiation from walls { Zink wood  
of brass

(c) Feel in player's hands

(d) disruption etc mech vibral mpr

(e) HT-AHR Resonant mpc expt  
etc & plates

Pyle

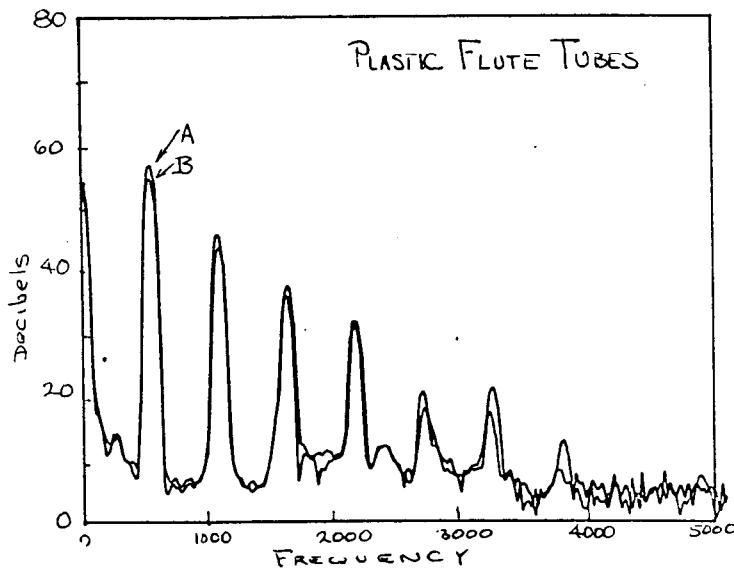
## AN IMPORTANT THEOREM IN PHYSICS

(Invariant under all changes of  
Coordinate System )

Everything works according to FRESHMAN PHYSICS  
Except What it does

### An Illustrative Example

"A table, the more remarkable since it's always discussed, is that the material of which a wind instrument is made, has an influence upon the sound of the same; that this is not so rests upon incontrovertible acoustical laws, about which there should be absolutely no more discussion."



THEOREMS ARE WONDERFUL , (BUT)  
WHAT DOES EXPERIMENT SAY ?

NOTE THE LECTURERS BIAS !  
CASE SCHOOL OF APPLIED SCIENCE  
ETHER DRIFT? NEUTRINO-CATCHING ? MATERIALS AND TONE .

②

①

## WHERE DOES THE ENERGY GO?

### A. At very low playing levels

$$\text{Viscous losses } \left(\frac{dW}{dt}\right)_v = K_v \int_{\text{entire surface of air column}} v^2 dS$$

$$\text{Thermal losses } \left(\frac{dW}{dt}\right)_T = K_T \int_{\text{surface}} p^2 dS$$

$$\text{Porosity losses } \left(\frac{dW}{dt}\right)_p = K_p \int_{\text{surface}} S_p^2 dS$$

Wall vibration losses - (complicated)

(OH YES! Sound Radiation into Room (1/10) percent!)

### B. At medium playing levels

Streaming effects - viscous dissipation via steady circulation in air column (caused by viscosity & nonuniform flows).

Add this to the last in A  
(may quadruple the dissipation.)

### C. At high playing levels

Turbulence at all discontinuities  
also begins

Turbulence even in main air column

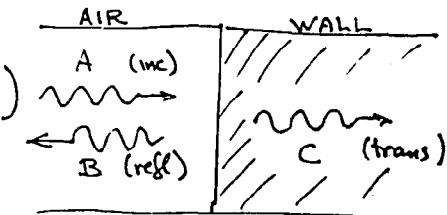
The Player "Hits A Brick Wall."

General Thermal Wave

$$u_{\text{thermal}} = U_0 e^{-x/\delta} \cos(\omega t - x/\lambda)$$

where  $\delta = \text{ye skin depth}$

and  $(1/\delta) = \text{wave number } (2\pi/\lambda)$



$$\text{and } \delta = \sqrt{\frac{2}{\omega}} \sqrt{\frac{\kappa}{\rho C}}$$

At an interface  $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Temp on left} = \text{Temp on right} \\ \text{Heatflow continues across boundary} \end{array} \right.$

$$B = A \left[ \frac{\kappa_{\text{air}} - \kappa_{\text{wall}}}{\kappa_{\text{air}} + \kappa_{\text{wall}}} \right]$$

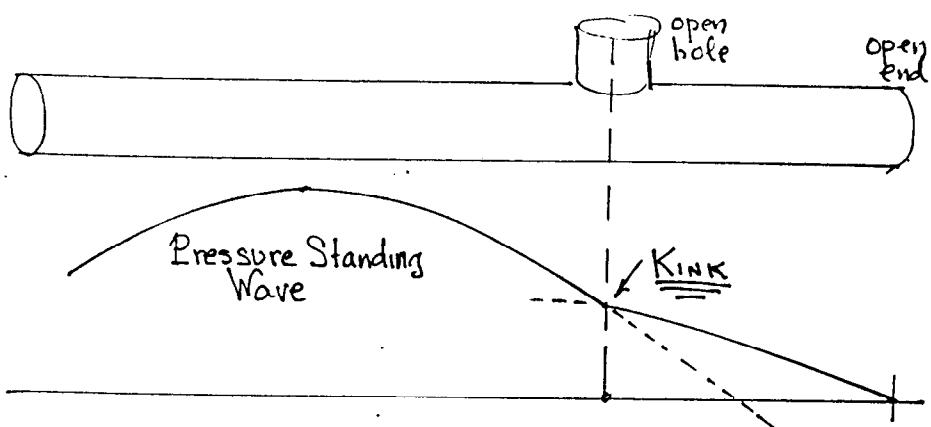
$$C = A \left[ \frac{2 \kappa_{\text{air}}}{\kappa_{\text{air}} + \kappa_{\text{wall}}} \right]$$

$$\text{where } \kappa = \sqrt{\rho C K}$$

If  $\kappa_{\text{wall}} \gg \kappa_{\text{air}}$  there is almost no fluctuation at the interface. i.e. almost perfectly isothermal boundary.

Material	$(C/A)$
Silver	$3.03 \times 10^{-4}$
Copper	$3.10 \times \cdot$
Brass	$5.80 \times \cdot$
Nickel Silver	$9.4 \times \cdot$
Wood	$1 \times 10^{-2} \text{ to } 2.8 \times 10^{-2}$

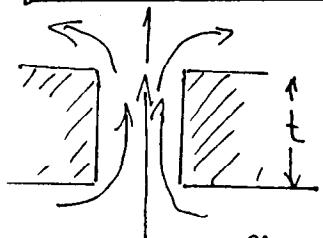
Very Nearly  
Isothermal  
Walls



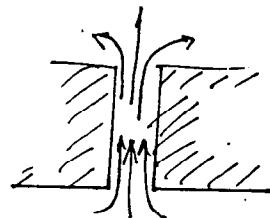
$$\text{Volume flow rate thru hole} = [\text{const}] [\text{Difference in Slopes}]$$

$$\text{Velocity of this flow} = [\text{Const}] \left[ \frac{\text{Flow thru Hole}}{\text{Cross Section of Hole}} \right]$$

Small holes can provoke turbulence



Inner complex flow  
affects outer flow  
pattern



Inner and outer  
complexities  
are  $\approx$  independent

Short wide hole

Long narrow hole

⑤ To do a given job  $\left[ \frac{\text{Length}}{\text{diam}} \right] = \text{Const} \times [\text{diam}] \therefore \text{Big, tall, Best}$  ⑥

