

Approximation formulae for the acoustic radiation impedance of a cylindrical pipe

F. Silva^{a,*}, Ph. Guillemain^a, J. Kergomard^a, B. Mallaroni^a, A.N. Norris^b

^aLaboratoire de Mécanique et d'Acoustique, UPR CNRS 7051, 31 chemin Joseph Aiguier, 13402 Marseille cedex 20, France

^bMechanical and Aerospace Engineering, Rutgers University, Piscataway, NJ 08854-8058, USA

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Abstract

Useful approximation formulae for radiation impedance are given for the reflection coefficients of both infinitely flanged and unflanged rigid-walled cylindrical ducts. The expressions guarantee that simple but necessary physical and mathematical principles are met, like Hermitian symmetry for the reflection coefficient (identical behaviour of positive and negative frequencies) and causality for the impulse response. A non-causal but more accurate expression is also proposed that is suitable for frequency-domain applications. The formulae are obtained by analytical and numerical fitting to reference results from Levine and Schwinger for the unflanged case and extracted from the radiation impedance matrix given by Zorumski for the infinite flanged case.

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1. Introduction and results

The problem of the radiation acoustic impedance of the planar mode in a circular pipe with rigid walls (i.e. with homogeneous Neumann boundary condition) is a classical problem of acoustics. Various detailed calculations for both unflanged and infinitely flanged ducts have already been provided, see, e.g. Refs. [1–4]. In addition, experimental investigations with various flanges have been compared to theoretical and numerical results [5]. There is a need for approximated formulae, such as those given by Refs. [4,6] or [7]. Unfortunately these formulae do not fulfil the conditions for a physically representative model, as for instance the Hermitian property of the reflection coefficient (see, e.g. Ref. [8]):

$$\mathcal{R}(-\omega) = \mathcal{R}^*(\omega), \quad (1)$$

where $*$ means “complex conjugate of”, or the causality of the impulse response of the reflection coefficient, obtained by inverse Fourier transform and denoted by $r(t) = \text{FT}^{-1}(\mathcal{R}(\omega))$, also known as the reflection function. This is essential to ensure that the time-domain signals are real causal quantities.

*Corresponding author. Tel.: +33 4 91 16 40 90; fax: +33 4 91 16 40 12.

E-mail addresses: silva@lma.cnrs-mrs.fr (F. Silva), guillemain@lma.cnrs-mrs.fr (Ph. Guillemain), kergomard@lma.cnrs-mrs.fr (J. Kergomard), mallaroni@lma.cnrs-mrs.fr (B. Mallaroni), norris@rutgers.edu (A.N. Norris).

Table 1

This table summarises the results for the approximate radiation models corresponding to time dependency $\exp(-j\omega t)$.

Model	Unflanged case $\beta = 1/2, \eta = 0.6133$	Flanged case $\beta = 1, \eta = 0.8216$
$\mathcal{R}(\omega) = -\left(1 - \frac{jka}{\alpha}\right)^{-(v+1)},$ $r(t) = -A\left(\frac{ct}{a}\right)^v \exp\left(-\alpha\frac{ct}{a}\right)$	$\alpha = 1.2266$ $v = 0.504$ $A = 1.534\frac{c}{a}$	$\alpha = 0.8216$ $v = 0.350$ $A = 0.861\frac{c}{a}$
$\mathcal{R}(\omega) = -\frac{1 - n_1 jka}{1 - d_1 jka + d_2 (jka)^2}$	$n_1 = 0.167$ $d_1 = 1.393$ $d_2 = 0.457$	$n_1 = 0.182$ $d_1 = 1.825$ $d_2 = 0.649$
$ \mathcal{R} = \frac{1 + a_1(ka)^2}{1 + (\beta + a_1)(ka)^2 + a_2(ka)^4 + a_3(ka)^6},$ $\frac{L}{a} = \eta \frac{1 + b_1(ka)^2}{1 + b_2(ka)^2 + b_3(ka)^4 + b_4(ka)^6},$ Non-causal	$a_1 = 0.800$ $a_2 = 0.266$ $a_3 = 0.0263$ $b_1 = 0.0599$ $b_2 = 0.238$ $b_3 = -0.0153$ $b_4 = 0.00150$	$a_1 = 0.730$ $a_2 = 0.372$ $a_3 = 0.0231$ $b_1 = 0.244$ $b_2 = 0.723$ $b_3 = -0.0198$ $b_4 = 0.00366$

For the opposite convention $\exp(+j\omega t)$, complex conjugation of the expressions is needed.

The aim of this short paper is to provide suitable approximate formulae based on accurate analytical or numerical fitting. Choosing the end of the bore as the reference plane and assuming a time dependence $\exp(-j\omega t)$, the principal results will be expressed in terms of the pressure reflection coefficient $\mathcal{R}(\omega)$:

$$\mathcal{R} = -|\mathcal{R}|e^{2jkL} = \frac{\mathcal{Z}_r - 1}{\mathcal{Z}_r + 1}. \quad (2)$$

The dimensionless (i.e. divided by the characteristic impedance $\rho c/\pi a^2$) radiation impedance \mathcal{Z}_r can then be expressed in terms of \mathcal{R} as follows:

$$\mathcal{Z}_r = \frac{1 + \mathcal{R}}{1 - \mathcal{R}} = -j \tan\left(kL - j\frac{1}{2} \ln |\mathcal{R}|\right). \quad (3)$$

$k = \omega/c$ and L denote the acoustic wavenumber and the end correction due to radiation, respectively.

Section 2 describes how reference values were calculated. The requirements are discussed in Section 3. The approximate formulae are presented together with numerical results in Section 4. Table 1 summarises the various formulae in the frequency and time-domains.

2. Calculation of the reference values

2.1. Unflanged case

Air vibrations in a rigid cylindrical pipe of negligible wall thickness and radius a propagate into free space through a circular sharp-edged opening. Nonlinear effects like shock wave, vortex shedding, or mean axial flow are not considered. Using the Wiener–Hopf technique, Levine and Schwinger [1] obtained an integral formulation of the reflection coefficient $\mathcal{R}(ka)$ for the planar mode, for frequencies below the cutoff frequency of the first non-planar axisymmetric mode. We performed numerical evaluations of Eq. (V.16) of Ref. [1] using the `quadv` function from `Matlab` [9]. The values obtained were compared to the asymptotic approximations given by Eqs. (VII.1) and (VII.2) of Ref. [1], with a maximum deviation compatible with the value of 3% mentioned in that paper.

2.2. Flanged case

The reflection coefficient for an infinitely flanged pipe has been calculated by Nomura et al. [2] using Weber–Schafheitlin integrals and by Norris and Sheng [4] using modal expansion of the duct pressure field and a Green’s function representation. The latter results in a modal sum for the planar mode reflection coefficient, each coefficient having a complex integral expression.

It is also possible to derive the radiation impedance for the planar mode from the radiation impedance matrix written as in Ref. [10], considering only the modes being symmetrical about the axis of the pipe. The pressure and the velocity fields at the end of the bore are expressed in terms of the duct modes:

$$P(\mathbf{r}, k) = \rho c^2 \sum_{n \geq 0} P_n \psi_n(\mathbf{r}, k) \quad \text{and} \quad V(\mathbf{r}, k) = c \sum_{n \geq 0} V_n \psi_n(\mathbf{r}, k) \quad (4)$$

with ρ the mean air density, and c the sound velocity in the free space, respectively. The dimensionless coefficients P_n and V_n are linked by $\mathbf{P} = \mathbf{Z}\mathbf{V}$ with

$$\mathbf{Z}_{n,m} = \frac{(jk)^3}{2\pi} \int \int_{\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}'} \frac{e^{jk|\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{r}'|}}{2\pi|\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{r}'|} \psi_n(\mathbf{r}, k) \psi_m(\mathbf{r}', k) dS(\mathbf{r}) dS(\mathbf{r}') \quad \forall n, m \in [0, N], \quad (5)$$

where the $\psi_n(\mathbf{r})$ are the normalised Bessel basis functions in the duct as in Eq. (8) of Ref. [10]:

$$\psi_n(\mathbf{r}, k) = \frac{\sqrt{2} J_0(j_n r/a)}{ka |J_0(j_n)|}, \quad (6)$$

j_n being the n th zero of the Bessel function J_1 . Computation of the impedance matrix has been performed using Eq. (24) of Ref. [10], giving results equal to the ones given by formulation given by Eq. (13) of Ref. [4].

The vectors \mathbf{P} and \mathbf{V} and the matrix \mathbf{Z} are then decomposed into blocks, separating planar and non-planar evanescent components of the pressure and the flow fields:

$$\begin{bmatrix} P_0 \\ \mathbf{P}' \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} z_{00} & \mathbf{z}^T \\ \mathbf{z} & \mathbf{Z}' \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} V_0 \\ \mathbf{V}' \end{bmatrix}, \quad (7)$$

where z_{00} is the dimensionless radiation impedance of a circular piston and \mathbf{z} gives the coefficients of the higher-order modes for an incident plane velocity field $\mathbf{V}(\mathbf{r}) = V_0$. Provided that the non-planar modes do not propagate, i.e. $ka < j_1 \simeq 3.832$, and that the upstream bore is sufficiently long so that the evanescent modes do not meet a reflective obstacle in the duct, the following relation links the non-planar components:

$$\mathbf{P}' = -\mathbf{Z}'_c \mathbf{V}', \quad (8)$$

where \mathbf{Z}'_c is the diagonal matrix of the dimensionless characteristic impedances $\mathbf{Z}'_{c,n} = k/k_n$, with $k_n a = j\sqrt{j_n^2 - (ka)^2}$ the wavenumber of evanescent modes. Consequently, planar components of pressure and flow are such that

$$P_0 = z_{00} V_0 + \mathbf{z}^T \mathbf{V}' = (z_{00} - \mathbf{z}^T (\mathbf{Z}' + \mathbf{Z}'_c)^{-1} \mathbf{z}) V_0 = \mathcal{Z}_r V_0. \quad (9)$$

This expression showing the influence of evanescent non-planar modes present at the opening on the effective plane radiation impedance. The reflection coefficient for the planar mode is then obtained by means of Eq. (2). Fig. 1 shows the effects of the flange (dashed vs solid lines) and of the production of higher components at the end of the bore (solid vs dash-dotted lines).

The numerical method described here has been compared to the first coefficient R_{000} of the generalised reflection coefficient given by Zorumski (Eq. (32) of Ref. [10]) and to the method given by Norris (Eqs. (11) and (14)) of Ref. [4] where the α_{mm} coefficients can be deduced from the radiation impedance matrix. Results are in very good agreement, with relative error less than 10^{-6} . Convergence of the calculations with respect to the number of higher order modes taken into account appeared to be significant for 10 modes. Matrix calculations were done using LAPACK [11], a standard linear algebra library.

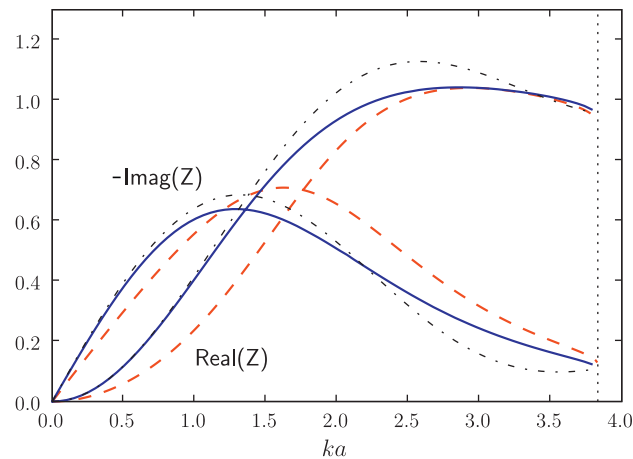


Fig. 1. Real and imaginary parts of the radiation impedances of the circular piston set in an infinite plane baffle (z_{00} , dash-dotted curves) and of the planar mode of a cylinder in the flanged (\mathcal{Z}_r , solid curves) and unflanged cases (dashed lines).

3. Model requirements

Norris and Sheng (see Eq. (27) of Ref. [4]) attempted to provide simple accurate formulae for $|\mathcal{R}|$ with a rational function. But a non-negligible drawback of these formulae (and of other low-frequency approximations, see, e.g. Refs. [6,7]) is that they are not Hermitian, i.e. the property $\mathcal{R}(-\omega) = \mathcal{R}(\omega)^*$ is not satisfied, and cannot be used for both positive and negative frequency-domains. Another point is that it was not possible to estimate a time-domain reflection function $r(t)$ because the approximated formulae were not applicable for higher frequencies (the expression for the modulus $|\mathcal{R}(\omega)|$ become negative when ω increases). In this section the complete set of requirements on $\mathcal{R}(\omega)$ is addressed.

3.1. Low frequency behaviour of the reflection coefficient

The first requirement on the reflection coefficient is satisfaction of the following asymptotic forms in the low frequency-domain:

$$|\mathcal{R}|(\omega \rightarrow 0) = 1 - \beta(ka)^2 + o(ka)^2 \quad \text{with } \beta = \begin{cases} 1/2 & \text{for the unflanged case,} \\ 1 & \text{for the flanged case,} \end{cases} \quad (10)$$

using the *little-o notation*. In the case of the baffled circular piston, the truncated part of the expansion is known to grow as $(ka)^4$, but is more complicated in the unflanged case. Concerning the length correction as defined in Eq. (2), it becomes

$$\frac{L}{a}(\omega \rightarrow 0) = \eta = \begin{cases} 0.6133 & \text{for the unflanged case,} \\ 0.8216 & \text{for the flanged case,} \end{cases} \quad (11)$$

these static values being the ones given by Refs. [1,4].

3.2. Impulse response

In order to enable the use of a time-domain reflection function, the condition for inverse Fourier transform existence has to be fulfilled. First of all, $|\mathcal{R}(\omega)|$ has to tend to zero at high frequencies. The impulse response $r(t)$ must also be a real quantity, which is guaranteed by the Hermitian property in the frequency-domain (see, e.g. Eq. (1)).

Another physics-driven requirement is that the impulse response should be causal. The Kramers–Kronig relations [12] provide a means to express this requirement in the frequency-domain. Another method is to

study the placement of the poles of the reflection coefficient. Using the time dependence $\exp(-j\omega t)$, the poles have to be located in the complex half-plane $\text{Im}(\omega) < 0$ (see, e.g. Ref. [8], with the opposite time dependence convention); otherwise anticausal components appear in the inverse Fourier transform. However, it is not possible to calculate a time-domain impulse response based on the equations described in the previous section as this computation requires the knowledge of $\mathcal{R}(\omega)$ on the full frequency range. As a practical alternative, we aim to provide approximations having an extended domain of validity in both frequency and time.

We notice that if the reflection coefficient is causal, the input impedance is causal as well, because the modulus of $\mathcal{R}(\omega)$ is less than unity. Expanding $(1 - \mathcal{R})^{-1}$ in Eq. (3) in the form of $1 + \mathcal{R} + \mathcal{R}^2 + \dots$, the inverse Fourier transform of \mathcal{Z}_r is expressed as an infinite series of terms involving convolution products of causal functions, thus the result is a causal function. A physical interpretation in terms of successive reflections is classical. This reasoning cannot be done in a reciprocal manner using Eq. (2), since the modulus of the dimensionless impedance can be large.

4. Approximate formulae and results

Two models are presented in this section. Both models satisfy the requirements mentioned in Section 3: they are causal in the time-domain and satisfy the Hermitian property and the desired low-frequency behaviour in the frequency-domain. In particular they both result in very similar accuracy in the frequency-domain below the below cutoff frequency $ka = j_1$. The main difference is in the high-frequency behaviour which results in different smoothness properties at $t = 0$.

4.1. Model (ν, α)

The impulse response is modelled by the following expression:

$$r(t) = -A \left(\frac{ct}{a}\right)^\nu \exp\left(-\alpha \frac{ct}{a}\right) \quad \text{for } t > 0, \quad 0 \text{ otherwise.} \tag{12}$$

This definition ensures causality and Hermitian symmetry (with real α and ν). Its frequency-domain representation (with the convention $\exp -j\omega t$) is given by

$$\mathcal{R}(\omega) = -\frac{Aa\Gamma(\nu + 1)}{c\alpha^{\nu+1}} \left(1 - \frac{jka}{\alpha}\right)^{-(\nu+1)}. \tag{13}$$

The adjustment of the low-frequency behaviour allows the determination of the parameters A , ν and α :

$$A = \frac{c\alpha^{\nu+1}}{a\Gamma(\nu + 1)}, \quad \alpha = \frac{\eta}{\beta} \quad \text{and} \quad \nu + 1 = \frac{2\eta^2}{\beta}. \tag{14}$$

The value of A leads to the following expression:

$$\mathcal{R}(\omega) = -\left(1 - \frac{jka}{\alpha}\right)^{-(\nu+1)}. \tag{15}$$

Numerical values of the parameters are given in Table 1 and frequency and time responses are displayed in Fig. 2 showing good agreement in frequency-domain up to $ka = 2$ and monotonic decrease above. The time-domain reflection function as defined by Eq. (12) is causal, as expected.

4.2. Low order Padé approximant

In order to permit analytical simplicity and possible calculations in the frequency-domain, it is convenient to assume that the coefficient reflection depends on integers powers of frequency. That is not the case for the model (ν, α) which has a non-integer exponent ν .

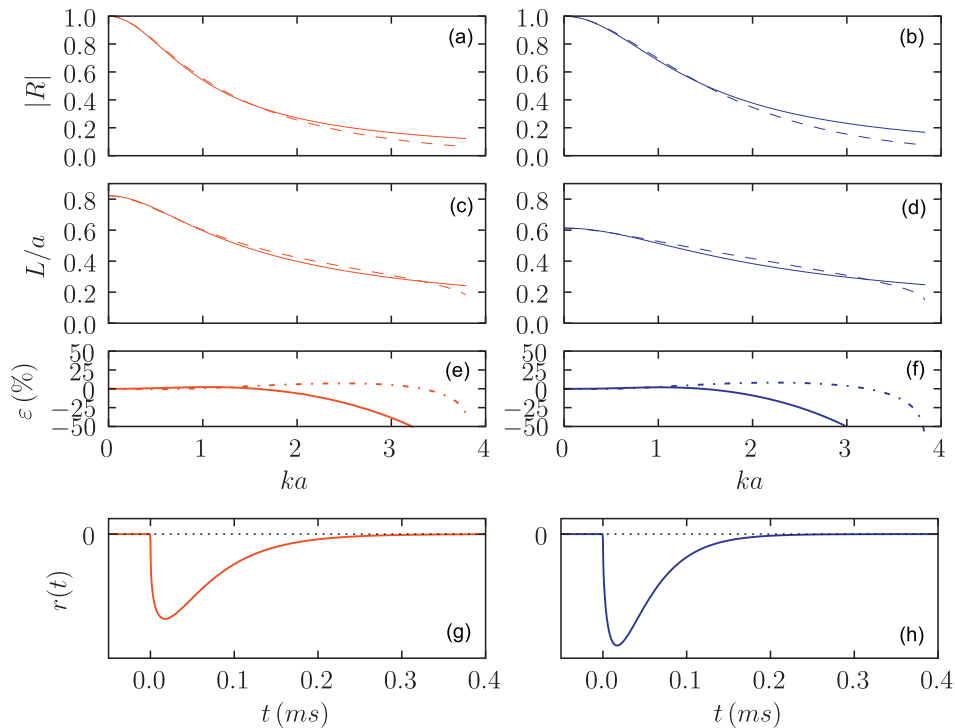


Fig. 2. Comparison in frequency-domain of the references (dashed lines) and model (v, α) of Eqs. (12)–(15) for the unflanged (left column) and infinitely flanged (right column) cases. (a, b) Modulus $|\mathcal{R}(ka)|$ of the reflection coefficient (approximation errors in solid lines in (e, f)). (c, d) Dimensionless length correction L/a (approximation errors in dash-dotted lines in (e, f)). (g, h) Example of the reflection function ($a = 7$ mm).

A rational function approximation of the form:

$$\mathcal{R}(\omega) = -\frac{1 - n_1 jka}{1 - d_1 jka + d_2 (jka)^2} \quad (16)$$

has been fitted to reference values. Low-frequency behaviour constrains the parameters n_1 , d_1 and d_2 according to the following relations:

$$d_1 - n_1 = 2\eta \quad \text{and} \quad d_1^2 - n_1^2 - 2d_2 = 2\beta, \quad (17)$$

so that a one-dimensional fitting is done using a Nelder–Mead simplex algorithm to minimise the error between the complex evaluations of the reference and the model. $N = 75$ values of $\mathcal{R}(ka)$ were computed for regularly spaced values of ka between 0 and j_1 (the cutoff value for the first axisymmetric non-planar mode). Numerical values obtained by constrained optimisation (requiring causality or, equivalently, that no pole lie in $\text{Im}(\omega) > 0$) are given in Table 1. In the same manner as for the previous model, frequency and time responses are shown in Fig. 3. $\mathcal{R}(\omega)$ seems almost as well adjusted to the reference values as the model (v, α) but, unlike that model, the impulse response $r(t)$ now shows an instantaneous initial step at $t = 0$:

$$r(t > 0) = \frac{c}{ad_2(\gamma_1 - \gamma_2)} ((n_1 \gamma_2 - 1) e^{-\gamma_2 ct/a} - (n_1 \gamma_1 - 1) e^{-\gamma_1 ct/a}), \quad (18)$$

where

$$\gamma_{1,2} = \frac{1}{2d_2} \left(d_1 \pm \sqrt{d_1^2 - 4d_2} \right). \quad (19)$$

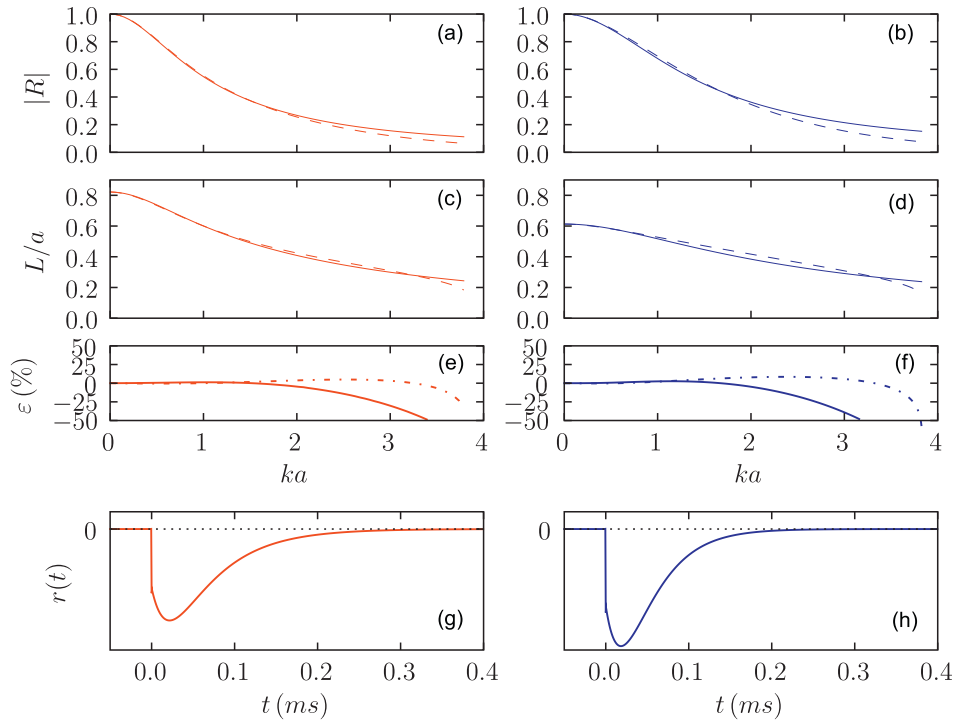


Fig. 3. Comparison in frequency-domain of the references (dashed lines) and model (1,2) of Eqs. (16)–(20) (in solid lines) for the unflanged (left column) and infinitely flanged (right column) cases. (a, b) Modulus $|\mathcal{R}(ka)|$ of the reflection coefficient (approximation errors in solid lines in (e,f)). (c,d) Dimensionless length correction L/a (approximation errors in dash-dotted lines in (e,f)). (g,h) Example of the reflection function ($a = 7$ mm).

The radiation impedance \mathcal{Z}_r is given by the following expression:

$$\mathcal{Z}_r(\omega) = \frac{(d_1 - n_1)jka - d_2(jka)^2}{2 - (d_1 + n_1)jka + d_2(jka)^2} \tag{20}$$

similar to the one suggested by Doutaut et al. [13], where the coefficients were obtained by numerical fitting on the approximated radiation impedance given by Caussé et al. [7].

5. Relaxing the causality constraint

The formulae given previously may appear somewhat inaccurate especially as the cutoff frequency of the first higher order mode is approached. However, it should be kept in mind that they are intended to simultaneously approximate the low frequency behaviour of the reflection coefficient, satisfy the Hermitian property, and produce a causal physical response. With all these constraints being satisfied, the relative errors on the modulus and the length correction are less than 8% for $ka \leq 2$. For applications where the time-domain response is not a critical criteria, relaxation of the causality constraint may lead to improved approximations.

We find that modelling $|\mathcal{R}(ka)|$ and $L(ka)/a$ with Padé approximants of order (2, 6) provides more accurate approximations with the following expressions:

$$|\mathcal{R}| = \frac{1 + a_1(ka)^2}{1 + (\beta + a_1)(ka)^2 + a_2(ka)^4 + a_3(ka)^6}, \tag{21}$$

$$\frac{L}{a} = \eta \frac{1 + b_1(ka)^2}{1 + b_2(ka)^2 + b_3(ka)^4 + b_4(ka)^6}, \tag{22}$$

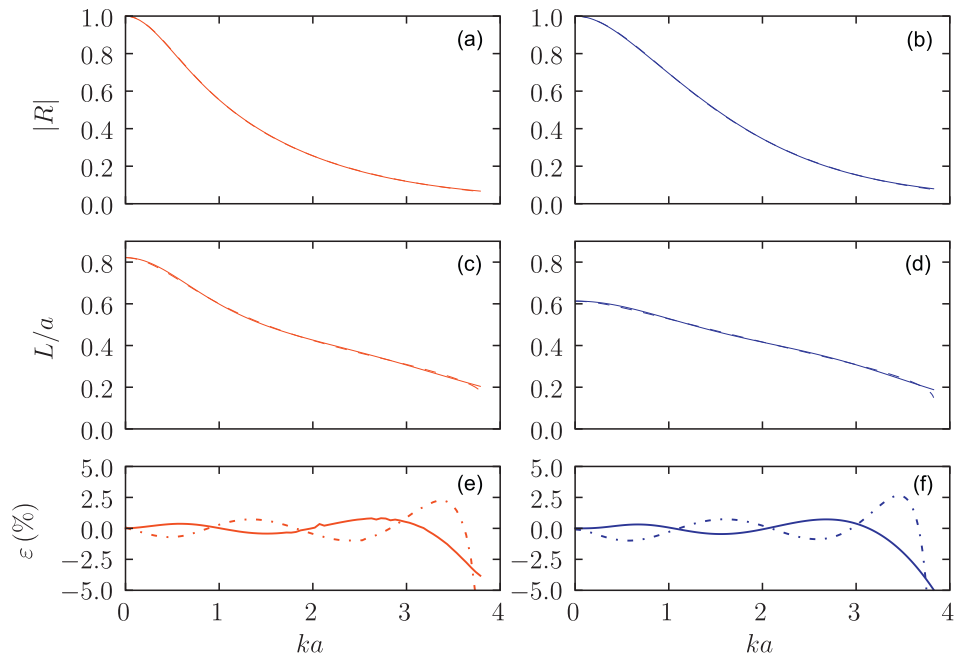


Fig. 4. Comparison in frequency-domain of the references (dashed lines) and the non-causal model of Eqs. (21) and (22) (in solid lines) for the unflanged (left column) and infinitely flanged (right column) cases. (a,b) Modulus $|R(ka)|$ of the reflection coefficient (approximation errors in solid lines in (e,f)). (c,d) Dimensionless length correction L/a (approximation errors in dash-dotted lines in (e,f)).

and the numerical values given in Table 1. These formulae fulfil all of the requirements except the causality principle, and approximation errors for the modulus and the length correction are less than 2% for $ka < 3$ for both unflanged and infinitely flanged cases as shown in Fig. 4. Combining formulae (21) and (22) into Eq. (3) allows the computation of the acoustic radiation impedance.

6. Conclusion

Practical approximation formulae of the acoustic radiation impedance of tubes are required for a variety of applications in acoustics. The necessity for such useful formulae is illustrated, in part, by the list of references cited here, which is long but certainly not exhaustive. The present results attempt to satisfy all the criteria required of the realistic physical system, such as causality, Hermitian response and faithful low frequency behaviour. We therefore believe that the present contribution can be useful for calculations in both the time and frequency-domains. Practical applications include, for instance, measurements in duct acoustics, musical acoustics, or loudspeakers enclosures where mean flow is absent or very slow.

Difficulty remains for the digital (sampled time) domain. In fact, the approximate formulae provided in this paper are all expressed in terms of the variable ka . A digital filter modelling the radiation at the end of a cylindrical duct has to be written as a function of the $z = \exp(j\omega T_e)$ variable (in the T_e -sampled time-domain) and the coefficient of the filter are then dependent on the radius a . This could present difficulties if one wants to obtain approximation formulae suitable for the digital domain.

Despite such remaining technical issues, the calibrated formulae summarised in Table 1 offer the acoustician practical and useful formulae for realistic applications. The numerical results of the calculations described in Section 2 are available at the following <http://www.lma.cnrs-mrs.fr/~PIM/DATA/>.

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