each time it passes through a different medium, which would occur when flying through rain, for example. Sensing during rain and at low angles of incidence need further investigation.

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Associate Editor

## Preliminary Analysis of Nonlinearity in Military Jet Aircraft Noise Propagation

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## Introduction

THE role of nonlinearity in the propagation of noise radiated from high-performance jet aircraft is currently not well understood, despite past studies such as those by Blackstock ${ }^{1}$ and Howell and Morfey (see Refs. 2 and 3). More recently, Norum et aI. ${ }^{4}$ found that F-15 flyover data exhibited anomalously high spectral levels above 1.5 kHz ; although nonlinear effects were mentioned as a possible cause for the high levels, the issue was not pursued further. As a finite amplitude noise waveform propagates, it undergoes amplitude-dependent steepening, which results in a transfer of spectral energy from mid- to higher frequencies. If competing processes, such as atmospheric absorption and geometrical spreading, are not sufficient to prevent shock formation, coalescence of shocks will also transfer energy to lower frequencies. ${ }^{5}$ Significant nonlinear spectral broadening, if present in high-speed jet noise, would cause perceived levels to vary from those predicted via linear methods.
The purpose of this Note is to describe a preliminary analysis of F/A-18E Super Hornet static engine run-up noise measurements that shows evidence of nonlinear propagation effects. Following a summary of the measurement, results of power spectral density (PSD) and waveform statistical calculations are presented. Evidence of nonlinear propagation is demonstrated by a comparison of measured spectra with free-field linear predictions and by calculation of a nonlinear indicator derived by Howell and Morfey (see Refs. 2 and 3).

## Measurement Summary

The F/A-18E run-up measurements were conducted at the U.S. Naval Air Engineering Station, Lakehurst, New Jersey, during the evening of 15 April 2003. Recordings were made with both engines idling (Idle), at military thrust (Mil), and with afterburners engaged (AB). During the tests, the approximate ambient temperature and relative humidity were $20^{\circ} \mathrm{C}$ and $50 \%$, and average wind speeds were relatively low, approximately $3 \mathrm{~m} / \mathrm{s}$ at a height of 4.5 m . The monitored wind direction, as well as a temperature inversion measured near the ground just before the tests, suggests that the atmosphere was slightly downward refracting. Data were acquired at 18,74 , and 150 m from the engine nozzles along a radial line 135 deg from the forward direction, which is approximately the peak directivity angle for the F/A-18E at high-thrust conditions. The $18-\mathrm{m}$ data were acquired with a $6.35-\mathrm{mm}$ Bruel and Kjaer 4938 condenser microphone flush mounted in an aluminum plate baffle located horizontally on

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pavement. The 74- and $150-\mathrm{m}$ data were acquired with handheld Endevco 8510C-15 piezoresistive pressure transducers located about 1.2 m above grassy ground. All data were recorded with portable Sony TCD-D8 digital audio tape recorders sampling at 44.1 kHz . Approximately 12 s of the recorded waveforms for each condition have been used in obtaining the results presented hereafter.

## Results

## Power Spectral Measurements

In Figs. 1-3 the PSD at the three measurement locations is shown for each of the engine conditions. In Fig. 1, the overall sound pressure levels (OASPL) for AB, Mil, and Idle at 18 m are 151,147 , and 99 dB , respectively. Note that these and other OASPL calculations given hereafter are referenced to $20 \mu \mathrm{~Pa}$. Because the Idle spectrum reaches the system noise floor at approximately 6 kHz , additional analysis of those data is restricted to below that limit. For the latter two distances, 74 and 150 m , shown in Figs. 2 and 3, the Idle levels are largely below their respective noise floors and are not meaningful measurements. The irregular nature of the noise floors above 1 kHz in Figs. 2 and 3, which are shown as a noise equivalent PSD, is caused by an experimentally determined diffraction correction applied to the Endevco sensor data. Because of uncertainty in the accuracy of the diffraction correction at high frequencies, the PSD calculations and all other analyses have been limited to below 10 kHz . The OASPL at 74 m are 135 and 132 dB for the AB and Mil engine settings. By 150 m , the OASPL for AB and Mil conditions are reduced to 127 and 123 dB , respectively.


Fig. 1 PSD in decibels referred to $20 \mu \mathrm{~Pa} / \sqrt{ } \mathrm{Hz}$, at 18 m . The OASPL of spectra at AB , Mil, and Idle are 151,147 , and 99 dB , respectively.


Fig. 2 PSD at 74 m for measured engine conditions. The OASPL of spectra at AB and Mil are 135 and 132 dB , respectively.

Table $1 \quad$ Skewness $S$ and kurtosis $K$ for engine conditions and measurement locations ${ }^{\text {a }}$

| Condition and location | $S$ |  |
| :--- | ---: | ---: |
| Idle, 18 m | -0.01 | $K$ |
| Mil, 18 m | 0.38 | 3.05 |
| Mil, 74 m | 0.25 | 3.13 |
| Mil, 150 m | 0.08 | 3.25 |
| $\mathrm{AB}, 18 \mathrm{~m}$ | 0.60 | 2.99 |
| $\mathrm{AB}, 74 \mathrm{~m}$ | 0.39 | 3.40 |
| $\mathrm{AB}, 150 \mathrm{~m}$ | 0.26 | 3.41 |

${ }^{\text {a }}$ For ideally Gaussian data, $S=0$ and $K=3$.


Fig. 3 PSD at 150 m for measured engine conditions. The OASPL for AB and Mil are 127 and 123 dB , respectively.

The 74 - and $150-\mathrm{m}$ spectral measurements exhibit multiple dips in level of several decibels, and, although not readily apparent from the logarithmic frequency scale, the dips occur at roughly regular intervals of approximately $600-700 \mathrm{~Hz}$. These dips are likely indicative of multipath interference, for example, ground reflections; however, considerable terrain inhomogeneity over the measurement range has precluded meaningful quantitative analysis of the phenomenon. However, if the multipath hypothesis holds, it is noteworthy that the offset between AB and Mil dip frequencies, which increases as a function of frequency, is possible evidence that the dominant acoustic source region in the jets changes between the two engine conditions.

## Statistical Calculations

The skewness $S$ and kurtosis $K$, which are the normalized third and fourth central moments of the probability density function, have been calculated for each of the measurement locations and engine conditions. The value of $S$, which is a measure of the asymmetry of the data distribution, has been used to quantify the phenomenon known as crackle. ${ }^{6,7}$ No physical phenomenon has been correlated with $K$, which describes the peaked nature of the distribution. Calculation of these moments has been performed because the nonGaussian nature of the time series data is a necessary (but not sufficient) condition of nonlinear system identification. ${ }^{8}$ In other words, if the calculated normalized moments for a given measured waveform deviate from expected Gaussian values, for example, $S=0$ and $K=3$, the propagation is possibly nonlinear.

To limit waveform frequency content to below 10 kHz for these statistical calculations, a digital eighth-order Butterworth low-pass filter with a cutoff frequency of $10 \mathrm{kHz}(6 \mathrm{kHz}$ for the $18-\mathrm{m}$ Idle data) was first applied to the time series. The statistical results for the various measurement locations and engine settings are listed in Table 1. The AB and Mil propagation is non-Gaussian over the measurement range, although it becomes less so by 150 m , especially for the Mil power case. Finally, although its significance is currently unknown, note that $K$ increases between 18 and 74 m for

Mil power and remains essentially constant for the AB case, whereas $S$ decreases for both engine settings over the same range.

## Evidence of Nonlinear Propagation Effects

Observation of the non-Gaussian nature in the AB and Mil time series data demonstrates that the propagation may, in fact, be nonlinear over the measurement range. Two additional analyses of the data reveal evidence that the propagation is indeed nonlinear.

## Comparison of Linear Extrapolations with Measurement

Free-field linear extrapolation of the 18 - and 74 -m measured spectra out to 150 m have been calculated by applying the expected small-signal power loss due to 1) spherical spreading and 2) atmospheric absorption. ${ }^{9}$ Mid- to high-frequency comparisons between the linearly extrapolated and the measured spectra for the Mil and AB cases are shown in Figs. 4 and 5, respectively. The linear frequency scale has been chosen to emphasize clearly the differences between linearly predicted and measured levels. The comparisons for frequencies below 1 kHz are not displayed because the reasons for a downward shift in Mil and AB spectral peak frequencies between 18 and 74 m (Figs. 1 and 2) are not clearly understood. Whereas shock coalescence may, in fact, contribute to this shift, it is unclear whether the assumptions of aeroacoustic compactness and, thus, spherical spreading, are valid at 18 m for low frequencies. If they are invalid, the $18-\mathrm{m}$ extrapolation is somewhat erroneous at frequencies for which nonspherical spreading occurs. Furthermore, the location in frequency of the first spectral dip at 74 m may significantly exaggerate the apparent peak frequency shift. For these reasons, only comparisons above 1 kHz are shown.

Examination of Figs. 4 and 5 shows excess power at high frequencies for the measured Mil and $A B$ spectra as compared to the extrapolated spectra. For example, in Fig. 4 at 10 kHz , the difference is 12 dB from the 18 -m extrapolation and 4 dB from the $74-\mathrm{m}$ extrapolation. Furthermore, the trends in spectral levels indicate less power measured at 150 m than linearly predicted for frequencies below a few kilohertz. When combined, these spectral changes are characteristic of the nonlinear propagation of noise. ${ }^{5}$ Also note that the spectral energy transfer appears to be less significant between 74 and 150 m , which is not surprising because as waveform amplitudes are reduced by atmospheric absorption and geometrical spreading, additional nonlinear distortion of the propagating waveform will also lessen.

## Howell-Morfey Nonlinearity Indicator

In their effort to predict the evolution of a finite amplitude jet noise spectrum, Howell and Morfey derived an equation for the PSD as a function of range that predicts the occurrence of nonlinear propagation effects only if $Q_{p^{2} p}$, a third-order spectral quantity, is nonzero. [See Eq. (5) of Ref. 2.] Thus, nonlinear energy transfer


Fig. 4 Comparison of linearly extrapolated spectra from 18 and 74 m with the $\mathbf{1 5 0} \mathbf{- m}$ Mil power measurement between 1 and 10 kHz .


Fig. 5 Comparison of linearly extrapolated spectra from 18 and 74 m with the $150-\mathrm{m}$ AB measurement between 1 and 10 kHz .


Fig. 6 Howell-Morfey nonlinearity indicator $Q / S$ calculated for three engine conditions at $\mathbf{1 8} \mathbf{~ m}$; Idle calculation is only physically significant below $6 \mathbf{k H z}$, where measured levels are above system noise floor.
at a given location may be readily identified by a nonzero $Q_{p^{2} p}$ measurement. $Q_{\dot{p}^{2} p}$ is defined as the imaginary part of the crossspectral density between the pressure squared and the pressure and may be written as

$$
Q_{p^{2} p}(\omega)=\operatorname{Im}\left\langle\Im\left\{p^{2}(t)\right\} \Im^{*}\{p(t)\}\right\rangle
$$

where $\mathfrak{F}$, the asterisk, and $\rangle$, respectively, represent Fourier transform, complex conjugation, and ensemble-average operators. Howell and Morfey's nonlinearity indicator, a nondimensional ratio dubbed $Q / S$, is derived by normalizing $Q_{p^{2} p}$ by the PSD, multiplied by the root-mean-square pressure. McInerny and Olcmen ${ }^{10}$ have recently calculated $Q / S$ in the context of identification of nonlinear propagation effects in rocket noise.
The indicator $Q / S$ has the following physical interpretation. If $Q / S<0$ for a given frequency, the amount of power at that frequency is increasing due to energy transfer from other frequencies. If $Q / S>0$, the opposite is true; energy is being transferred to other frequencies and the amount of power is decreasing. Finally, if $Q / S=0$, it is because $Q_{p^{2} p}=0$; therefore, no nonlinear interaction exists. In Fig. 6, $Q / S$ is plotted from the $18-\mathrm{m}$ measurements of AB , Mil, and Idle conditions. Not surprisingly, the $Q / S$ for Idle approaches zero, which means that no nonlinear energy transfer is occurring. This could also have been predicted simply from the fact that all odd-order spectra are zero for a statistically Gaussian signal and that the $18-\mathrm{m}$ Idle data are essentially Gaussian (Table 1).
$Q / S$ is significantly different for the Mil and AB data in Fig. 6. There are two main frequency regions in which the ratio has opposite


Fig. 7 Howell-Morfey nonlinearity indicator $Q / S$ at 74 and 150 m ; large peaks and sharp sign changes appear to be related to spectral dips evident in PSD measurements.
signs, indicating that nonlinear propagation effects are present. From approximately 60 Hz to 1 kHz , energy is being transferred upward in the spectrum. Also, because $Q / S$ is not negative at low frequencies, this indicates that shock coalescence is not occurring at 18 m . In Fig. 7, the $Q / S$ calculations for 74 and 150 m suffer from sharp sign changes in the midfrequency region that appear to be related to the earlier discussed spectral dips; however, there is again evidence of nonlinear energy transfer to high and possibly low frequencies.

## Conclusions

Analyses of the F/A-18E static engine run-up measurements have indicated that the noise is non-Gaussian and the propagation nonlinear at afterburner and military thrust conditions. Also, calculation of the nonlinearity indicator derived by Howell and Morfey, $Q / S$, supports the nonlinear propagation hypothesis and calls attention to the indicator itself, which has seen only very limited use since it was derived (see Refs. 2 and 3). Finally, this study has demonstrated that additional and perhaps more extensive investigations in this area are merited. Whereas nonlinear effects do appear to be a factor in the propagation of noise radiated from high-performance jet aircraft, their role has not been defined quantitatively and will likely depend on the propagation environment as well as on source parameters such as jet velocity and temperature.

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Associate Editor

# Planar Shock Generator for Wind Tunnels with Circular Cross Section 

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## I. Introduction

SHOCK-WAVE interactions are the subject of extensive research in the field of fluid mechanics. ${ }^{1-4}$ A significant difficulty in the conduct of experiments involving shock-wave interactions lies in the generation of the impinging shock wave. At moderately high Mach numbers the oblique shock wave produced by a wedge lies close to the wedge surface, and the distance from the wedge surface to the shock wave at the trailing edge is important in determining the allowable size of the experimental apparatus. Simple wedge shock generators also generate a planar wave over only a fraction of their total width caused by edge effects, and this effect is exacerbated at lower Mach numbers where the edge expansion propagates at a larger angle into the core flow. In the case of wind tunnels with circular cross section, the geometrical layout of a planar wedge shock generator leads to particularly inefficient use of the available space. When viewed in cross section, the leading edge of the wedge cuts a chord across the wind-tunnel cross section. All flow passing below this chord is wasted, along with the fraction of the span contaminated by edge effects, resulting in the use of undesirably small models. Further, because the leading edge of the shock generator is typically positioned well away from the centerline of the test section, the available chord width is significantly less than the full diameter, in addition to allowances made for spillage and edge effects.

## II. Description of New Shock Generator

The shovel-shaped shock generator that is illustrated in Fig. 1 represents a response to these difficulties, and the concept is analogous to a class of supersonic lifting body shapes that are known as wave riders. ${ }^{5}$ The shape is generated by inclining a cylindrical tube of arbitrary cross section (circular in the current example; Fig. 1a) at a specific postshock flow deflection angle $\delta$ (Fig. lb). For a given

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