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# ON THE MODELING OF ARTIFICIAL PROPELLER NOISE

By

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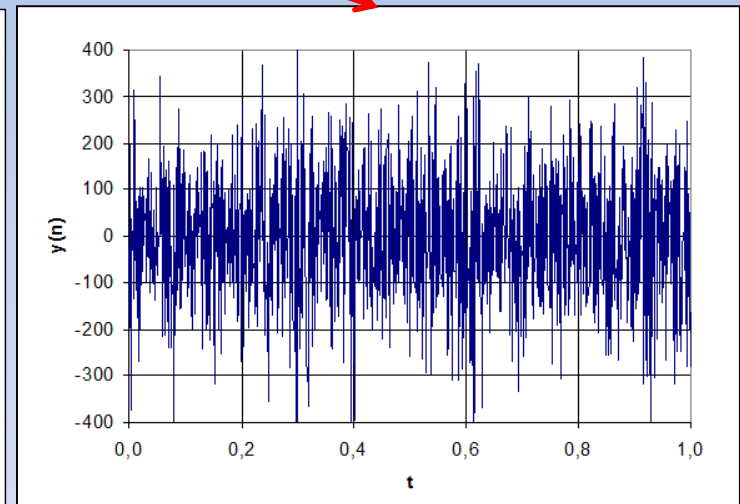
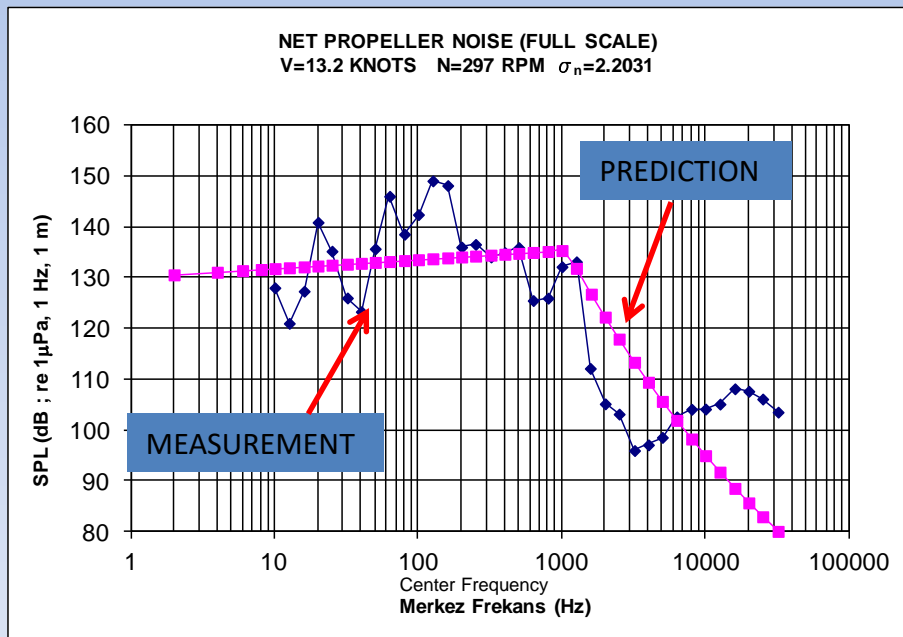
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- An empirical prediction model of broadband noise and its modulation in the time domain for marine propellers is proposed.



Why did we need such a study ?

All referees who reviewed the papers  
asked the same question !!!

- For use in a sonar training simulator being developed by TUBITAK to train navy sonar personnel.

- The simulator includes all aspects of sonar operation, with emphasis on training in:

- weak target detection in the presence of noise & reverberation (echo)
- torpedo detection
- audio listening
- classification

Remember that the movie

# Crimson Tide

in 1995.



- There was a hot pursuit between American submarine **USS Alabama** and Soviet **Akula Class** submarine .....



- How could the crew of Alabama identify the class of the Akula Class submarine ??????

Ans: From the noise signature of the submarine?

Real sounds may be composed of many sources. E.g. propeller, body, machinery and also natural sounds (rain, surface wind, etc...)

In that context, propeller noise has been modeled in this study. The propeller noises were then embedded into the simulator noise database.

# Why is this study interesting?

It is the result of co-operation of two far different disciplines which are

- Naval Architecture
- Electronic Engineering



# Part I: Prediction

- The prediction of broadband noise radiated from a marine propeller using empirical models is a more common approach.
- These works are based on relationships similar to those used in Brown's semi empirical relation.
- A difficulty encountered in propeller noise prediction is the limited experimental, particularly full scale measurement data available in the open literature.
- A study [5] which includes cavitation tunnel measurements as well as full scale measured data is quite valuable in this sense.

- The primary source of propeller noise is cavitation noise generated as the propeller operates in the non-uniform wake field.
- The cavitation is generally composed of tip vortex and sheet cavitation.
- Bubble cavitation may be seen which may additionally increase the level of noise considerably.
- Accurate prediction of propeller cavitation in a non uniform wake field can provide a good basis upon which to predict over-all propeller noise.

- Cavitation analysis is made by a LSM algorithm together with the prediction of the total hydrodynamic performance.
- It can be conceptualized that the model propeller is to be tested in a cavitation tunnel.
- A semi empirical model, the broadband noise spectrum of the model propeller may be calculated.
- Adjustments may then be applied to the broadband noise spectrum to scale the results up to that of the full size propeller.

¶

$$L_s = 163 + 10 \log \left[ \frac{ZD^4 n_p^3}{f^2} \right] + 10 \log \left[ 40 \frac{A_c}{A_D} \right] + K_{Tip} \log \left[ \frac{V_{Tip}}{V_{Tip}^i} \right] + 10 \log [H_{Dist}] \quad \text{⑩}$$

¶

Where ¶

Z: Number of Blades ¶

D (m): Diameter of propeller ¶

$n_p$  (RPM): Propeller rate of revolution ¶

$A_c$  (m<sup>2</sup>): Mean sheet cavitation area on propeller blade ¶

$A_D$  (m<sup>2</sup>): Propeller disk area ¶

$V_{Tip}$  (m/s): Propeller tip speed ¶

$V_{Tip}^i$  (RPM): rotation rate (RPM) of the start of tip vortex ¶

$K_{Tip}$  = 60 but for deeply submerged propellers (e.g. submarine) 80 [8] ¶

$H_{Dist}$  (m): Hydrophone placement distance ¶

¶

Eq is valid for peak freq  $f_p < 10\text{kHz}$

Peak frequency

$$\sigma_n = \frac{P_s - P_v}{\frac{1}{2} \rho n_p^2 D^2} \propto$$

$$f_p = \frac{4400}{D} \left( \frac{\sigma_n^i}{\sigma_n} \right)^{-3.2/2} \left( \frac{P_s}{22} \right)^{1/3} \Rightarrow \left( \frac{\sigma_n^i}{\sigma_n} \right)^{1/2} < 1.7 \quad \propto$$

$$f_p = \frac{1100}{D} \left( \frac{\sigma_n^i}{\sigma_n} \right)^{-2.0/6} \left( \frac{P_s}{22} \right)^{1/3} \Rightarrow \left( \frac{\sigma_n^i}{\sigma_n} \right)^{1/2} \geq 1.7$$

Sound pressure level

$$L_s = A f^{0.007} \Rightarrow f < f_p \quad \propto$$
$$L_s = B f^{-0.2} \Rightarrow f > f_p$$

constants A and B are determined from the continuity characteristics of the noise spectrum

$$A = \left( \frac{L_{s_p}}{f_p} \right)^{0.007} ; B = \left( \frac{L_{s_p}}{f_p} \right)^{-0.2}$$

- The increase in the noise level in moving from model to full scale is given by (ITTC scaling)

$$\Delta L_{(P)} = 20 \log \left[ \left( \frac{D_P}{D_M} \right)^z \left( \frac{r_M}{r_P} \right)^x \left( \frac{\sigma_P}{\sigma_M} \right)^{y/2} \left( \frac{n_P D_P}{n_M D_M} \right)^y \left( \frac{\rho_P}{\rho_M} \right)^{y/2} \right] \text{ dB}$$

- frequency shift is expressed as

$$\frac{f_P}{f_M} = \frac{n_P}{n_M} \propto$$

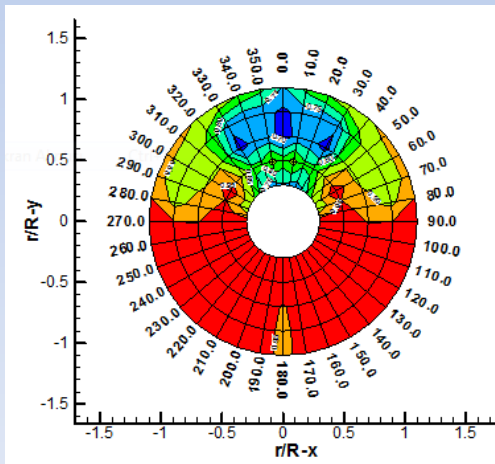
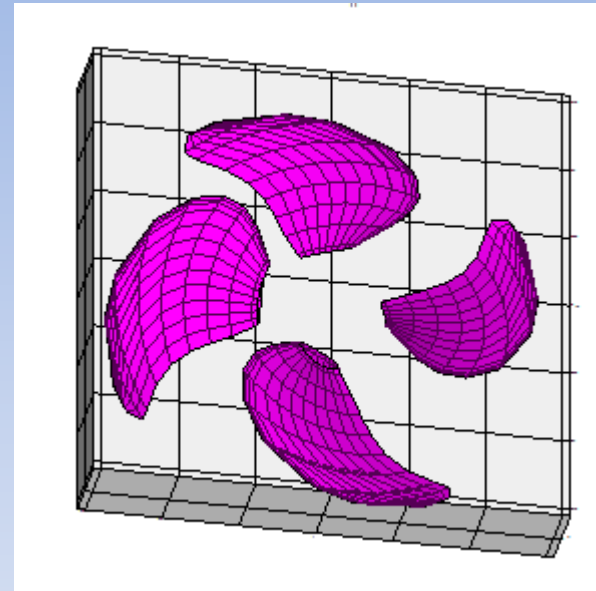
- the increase in the noise level

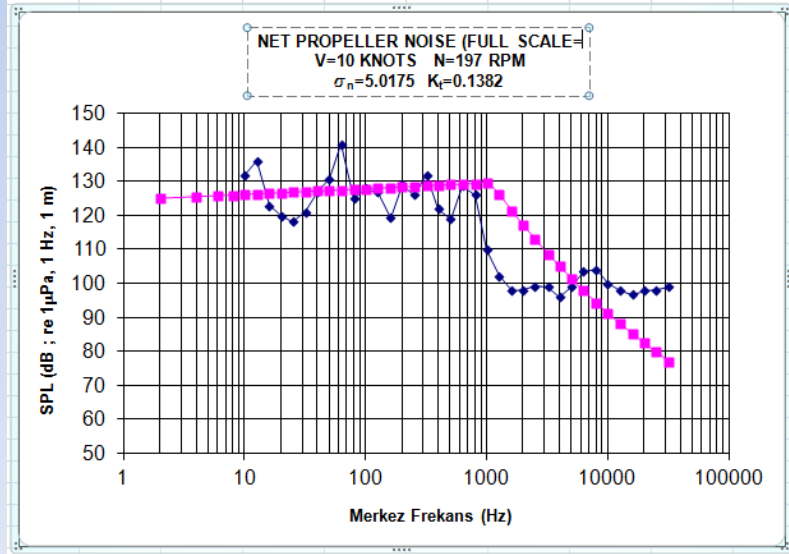
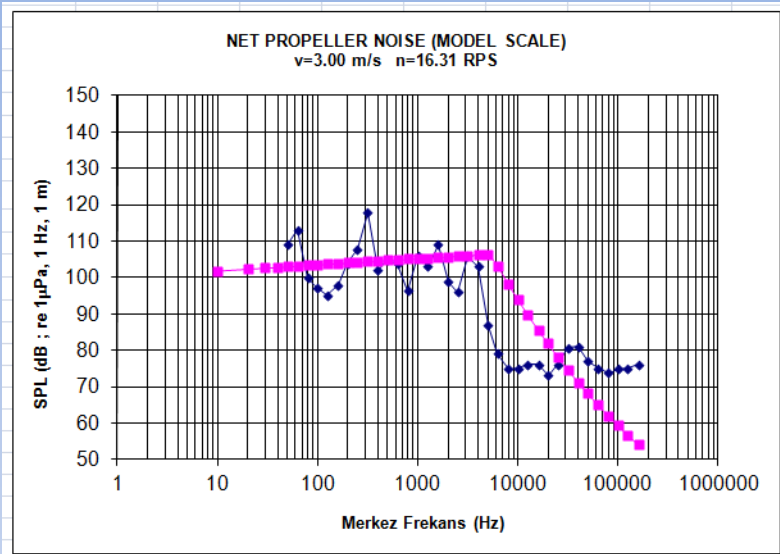
$\lambda$  30 cm model propeller

$$\Delta L_{(P)} = 20 \log \left[ 1025.9 \lambda^3 \left( \frac{n_P}{n_M} \right)^2 \right] \text{ dB} \propto$$

# Numerical Example

Number of Blades	4
Propeller Diameter (m)	2.100
Pitch Ratio at $0.7R$	0.8464
Expanded Blade Area Ratio	0.55
Boss Ratio	0.276
Rake	0
Skewback (degrees)	40
Direction of Rotation	Right Handed







# Part II: Modulation

- As propeller blade rotates about shaft axis it passes through different regions of wake flow
- This results in cyclical peaks in cavitation and cavitation noise level i.e. *noise envelope*
- Cyclical cavitation noise envelope may be observed at shaft rate  $f_{\text{shaft}}$  and its harmonic frequencies
- Cavitation noise spectrum is combined with cavitation noise envelope using amplitude modulation (Lourens, Kummert, Nielsen)
- Referred to as “DEMON” modulation

- Steady state broadband noise spectrum  $X(f)$  from Part I is converted to time domain signal  $x(t)$  using Discrete Fourier Transform

$$x(n) = DFT\{X_r(k)\} \text{ Pa}$$

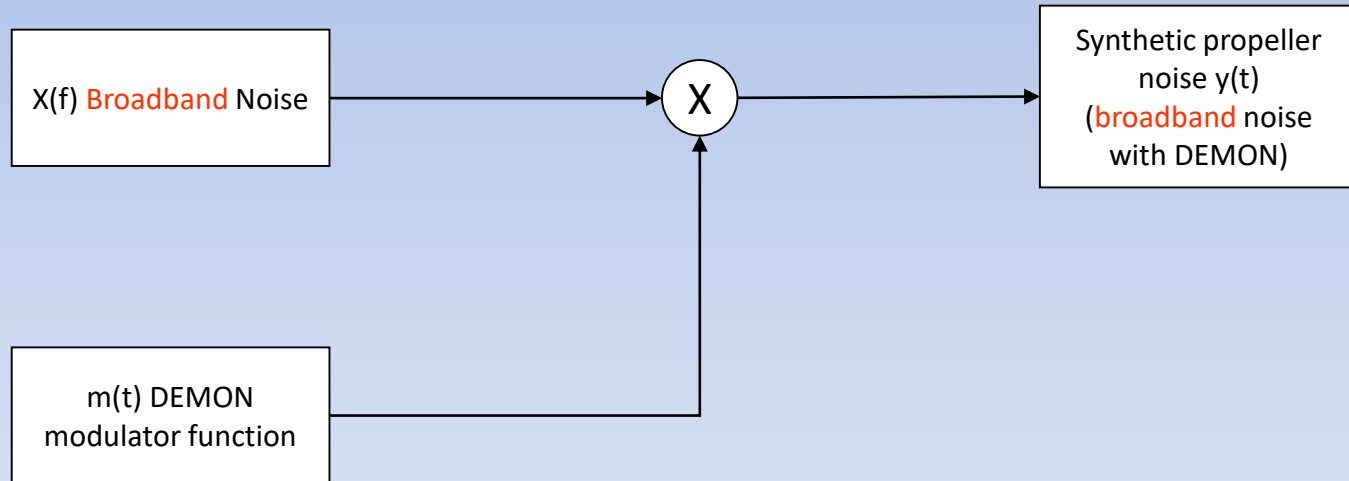
- “DEMON” modulator function  $m(t)$  is sum of cosine functions at frequencies  $f_{\text{shaft}}$  and multiples of  $f_{\text{shaft}}$
- Weighting of frequency components given by parameters  $A_0, A_1, A_2, \dots$

$$m(t) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} A_n \cos(n 2\pi f_{\text{shaft}} t)$$

$$f_{\text{shaft}} = n_P / 60$$

- Steady state broadband noise is amplitude modulated with modulator function resulting in output propeller noise signal  $y(t)$

$$y(n) = m(n / f_s) \cdot x(n) \text{ Pa}$$



- Setting coefficients of modulator function  $A_0, A_1, A_2, \dots$  based on empirical experience
- Civilian ship propellers exhibit high level of DEMON frequencies at  $f_{\text{shaft}} \times Z$  and  $f_{\text{shaft}}$
- Military ship propellers exhibit only at  $f_{\text{shaft}} \times Z$

$n_P$	197
$Z$	4
$\alpha$	0.5
$A_0$	0.986295
$A_1$	0.108666
$A_2$	0.051330
$A_3$	0.051330
$A_4$	0.179160
$A_5$	0.051330
$A_6$	0.051330

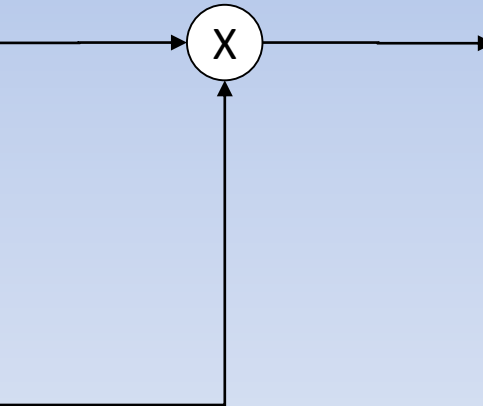
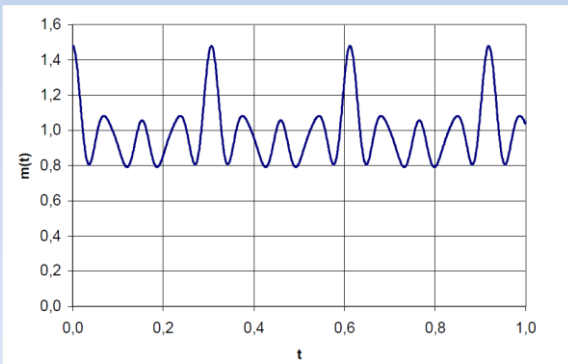
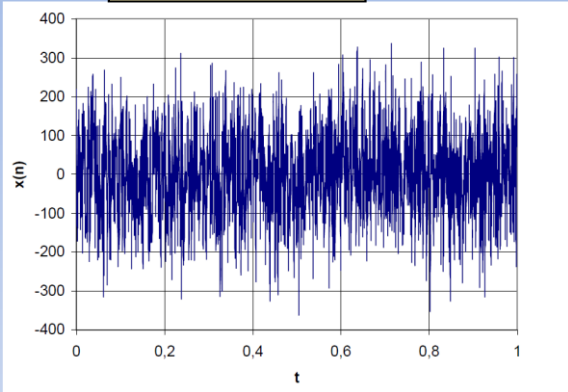
D.C. component  
(normalize total power  
to 1)

$f_{\text{shaft}}$

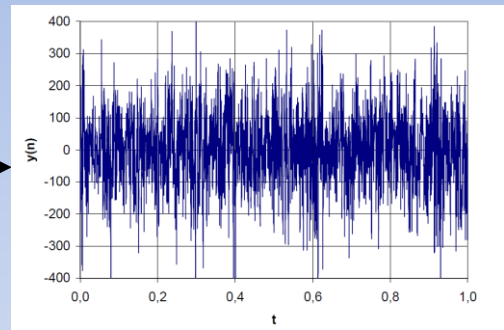
$Z \times f_{\text{shaft}}$

- Resulting input signal, modulator signal, output signal

**Input  
broadband  
noise**



**Modulator  
function**



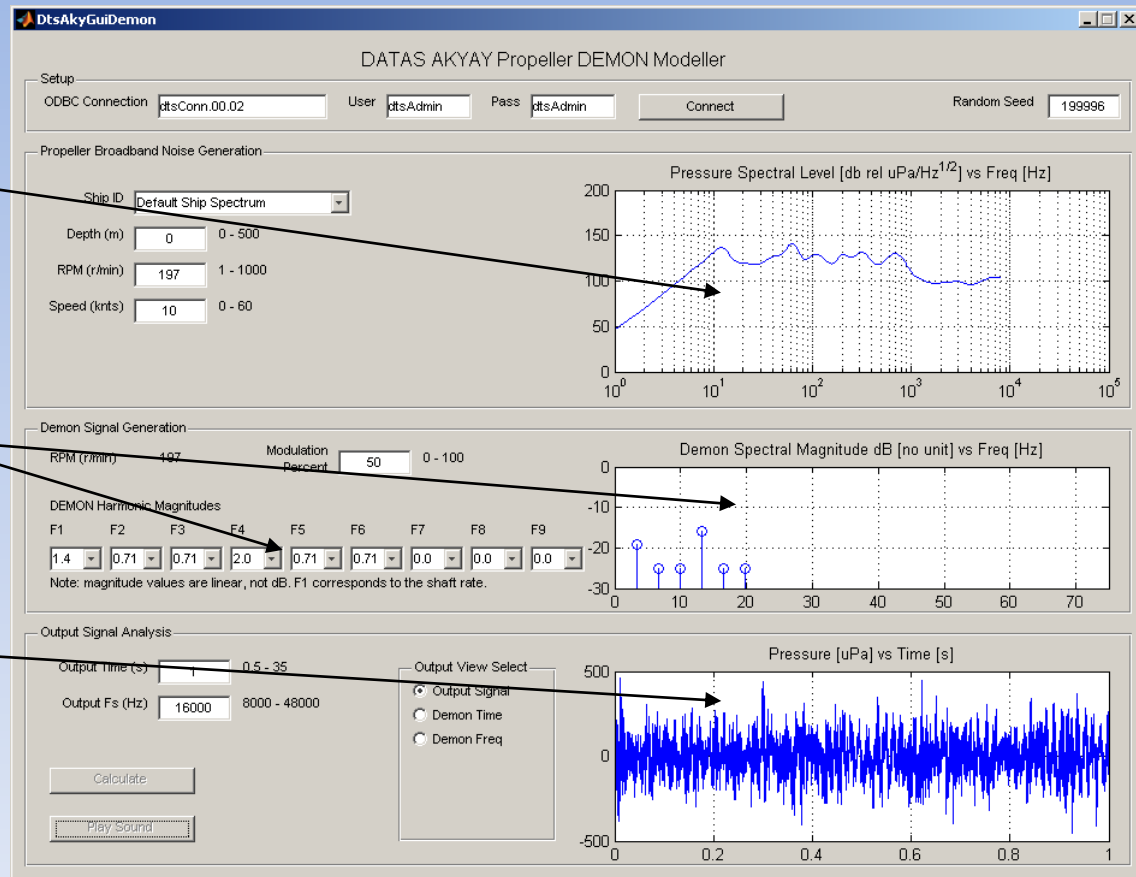
**Output  
synthetic  
propeller noise**

- DEMON modulator tool (MATLAB) graphical and WAV output

**Input  
broadband  
noise**

**DEMON freq  
components A1,  
A2, ...**

**Output  
synthetic  
propeller noise**



# Conclusions

- Empirical formula should be developed using more experimental data. (for Part I)
- More empirical study of real propeller noises to develop a database of DEMON parameters (for Part II)
- Synthetic propeller noise model may also include tonal frequency components produced by propeller geometry (especially for high shaft rates)