

# **Efficient Infinite Elements for Exterior Acoustics**

Vom Promotionsausschuss der  
Technischen Universität Hamburg-Harburg  
zur Erlangung des akademischen Grades  
Doktor-Ingenieur  
genehmigte Dissertation

von  
Daniel Dreyer  
aus Osterode

2004

1. Gutachter: Prof. Dr.-Ing. O. von Estorff
2. Gutachter: Prof. Dr. H. Voß

Tag der mündlichen Prüfung: 27. September 2004

Berichte aus der Akustik

**Daniel Dreyer**

**Efficient Infinite Elements  
for Exterior Acoustics**

Shaker Verlag  
Aachen 2004

**Bibliographic information published by Die Deutsche Bibliothek**

Die Deutsche Bibliothek lists this publication in the Deutsche Nationalbibliografie; detailed bibliographic data is available in the internet at <http://dnb.ddb.de>.

Zugl.: Hamburg-Harburg, Techn. Univ., Diss., 2004

Copyright Shaker Verlag 2004

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means, electronic, mechanical, photocopying, recording or otherwise, without the prior permission of the publishers.

Printed in Germany.

ISBN 3-8322-3500-0

ISSN 1611-1303

Shaker Verlag GmbH • P.O. BOX 101818 • D-52018 Aachen

Phone: 0049/2407/9596-0 • Telefax: 0049/2407/9596-9

Internet: [www.shaker.de](http://www.shaker.de) • eMail: [info@shaker.de](mailto:info@shaker.de)

## Danksagung

Diese Arbeit wurde durch ein Stipendium der Deutschen Forschungsgemeinschaft (DFG) im Rahmen des Graduiertenkollegs „Meerestechnische Konstruktionen“ gefördert.

Herzlichst bedanken möchte ich mich bei Herrn Prof. Dr.-Ing. O. von Estorff für die maßgebliche Betreuung und Begleitung dieser Arbeit. Herrn Prof. Dr.-Ing. habil. E. Kreuzer gilt mein Dank für die Einbettung meiner Tätigkeiten in den Arbeitsbereich Mechanik und Meerestechnik. Herrn Prof. Dr. H. Voß danke ich für die Übernahme des Mitberichts sowie die Bereitschaft zu regen und äußerst hilfreichen Gesprächen. Herr Prof. Dr. habil. M. M. Morlock Ph.D. übernahm freundlicherweise den Prüfungsvorsitz.

Des weiteren bedanken möchte ich mich bei allen Kollegen und Stipendiaten, insbesondere Dr. A. M. Pelzer, S. Petersen und M.-A. Pick. Mein größter Dank hingegen gilt meiner Familie und Jaana.

Ingolstadt, im November 2004

Daniel Dreyer



# Contents

<b>1</b>	<b>Introduction</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2</b>	<b>Exterior acoustics</b>	<b>5</b>
2.1	Governing relations . . . . .	5
2.1.1	Wave equation . . . . .	6
2.1.2	Helmholtz equation . . . . .	7
2.2	Numerical methods . . . . .	10
2.2.1	Domain decomposition . . . . .	10
2.2.2	Boundary Element Method . . . . .	11
2.2.3	Artificial boundary conditions . . . . .	14
2.2.4	A unifying concept: modal formulation . . . . .	16
<b>3</b>	<b>Finite Element Method</b>	<b>19</b>
3.1	Formulation . . . . .	19
3.1.1	Frequency domain . . . . .	20
3.1.2	Time domain . . . . .	24
3.2	Notes on acoustics . . . . .	25
3.2.1	Well-posedness . . . . .	25
3.2.2	Pollution . . . . .	27
3.3	Increasing accuracy: the $p$ -FEM . . . . .	28
<b>4</b>	<b>Solving general sparse systems</b>	<b>31</b>
4.1	Preliminaries . . . . .	32
4.1.1	Simulation, accuracy, and precision . . . . .	32
4.1.2	Measuring matrix properties . . . . .	33
4.2	Solution concepts . . . . .	35
4.2.1	Decomposition . . . . .	35
4.2.2	Gaussian elimination . . . . .	37
4.2.3	Iterative solvers . . . . .	37

4.2.4	Preconditioners for iterative solvers . . . . .	40
4.2.5	Multigrid . . . . .	41
<b>5</b>	<b>Infinite elements</b>	<b>43</b>
5.1	Overview of selected infinite elements . . . . .	43
5.1.1	Bettess-Burnett formulation . . . . .	44
5.1.2	Conjugated Bettess-Burnett infinite elements . . . . .	44
5.1.3	Infinite elements by Shirron and Dey . . . . .	45
5.1.4	Other formulations . . . . .	46
5.2	Astley-Leis or mapped wave envelope elements . . . . .	46
5.2.1	Definitions . . . . .	47
5.2.2	Derivation . . . . .	50
5.2.3	Matrix properties . . . . .	54
5.2.4	The envelope $\Gamma$ and related coordinate systems . . . . .	56
5.2.5	Stability and accuracy . . . . .	60
5.2.6	Polynomials for radial approximation . . . . .	63
5.2.7	Proper choice of polynomial basis . . . . .	65
5.2.8	Increasing the accuracy for spherical envelopes . . . . .	67
5.2.9	Improving the stability of transient simulations . . . . .	70
<b>6</b>	<b>Software implementation</b>	<b>73</b>
6.1	Commercial vibro-acoustic FEM software . . . . .	73
6.2	Small-scale development . . . . .	74
6.3	An exterior acoustics simulator . . . . .	75
6.3.1	Overview and effects of parallelism . . . . .	75
6.3.2	Compute node communication . . . . .	76
6.3.3	The intrinsics of programming infinite elements . . . . .	78
6.4	Code re-use: external software packages . . . . .	79
6.4.1	High-level software for scientific computation . . . . .	79
6.4.2	Available FEM libraries . . . . .	80
6.4.3	Mesh partitioning and data exchange . . . . .	82
<b>7</b>	<b>Examples</b>	<b>85</b>
7.1	Tire on a flat surface . . . . .	86
7.1.1	Comparison of Krylov solvers . . . . .	87
7.1.2	Performance . . . . .	91
7.2	Engine block . . . . .	94
7.2.1	Comparison of Jacobi and Legendre polynomials . . . . .	95
7.2.2	Robustness of TFQMR and GMRES . . . . .	97
7.2.3	Direct comparison with commercial BEM software . . . . .	102
7.2.4	Time domain simulations . . . . .	107

7.3	Long, slender submerged structure . . . . .	111
7.3.1	Effects of different right hand sides . . . . .	113
7.3.2	Performance . . . . .	115
<b>8</b>	<b>Summary and Conclusions</b>	<b>119</b>
<b>A</b>	<b>The libMesh library, related aspects</b>	<b>123</b>
A.1	Design . . . . .	124
A.1.1	Efficiency . . . . .	124
A.1.2	Integrating infinite elements . . . . .	125
A.2	Selected features . . . . .	127
A.2.1	Data I/O . . . . .	127
A.2.2	Portability . . . . .	127
A.2.3	High-performance low level libraries . . . . .	128
<b>B</b>	<b>Numerical examples details</b>	<b>129</b>
B.1	Simulations in parallel . . . . .	129
B.1.1	Elapsed time . . . . .	129
B.1.2	Scaling . . . . .	130
B.1.3	Hardware . . . . .	131
B.2	BEM timing comparisons . . . . .	132
<b>References</b>		<b>135</b>



# List of Figures

2.1	Geometry of the exterior acoustic problem . . . . .	8
2.2	Domain decomposition of $\Omega$ . . . . .	11
2.3	Discretization for the boundary element method . . . . .	12
3.1	Geometry of the interior acoustic problem . . . . .	20
5.1	Discretization for the infinite elements by Shirron and Dey . . . . .	45
5.2	Coordinate transformation for infinite elements . . . . .	48
5.3	Geometry of the exterior acoustic problem for infinite elements	51
5.4	Discretization of $\Omega_i$ for eigenvalues and pseudospectra . . . . .	56
5.5	Eigenvalues and pseudospectra of matrix $\mathbf{M}$ . . . . .	56
5.6	Discretization for spherical infinite elements . . . . .	57
5.7	Discretization for spheroidal/ellipsoidal infinite elements . . . . .	58
5.8	Discretization for mapped infinite elements . . . . .	59
5.9	Discretization for Astley-Leis elements modified by Cipolla . . . . .	62
5.10	Eigenvalues of matrix $\mathbf{M}$ for different polynomials . . . . .	67
5.11	Discretizations for spherical envelopes . . . . .	68
5.12	Pressure time history for a sphere with $\mathbf{N} = \mathbf{0}$ and $\mathbf{N} \neq \mathbf{0}$ . . . . .	71
5.13	Analytical vs. simulated pressure time histories for a sphere . . . . .	72
7.1	Coarsest discretization of the tire on a flat surface . . . . .	87
7.2	Pressure field radiated by the tire on a flat surface . . . . .	88
7.3	Comparison of iterative solvers for <code>r21789</code> , $np = 1$ . . . . .	90
7.4	Scaling of simulations with <code>r21789</code> . . . . .	93
7.5	Coarsest discretization of the engine block . . . . .	94
7.6	Pressure field radiated by the engine block . . . . .	95
7.7	Normalized iteration counts for <code>mb7854</code> , $np = 4$ . . . . .	97
7.8	Normalized iteration counts for <code>mb51416</code> , $np = 2, 4$ . . . . .	98
7.9	Normalized iteration counts for <code>mb51416</code> , $np = 8$ . . . . .	99

7.10	Performance results for <code>mb51416</code> , $m = 16$ , TFQMR . . . . .	99
7.11	Discretization of the engine block for transient simulations . . . . .	107
7.12	Field point locations adjacent to the engine block . . . . .	108
7.13	Pressure time history of the engine block . . . . .	109
7.14	Coarsest discretization of the hemispherically capped cylinder .	111
7.15	Eigenmodes of the hemispherically capped cylinder . . . . .	112
7.16	Pressure field radiated by the hemispherically capped cylinder .	112
7.17	Performance results for <code>t11745</code> , $m = 4$ , TFQMR . . . . .	115
7.18	Performance results for <code>t83653</code> , $m = 8$ , TFQMR . . . . .	116
7.19	Performance results for <code>t294344</code> , $m = 6$ , TFQMR . . . . .	116

# List of Tables

5.1	Requirements towards the envelope $\Gamma$ . . . . .	61
5.2	$  \mathbf{N}  _1$ for selected radial polynomials . . . . .	69
5.3	$\mathcal{E}_{rel}$ at $r = 2a$ for mapped infinite elements . . . . .	69
5.4	$\mathcal{E}_{rel}$ at $r = 2a$ for spherical infinite elements . . . . .	70
6.1	Commercial FEM software for exterior acoustics . . . . .	74
6.2	Tasks in parallel exterior acoustic simulations . . . . .	77
7.1	Simulation details for the tire on a flat surface. . . . .	89
7.2	Comparison of iterative solvers for <code>r161914</code> , $np = 4$ . . . . .	91
7.3	Simulation details for the engine block. . . . .	96
7.4	TFQMR and GMRES(200) applied to engine block <code>mb369587</code> .	100
7.5	Hardware used for BEM and infinite elements . . . . .	103
7.6	Elapsed time for BEM and infinite elements . . . . .	105
7.7	Hardware-scaled elapsed time for BEM and infinite elements .	105
7.8	Simulation details for the hemispherically capped cylinder .	113
7.9	Iteration counts for different right hand sides . . . . .	114
7.10	Performance results for <code>t627240</code> on $np = 15$ processors . . . . .	117



# Notation

## Conventions

$\tilde{\cdot}$	Denotes the approximate version of $\cdot$
$\dot{\cdot}$	Time dependent version of $\cdot$
$\bar{\cdot}$	Conjugate of $\cdot$
$\cdot^T$	Transpose of $\cdot$
$\cdot^*$	Adjoint or hermitian conjugate of $\cdot$
<b>A</b>	Boldface uppercase denotes matrices
<b>b</b>	Boldface lowercase denotes vectors
$f(x) = o(g(x))$	For $x \rightarrow \infty$ the ratio $f(x)/g(x)$ approaches zero
$f(x) = O(g(x))$	Of the order, i.e. $f(x)/g(x)$ is bounded for all $x$
$\Re, \Im$	Real part, Imaginary part

## Symbols

$\alpha, \beta$	Coefficients of Jacobi polynomials 5.2.6
$a$	Radial distance of the base from the coordinate origin in the Astley-Leis elements 5.2.1, also representative problem size 7.1
$B$	Radiating or scattering structure 2.1.2
$c$	Wave velocity 2.1.1
$\mathbb{C}$	Set of complex numbers 2.1.2
$d$	Spatial dimension 2.1.2
$\text{dof}$	Degree of freedom 6.3.3
<b>D, A, N</b>	Frequency-independent system matrices for interior and exterior acoustics 3.1.1

$\varepsilon_V$	Volumetric strain 2.1.1
$\mathcal{E}_{rel}$	Relative error 5.2.8
$flops$	Floating-point operations, any of the type $+$ , $-$ , $*$ , and $/$ , 4.1.1
$\mathcal{F}$	Multiplicative radial weight in the test functions of the Astley-Leis elements 5.2.1
$\Gamma$	Envelope, separating $\Omega$ in $\Omega_i$ and $\Omega_e$ 2.2.1
$\Gamma_X$	Artificial boundary for enforcing the radiation or Sommerfeld condition 2.1.2
$h_\nu^{(2)}(kr)$	Spherical Hankel function of $\nu^{\text{th}}$ order and second kind 2.1.2
$h$	Representative element length 3.1.1
$\mathbf{h}$	Vector of $\tilde{H}_i$ 3.1.1
$\tilde{H}_i$	$i^{\text{th}}$ finite element shape function 3.1.1
$\mathcal{H}_D^n$	Sobolev space of functions satisfying Dirichlet boundary conditions and being square integrable up to and including $n^{\text{th}}$ derivatives 3.1.1
$i$	Imaginary unit 2.1.2
$\kappa$	Bulk modulus 2.1.1
$k$	Wave number 2.1.2
$ka$	Non-dimensional wave number 7
$\mu$	Restart parameter of GMRES( $\mu$ ) 4.2.3, and phase term in the Astley-Leis elements 5.2.1
$m$	Radial approximation order in the Astley-Leis elements 5.2.4
$\tilde{M}_\nu(v)$	$\nu^{\text{th}}$ radial geometric approximation function of type $1/r$ in the Astley-Leis elements 5.2.1
$\mathbf{M}$	Overall frequency-dependent system matrix 5.2.1
$n$	Surface normal vector 2.1.2, and dimension of matrices and vectors 3.1.1
$np$	Number of processors B.1.3
$\omega$	Angular frequency 2.1.2
$\Omega$	Fluid domain 2.1.2
$\Omega_i$	Bounded inner fluid domain 2.2.1
$\Omega_e$	Unbounded outer fluid domain 2.2.1

$\tilde{\Phi}_\nu$	$\nu^{\text{th}}$ approximation function in the Astley-Leis elements 5.2.1
$p$	Time-harmonic pressure 2.1.2, and approximation order of shape functions in the $p$ -FEM 3.3
$\hat{p}$	Time dependent pressure 2.1.1
$\mathbf{P}$	Vector of pressure unknowns 3.1.1
$P_\nu(v)$	$\nu^{\text{th}}$ polynomial for radial approximation in the Astley-Leis elements 5.2.1
$q$	Test function 3.1.1
$\rho$	Density 2.1.1
$\mathbf{r}$	Right hand side 3.1.1
$\mathbb{R}$	Set of real numbers 2.1.1
$\mathbf{s}$	Vector of $\tilde{S}_i$ 3.1.1
$s, t, v$	Element-local coordinates 5.2.1
$\tilde{S}_i$	$i^{\text{th}}$ $d - 1$ dimensional (face) finite element shape function 3.1.1
$\mathcal{S}$	Surface of the radiating or scattering structure B, so that $\partial\mathcal{B} = \mathcal{S}$ 2.1.2
$t$	Time 2.1.2
$t_{\text{asm}}$	Elapsed time for assembling the global system matrices 7.2.3
$t_{\text{norm}}$	Normalized elapsed time of solution phase 7.1.1
$t_{\text{sol}}$	Elapsed time of solution phase 7.2.3
$u$	Number of base nodes of an infinite element 5.2.1
$\mathbf{u}$	Infinitesimal displacement vector 2.1.1
$v_n$	Surface normal vibrations 3.1.1
$\mathbf{x}$	Vector of global coordinates $x_i$ , $i = 1, \dots, d$ 2.1.1