Review for the nonlinear acoustics midterm

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These conceptual and analytical problems, which are based on Dr. Hamilton's lectures, address the major topics of the course thus far. Best wishes on the exam!



1 Gauge functions & linear lossy theory

(a) Use the linearized 1D momentum equation $\rho_0 \partial u/\partial t + \partial p/\partial x = 0$ to show that

$$\frac{u}{c_0} = \frac{p}{\rho_0 c_0^2} = \frac{\rho'}{\rho_0}.$$
(1.1)

Hint: Start by integrating the momentum equation,

$$u = -\frac{1}{\rho_0} \int \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} dt,$$

and then let $p = f(t - x/c_0)$. Note that $\partial f/\partial x = -\frac{1}{c_0}\partial f/\partial t$.

- (b) What is the definition of the acoustic mach number ϵ ?
- (c) What is the order of
 - $a\mathcal{O}(\epsilon^n)$, where *a* is a constant?

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- $\mathcal{O}(\epsilon^n) + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^m)$, for n < m?
- $\mathcal{O}(\epsilon^n)\mathcal{O}(\epsilon^m)$?
- $[\mathcal{O}(\epsilon^n)]^m$?
- $\nabla^2 p = \frac{1}{c_0^2} \frac{\partial^2 p}{\partial t^2}?$
- $\nabla^2 p \frac{1}{c_0^2} \frac{\partial^2 p}{\partial t^2}?$
- (d) What does the "acoustic Stokes number" $\eta = \mu \omega / \rho_0 c_0^2$ characterize? It which governing equation does it arise and aid the ordering of terms? What is the order of μ , the shear viscosity?
- (e) How does a term of $\mathcal{O}(\epsilon^2)$ compare to a term of $\mathcal{O}(\eta\epsilon)$?
- (f) What is order of the Prandtl number $\Pr = \mu C_P / \kappa$, and what does it characterize? It which governing equation does it manifest? What is the order of κ which appears in the definition of the Prandtl number?
- (g) Show that the temperature perturbation T' is $\mathcal{O}(\epsilon)$ by expanding the ideal gas law, $P = R\rho T$, where $P = P_0 + p$, $\rho = \rho_0 + \rho'$, and $T = T_0 + T'$.
- (h) Recall the entropy equation,

$$\rho_0(T_0 + T')\frac{\partial s'}{\partial t} = \kappa \nabla^2 T'.$$

What is the order of the entropy perturbation s'?

(i) Derive the attenuation coefficient from the lossy linear wave equation below to $\mathcal{O}(\eta)$. What is the next highest-order term in the attenuation coefficient?

$$\frac{\partial^2 p}{\partial x^2} = \frac{1}{c_0^2} \frac{\partial^2 p}{\partial t^2} - \frac{\delta}{c_0^4} \frac{\partial^3 p}{\partial t^3}$$
(1.2)

(j) Derive the progressive wave equation of $\mathcal{O}(\eta \epsilon)$ from the linear lossy wave equation

$$\frac{\partial^2 p}{\partial x^2} - \frac{1}{c_0^2} \frac{\partial^2 p}{\partial t^2} = -\frac{\delta}{c_0^4} \frac{\partial^3 p}{\partial t^3}$$
(1.3)

Hint: start by transforming coordinates

$$(\eta x, t - x/c_0) \mapsto (x_1, \tau)$$

- (k) On a plot of pressure vs. retarded time τ , what is the meaning of "to the left of $\tau = 0$ " and "to the right of $\tau = 0$ "? What is strange about the solution to the linear lossy progressive wave equation derived in the previous question?
- (1) Coordinate transformation practice: Write the partial derivatives with respect to the spherical coordinates¹ $\partial/\partial r$, $\partial/\partial \theta$, and $\partial/\partial \psi$ as partial derivatives with respect to Cartesian coordinates x, y, z.
- (m) Fun (but fictitious) coordinate transformation problem: The spherically symmetric scalar wave equation for light is²

$$\frac{\partial^2 p}{\partial r^2} + \frac{2}{r} \frac{\partial p}{\partial r} - \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 p}{\partial t^2} = 0, \qquad (1.4)$$

where c is the speed of light. Meanwhile, Einstein's general theory of relativity can be solved exactly to show that at a radial coordinate r from a non-rotating mass, time dilates as

$$t' = t\sqrt{1 - \frac{2GM}{rc^2}},$$
 (1.5)

where t is the time far away from the mass, G is the gravitational constant, and M is the mass of the object [3]. Denote $r_s = 2GM/c^2$ for convenience.³ Write equation (1.4) in the coordinates (r, t') = $(r, t\sqrt{1 - r_s/r})$. Hint: follow a procedure similar to problem (j). It helped me to introduce an auxiliary coordinate r' = r to keep the "old" and "new" coordinates straight while performing the coordinate transformation.

2 Lossless nonlinear theory

(a) Show that the so-called Poisson solution

$$u = g[x - (c+u)t]$$

satisfies the exact lossless nonlinear equation for progressive waves,

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + (c+u)\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = 0.$$
(2.1)

 $^{{}^{1}\}theta$ is polar and ψ is azimuthal, i.e., $x = r \cos \psi \sin \theta$, $y = r \sin \psi \sin \theta$, and $z = r \cos \theta$.

 $^{^{2}}p$ is used as the wave variable for familiarity.

 $^{{}^3}r_s$ is the Schwarzschild radius.

Hint: for notational ease, denote y = x - v(u)t*, where* v(u) = c + u*. Note that* $\partial y/\partial x = 1 - v'(u) t \partial u/\partial x$ and $\partial y/\partial t = -v - v'(u) t \partial u/\partial t$.

(b) Recalling the adiabatic sound speed $c^2 = \gamma P / \rho$ and the adiabatic gas law, show that

$$\left(\frac{\rho}{\rho_0}\right) = \left(\frac{c}{c_0}\right)^{2/(\gamma-1)}.$$
(2.2)

Show that the differential $d\rho$ is

$$d\rho = \frac{2}{\gamma - 1} \rho_0 (c/c_0)^{2/(\gamma - 1)} c^{-1} dc \,. \tag{2.3}$$

(c) Recall that the quantity λ equals u for a progressive wave, because this condition sets the Riemann invariant J_{-} (which corresponds to backward-traveling waves) to 0. Noting that $d\lambda = (c/\rho) d\rho$, use equation (2.3) to show that

$$c + u = c_0 + \beta u$$
 where $\beta = \frac{1}{2}(\gamma + 1)$ (2.4)

- (d) Derive the Earnshaw solution for a boundary value problem, in which the time variation u(0, t) at the face of the piston is known.
- (e) What is the Earnshaw solution for a sinusoidal boundary condition, $u(0,t) = u_0 \sin \omega t$?⁴
- (f) Derive the Earnshaw solution for an initial value problem (homework problem 2-7), in which the spatial variation at the face of the boundary is known, e.g., u(x, 0).
- (g) What is the Earnshaw solution for a linear boundary condition, $u(x,0) = m_0 x$?

3 Lossless nonlinear approximate theory

(a) Reduce the exact progressive nonlinear lossless wave equation is given by equation (2.1), repeated below for convenience,

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} + \frac{1}{c+u}\frac{\partial u}{\partial t} = 0 \tag{2.1}$$

⁴This was not done in the lecture; see page 70 of [2].

to $\mathcal{O}(\epsilon^2)$ in $(x,\tau) = (x,t-x/c_0)$ coordinates. *Hint: Expand* $v(u) = c + u = v(0) + v'(0)u + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^2) = c_0 + \beta u + \mathcal{O}(\epsilon^2)$ and then perform a binomial expansion of $(c_0 + \beta_0 u)^{-1}$. Answer:

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \frac{\beta}{c_0^2} u \frac{\partial u}{\partial \tau}$$
(3.1)

- (b) Verify that $u = f(\tau + \beta x u/c_0^2)$ solves equation (3.1).
- (c) Use $u = f(\tau + \beta x u/c_0^2)$ to calculate \bar{x} , the shock-forming distance. *Hint: Find* $x_{vt} = x$ such that $\partial u/\partial \tau = \infty$ (the condition for a vertical tangent line). The smallest value of x_{vt} is \bar{x} .
- (d) What is the shock-forming distance \bar{x} for a sinusoidal source $f(t) = u_0 \sin \omega t$? Express the distance in terms of β , ϵ , and k.
- (e) Perform a perturbation solution for

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial x} = \frac{\beta}{2c_0^2} \frac{\partial u^2}{\partial \tau}$$

for $u = u_0 \sin \omega \tau$. For what range of $\sigma = x/\bar{x}$ is this solution valid? *Hint: Substitute the power series in* ϵ

$$\frac{u}{c_0} = \epsilon v_1 + \epsilon^2 v_2 + \epsilon^3 v_3 + \dots$$

where $\epsilon \ll 1$ into the evolution equation, and then match orders on both sides of the equation.

(f) What problem does the Fubini solution address? For what σ is it valid? To what solution did Blackstock "bridge" the Fubini solution?

4 Burgers equation



Comic relief

$$\frac{\partial p}{\partial x} - \frac{\delta}{2c_0^3} \frac{\partial^2 p}{\partial \tau^2} = \frac{\beta p}{\rho_0 c_0^3} \frac{\partial p}{\partial \tau}$$
(4.1)

- 1. Why did the Burgers equation go to the fast food restaurant? To get a quadratic meal deal!
- 2. Why was the Burgers equation feeling down? Because it felt like it was getting grilled by all those derivatives!
- 3. Why did the Burgers equation get stuck in traffic? Because of its nonlinear convection term, it just couldn't get past all the other terms!
- (a) Why is equation (4.1) accurate to $\mathcal{O}(\epsilon^2)$?
- (b) What is an alternate way of writing the right-hand-side of equation (4.1)?
- (c) What is the Gol'berg number Γ ? What do the limits $\Gamma < 1$ and $\Gamma \gg 1$ correspond to? In which case does a shock form?
- (d) Which of the following is a solution to equation (4.1) in the case that $\delta = 0$? Which is a solution in the case that $\beta = 0$?

$$p = f[\tau + (\beta p / \rho_0 c_0^3)x] \qquad p = p_0 \exp[j\omega\tau - (\delta\omega^2 / 2c_0^3)x] \qquad (4.2)$$

(e) Assess second harmonic generation in the Burgers equation, using as as the first approximation

$$p_1 = p_0 e^{-\alpha_1 x} \sin \omega \tau.$$

where $\alpha_1 = \delta \omega^2 / 2c_0^3$. Hint: In this case it is more convenient to write the Burgers equation as

$$\frac{\partial p}{\partial x} - \frac{\delta}{2c_0^3} \frac{\partial^2 p}{\partial \tau^2} = \frac{\beta}{2\rho_0 c_0^3} \frac{\partial (p^2)}{\partial \tau} \, .$$

(f) The solution to the Burgers equation for a so-called Taylor shock is

$$p = \frac{\Delta p}{2} \left[1 + \tanh\left\{\frac{\beta \Delta p}{2\rho_0 \delta}(t' - t_0)\right\} \right]$$
(4.3)

Rewrite equation (4.3) by defining

$$t_{\rm rise} = \frac{4\rho_0 \delta}{\beta \Delta p} \tag{4.4}$$

and use the result to show that

$$t_{\rm rise} \left(\frac{\partial p}{\partial t'}\right)_{t'=t_0} = \Delta p,$$

- (g) In what limit of viscosity δ does the Taylor shock become a step shock? *Hint: A step shock is defined by* $t_{rise} \rightarrow 0$.
- (h) What is the name of the transformation that leads to the Fay solution? What equation does the Fay solution satisfy? What are the restrictions on this solution?
- (i) Show that $\sigma = x/\bar{x}$ can be written as

$$\sigma = \frac{\beta p_0 kx}{\rho_0 c_0^2} \tag{4.5}$$

by recalling the definition of the shock formation distance and the acoustic mach number.

(j) The Fay solution is

$$p = p_0 \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n(\sigma) \sin n\omega \tau$$
, where $B_n(\sigma) = \frac{2A}{\sinh[nA(1+\sigma)]}$.

where $A = \alpha \bar{x} = \alpha \rho_0 c_0^2 / p_0 \beta k$. Show that for $\sigma \gg 1$, the pressure becomes

$$p = \frac{4\rho_0 c_0^2 \alpha}{\beta k} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} e^{-n\alpha x} \sin n\omega \tau \,,$$

where equation (4.5) has been invoked. What is this waveform called? *Hint: think about the color of Dr. Hamilton's hair.*

(k) It was shown in class that for $\Gamma \to \infty$ (equivalently, $A \to 0$), the Fay solution reduces to

$$p = \frac{2p_0}{1+\sigma} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n} \sin n\omega\tau .$$

$$(4.6)$$

Combine equations (4.5) and (4.6) to show that for $\sigma \gg 1$,

$$p = \frac{2\rho_0 c_0^2}{\beta k x} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n} \sin n\omega\tau \,. \tag{4.7}$$

What is remarkable about equation (4.7)?

(1) What is the time-domain version of the Fay solution called?

References

- [1] M. F. Hamilton, Lecture notes from Nonlinear Acoustics. University of Texas at Austin, (2023).
- [2] M. F. Hamilton and D. T. Blackstock, "Nonlinear Acoustics." Acoustical Society of America, (2008).
- [3] "Gravitational time dilation," Wikipedia.