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Chronicle

47th Winter School on Wave and Quantum Acoustics
XLVIth Winter School on Environmental Acoustics and Vibroacoustics
Szczyrk, Poland, February 26 – March 1/2, 2018

On behalf of Upper Silesian Division of the Polish Acoustical Society (main organizer) and Committee of Acoustics of the Polish Academy of Sciences (co-organizers) we are pleased to announce that according to many years of tradition the above-mentioned Conferences known as "Winter Schools" have been organized and carried out.

Finally, 65 people participated within Conferences presenting 41 lectures and reports.

47th Winter School on Wave and Quantum Acoustics constituted platforms for sharing the results and achievements obtained in different branches of physical acoustics (e.g. molecular acoustics, quantum acoustics, acousto-optics, magnetoacoustics, photoacoustics, acoustics of solid state etc.). Moreover, researches in some selected topics related to those mentioned above (e.g. optoelectronics, relaxation processes) were presented during the school. Conference consisted of **14th Workshop on Acoustoelectronics** and **14th Workshop on Molecular Acoustics, Relaxation and Calorimetric Methods**. However, there is a possibility of organizing workshops on other subjects in the future. We would like to invite scientific centers and groups to cooperate in organizing workshops on the subjects of their interests.

XLVIth Winter School on Environmental Acoustics and Vibroacoustics was the forum for all environmental and vibroacoustics fields. Particularly it concerned traffic noise, vibroacoustics of machines, room acoustics, building acoustics, noise protection and similar problems. During the Conference in association with SVANTEK there were organised seminars on "Measurement of noise and vibration at the workplace", "Enivironmental noise monitoring" combined with measurement workshops.

The Conferences began with the special session dedicated to Professor Tadeusz Pustelny on the occasion of the jubilee of his 45 years of scientific research and scientific activities.

In this issue one can find abstracts of some lectures, which were presented during the Conferences. Further information about Conferences is available on our website

http://ogpta.pl/index.php/oddzial/

Chairman of Organizing Committee
Franciszek Witos

Abstracts

14th Winter Workshop on Acoustoelectronics

Spectral analysis of the noise spectrum of electric discharges, recorded using an acoustic camera

Boczar Tomasz
Malec Tomasz
Kozioł Michał

Institute of Electrical Power and Renewable Energy
Opole University of Technology
Prószkowska 76, 45-758 Opole, Poland

The article presents the possibilities of recording and analysing the acoustic signal emitted by electrical discharges using an acoustic camera based on a spherical matrix. The tests were carried out in a laboratory conditions for three model sources of electric discharges, such as: a free-burning electric arc, surface discharges and discharges generated using a Tesla transformer. The generation of electric discharges was carried out in air with constant atmospheric parameters, such as: temperature, pressure and air humidity.

As part of the conducted research, the main source of acoustic emission was analysed and characteristic spectral components for adopted systems generating electrical discharges were appointed. For selected components, the main places of acoustic wave generation are indicated. In addition, an attempt was made to determine individual parameters characterizing the acoustic signals emitted by electrical discharges, in order to determine the possibility and indication of the scope of application of a new measuring tool in the high-voltage diagnostics for air insulation systems.

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Evaluation of the effectiveness of selected clustering methods for identification of acoustic emission signals generated by partial discharges occurring in paper and oil insulation

Borucki Sebastian
Łuczak Jacek
Zmarzły Dariusz

Institute of Electrical Power and Renewable Energy
Opole University of Technology
Prószkowska 76, 45-758 Opole, Poland

The article presents the results of the use of clustering methods (cluster analysis) to identify the signals of acoustic emission (AE) generated by partial discharge (PD) in the paper-oil insulation. As part of the research qualitative analysis the following clustering methods of the registered AE signals were used: method of single bond (Single linkage), the full bond method (Complete linkage), the secondary connections method (Average linkage), the centroid method (Centroid linkage) and Ward's method (Ward linkage). The objective of the analysis was to find a test measurement of the series AE signals, derived from the different forms of PD elements, forming the aggregates (clusters), where in terms of a particular characteristic or established criteria for the components are as similar as possible and at the same time up other than in the other groups. Then, on the basis of clustering attempted, the evaluation of the effectiveness identification of the particular PD forms generated in power transformer paper-oil insulation system was made. Appropriate analyses and simulations were performed using the computing environment Matlab and available in this environment of the clustering procedures. As part of the study analysed the results of series AE signals generated of the basic PD forms, which were obtained in laboratory conditions using spark gaps modeling the defects of the power transformers insulation systems.

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Experimental and numerical analysis of the recovery in non-steady step and steady stage of a SAW structure with PANI+Nafion on action of carbon monoxide

Hejczyk Tomasz

Creative Development Academy Foundation
Wyzwolenia 117, 44-321 Marklowice, Poland

The paper presents the results of numerical analyses of the SAW gas sensor in the steady and non-steady in recovery state. The effect of SAW velocity changes vs. the surface electrical conductivity of the sensing layer is predicted. The conductivity of the porous sensing layer above the piezoelectric waveguide depends on the profile of the diffused gas molecule concentration inside the layer.

Numerical results for the gas CO for layer Polyaniline (PANI)+Nafion in the steady state and non-steady state in recovery step have been shown. The main aim of the investigations was to study thin film interaction with target gases in the SAW sensor configuration based on diffusion equation for polymers. Numerical results for profile concentration of the recovery in non-steady state use Finite Difference method have been shown.

The results of numerical analyses allow to select the sensor design conditions, including the morphology of the sensor layer, its thickness, operating temperature and layer type. The numerical results basing on the code written in Python, are described and analyzed. The theoretical results were verified and confirmed experimentally.

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Measurement of mechanical properties of polymers using quartz crystal microbalance

Jasek Krzysztof[1]
Pasternak Mateusz[2]
Grabka Michał[2]

[1] Institute of Chemistry
Military University of Technology
S. Kaliskiego 2, 00-908 Warszawa, Poland
[2] Institute of Radioelectronics
Military University of Technology
S. Kaliskiego 2, 00-908 Warszawa, Poland

Quartz crystal microbalance (QCM) was developed for small mass measurements using resonators operating with thickness-shear mode. Moreover, the device was successfully applied to measurement of thin films thickness, dynamic viscosity of liquids and chemical sensors construction. It can be also used to measure both the real and imagine parts of shear moduli of polymer films deposited on QCM surface as well as their rheological parameters. The knowledge of the polymer properties is very important in many science and technology domains. Especially, it is necessary for the semi-phenomenological modelling of polymer-based acoustic devices.

In the work QCM overtone oscillations spectrum analysis was applied to determination of polymer films moduli. The effect of deposited film on the response of quartz resonator were examined with respect to frequency response and electrical properties of the equivalent circuit. The usefulness of the proposed procedure was demonstrated for chosen examples of polymer films.

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New trends in the development of radar technology

Kawalec Adam

Institute of Radioelectronics
Military University of Technology
S. Kaliskiego 2, 00-908 Warszawa, Poland

The selected radar applications and radar types including MIMO radar architectures, passive radar, noise radar and the ground penetration radar are presented.

The analysis of a new trends such as the path towards future fully digital frontends and software defined radar are described in the paper. In the analysis adaptive antenna arrays and real time digital signal processing are taken into account. High performance digital signal processing and transmit/receive (T/R) modules have made possible to use active electronically scanned array (AESA) technology will also be discussed. The develop of the transmit/receive modules using gallium nitride (GaN) technology applied in a radar systems will also be presented.

Selected waveforms of radar signal are also important from the point of view of radar detection through its electromagnetic radiation. The application for the radar signal processing is demonstrated.

The new configuration have already showed interesting properties, especially at the detection of low RCS targets. This will make it possible to combine the benefits of the different types of radar systems.

The advances in computer science are important that can now provide data and signal processing in real time.

In this paper an advances technologies for future radar are outlined.

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Theoretical and numerical researches on the propagation of waves in the shallow sea

Kozaczka Eugeniusz
Grelowska Grażyna

Department of Hydromechanics and Hydroacoustics
Faculty of Ocean Engineering and Ship Technology
Gdansk University of Technology
Gabriela Narutowicza 11/12, 80-233 Gdańsk, Poland

The work is devoted to the propagation of low frequency waves in a shallow sea. As a source of acoustic waves underwater disturbances produced by ships were adopted. Propagation of acoustic waves in shallow water is specific in that the closeness of boundaries of the limiting media characterized with different impedance properties results in the acoustic field coming from a source situated in the water layer being "deformed" by different phenomena. The distribution of the acoustic field in the real shallow sea is affected not only by multiple reflections, but also by stochastic changes in the shape of the free surface, and by the statistical changes in the shape and impedance of the seabed. In the paper, fundamental problems of modal sound propagation in the water layer over different types of bottom sediments are discussed. The basic task in this case is to determine the acoustic pressure level as function of distance and depth. Results of the conducted investigation can be useful in indirect determination of the type of bottom.

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Variability of the acoustic emission signals generated by partial discharges under long-term AC Voltage

Kunicki Michał
Cichoń Andrzej

Faculty of Electrical Engineering, Automatic Control and Computer Science
Opole University of Technology
Prószkowska 76, 45-758 Opole, Poland

The main purpose of the presented research is to investigate the partial discharge (PD) phenomenon variability under long-term AC voltage with particular consideration of the selected physical quantities changes while measured and registered by acoustic emission method (AE). During the research a PD model source generating surface discharges is immersed in the brand new insulation mineral oil. The high voltage (HV) electrode is 1 cm thick brass plate with a diameter of 3 cm, while the grounded electrode is 1 cm thick steel plate with a diameter of 12 cm. There is also a square solid dielectric barrier made of 8 mm thick Teflon (PTFE) and the size of 15×15 cm placed between the both electrodes. The PD source is powered by an AC voltage with its relative level of 1.3 of the inception voltage (Ui) of the PD source within 168 hours. The AE method is applied for measurements on the signals generated by PDs. Post-measurement signal processing and analysis are proceeded by the Matlab software. Acoustic signals generated by the continuously occurred PDs within 168 hours are registered. Various qualitative as well as quantitative indicators that describe the PD variability in time are assigned. Furthermore some long-term characteristics of the applied PD model source in mineral oil are also presented according to acoustic signals emitted by the PD. Finally various statistical tools are applied for the results analysis and presentation. Despite there are various contemporary research papers dealing with long-term PD analysis, such complementary and multiparametric approach has not been presented so far, regarding the presented research. Usually electrical method is applied as well as a paper solid barrier (instead of PTFE) are commonly investigated. According to the presented research form among all assigned indicators there are discriminated descriptors that depend as well as not depend on PD long-term duration. On the grounds of the regression models analysis there are discovered trends that potentially allow to apply the results for modeling of the PD variability in time using acoustic emission method. Subsequently such approach may potentially support the development and extend the abilities of the diagnostic tools and maintenance policy in electrical power industry.

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Acoustic emission and ionizing radiation – a comparative analysis of partial discharges detection methods

Nagi Łukasz
Kunicki Michał
Zmarzły Dariusz
Frącz Paweł

Faculty of Electrical Engineering, Automatic Control and Computer Science
Opole University of Technology
Prószkowska 76, 45-758 Opole, Poland

The article presents results of measurements of the acoustic emission, electrical method and ionizing radiations generated during partial discharges. The research was carried out in a high voltage technique laboratory located at the Opole University of Technology. Model system is a tank filled with oil, and the point-point spark gaps placed inside. The presented results include the dependence of recorded signals on the distance between the electrodes for each method used.

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Automatic identification of breast cancer based on ultrasound tomography images

Opieliński Krzysztof

Faculty of Electronics
Wroclaw University of Science and Technology
Wybrzeże Wyspiańskiego 27, 50-370 Wrocław, Poland

Nowadays, health-care centres are moving from heavy reliance on standard diagnostic tools to digital systems that can mediate in diagnosing automatically. Ultrasound methods offer many real-time modalities belonging to the most interesting methods for non-invasive imaging of tissue. Ultrasound tomography (UT) imaging provides both quantitative and qualitative information from ultrasound signals transmitted through breast structure and reflected around from it. Ultrasound speed is found to be greater in tumor breast tissue than in healthy tissue, and the speed characteristics allow differentiating fat, glandular tissue and compact masses. Increased scattering and absorption of ultrasound in malignant lesions causes ultrasound attenuation to increase. The combination of ultrasound speed and attenuation distribution provides an effective method for the discrimination between benign and malignant tumors. This work presents the method which allows in vivo visualization of a breast structure based on two transmission UT images and by automatically identifying areas of fat and glandular tissue, as well as areas of benign or malignant lesions, with the background of the reflection UT image of structures scattering ultrasound.

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Propagation of a sound wave through multi-port above the low frequency limit

Snakowska Anna[1], Jurkiewicz Jerzy[2]

[1] Faculty of Mechanical Engineering and Robotics
[2] Faculty of Electrical Engineering, Automatics Computer Science and Biomedical Engineering
AGH University of Science and Technology
al. Mickiewicza 30, 30-059 Kraków, Poland

The paper presents the new approach to analyse the acoustical systems containing one or more duct like elements (joints) connected by undefined elements called sometimes "black boxes". This approach can be applied to systems containing one outlet, as in the case of a semi-infinite duct, but also two and more exhausts like in case of mufflers of complicated design. The N-port method ($N = 1, 2, 3 \ldots$) can be developed based on a number of different formulations dependent on the choice of two state variables at each duct-like joint of a system. The state variables could be chosen from the sound pressure, the volume velocity or the sound pressures of waves propagating in and out. Depending on the state variables the formalisms are called: transfer matrix formalism, impedance matrix formalism, admittance formalism and the scattering matrix formalism. All of these formalisms mentioned above are equivalent and the unequivocal transformation from one to another was derived in the paper. In general, the considered acoustic system can be composed of a number K of joints connecting some subsystems/elements such as mufflers, branches or much complex elements, acoustic properties of which are detected indirectly based on relations between state variables on selected cross sections of joints coming out from the element in question. The elements can form a cascade, and then each of them is located between two joints, except the elements at the ends of the cascade. In this case the transmission matrix is the most suitable, but it is not applicable to systems containing other number of joints. Then the scattering matrix formalism, which is the most flexible, is applied most frequently. The analogy with electrical multi-ports is used within the study.

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Distribution of acoustic field of ultrasonic multi-element ring probe

Staszewski Wiktor, Gudra Tadeusz
Opieliński Krzysztof

Electronics Faculty
Wroclaw University of Science and Technology
Wybrzeże Wyspiańskiego 27, 50-370 Wrocław, Poland

In the paper the results of simulation universal method of determining the distribution of acoustic field of multielement probes with 1024 piezoelectric transducers designed for applications in ultrasound transmission tomography (UTT) are presented. The main idea of this method is summing the acoustic fields generated by elementary transducers by means of geometrical transformations of coordinates of location of discussed points of the acoustic field against each of the transducers. This method allows us to calculate the acoustic field for different sectors of the probe with assigned geometry of elementary transducers' location. The ring probe was divided into 32 sections, each containing 32 transducers. In order to verify the calculations, the results were compared with previously performed measurements of the acoustic field distribution. Simulations were performed for one sector of the multi-element ring probe. The tests will be able to check the consistency of the acoustic field inside the ring probe. On the basis of the obtained results it will be possible to optimize the method of stimulation of elementary transducers of the ring probe. The results will be used in the visualisation of internal structures of biological tissues in the ultrasound transmission tomography.

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Analysis of acoustic emission signals emitted by partial discharges in transformer oil in the presence of gaseous inclusions

Wawrzyniak Stanisław, Frącz Paweł

Institute of Electrical Power and Renewable Energy
Opole University of Technology
Prószkowska 76, 45-758 Opole, Poland

This paper presents analysis of acoustic emission signals (AE) generated by partial discharges (PD) in transformer oil. In the first part of the measurement the AE signals emitted by PD in transformer oil were recorded. In the second part only AE signals emitted by gaseous inclusions in that oil. Then a third measurement was made – AE signals generated by PD in the insulating oil in the presence of gaseous inclusions. Two research objectives have been set.

The first – to check whether there are differences in the AE signals generated by PD in the presence of gaseous inclusions (air bubbles) and without them through frequency and time-frequency comparative analyses. The second is to develop a methodology for isolating the AE signal of PD from the interfering signal generated by of gaseous inclusions by indicating useful analysis bands that will allow to isolate PD signals from the background. In the longer term, the application of the proposed denoising of AE signals from PD can potentially be used for non-invasive diagnostics of electrical power devices.

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Application of acoustic emission for non-destructive testing of pressure vessels with hydrogen

Witos Franciszek
Olszewska Aneta
Opilski Zbigniew
Setkiewicz Maciej

Department of Optoelectronics
Faculty of Electrical Engineering
Silesian University of Technology
Krzywoustego 2, 44-100 Gliwice, Poland

The paper discusses microscopic and macroscopic sources of acoustic emission (AE) in metals and the Kaiser effect, Felicity effect and Dunegan corollary describing the state of the investigated metals or objects made of metals. The research methodology with a view to determining the state of metallic pressure vessels using acoustic emission as a non-destructive testing method is presented.

It is presented built measuring system with an integral part in the form of a 36-channel AMSY-6 measurement system from Vallen in an intrinsically safe version and built mobile AE laboratory dedicated to the study of selected industrial facilities

An analysis of test results for 3 pressure vessels with hydrogen are presented. Each study requires the construction of a network of AE sensors ensuring the location of AE sources and the implementation of the planned course of pressure changes in the examined object. The analysis includes counts, events and localized events recorded during "stops" and during "changes" in two cycles of loads performed in the study. In addition, selected AE pulses are analysed. The final results of the analysis present the classification of sources and the forecast of the state of the object under study.

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Roadmap on liquid-crystal fiber optics and photonics

Woliński Tomasz
Ertman Sławomir
Rutkowska Katarzyna

Faculty of Physics
Warsaw University of Technology
Koszykowa 75, 00-662 Warszawa, Poland

The roadmap provides an outlook on the field of liquid-crystal fiber optics and photonics. It starts from early works with classical optical fibers modified with liquid crystals and ends up with the latest achievements in nanoparticles-enhanced photonic liquid crystal fibers. Potential applications as well advances in science and technology required to meet future challenges are shortly addressed.

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14th Winter Workshop on Molecular Acoustics, Relaxation and Calorimetric Methods

Ionanofluids as a heat transfer fluids in new generation heating and cooling systems

Bałuszyńska Karolina
Zorębski Michał
Libera Marcin
Dzida Marzena

Institute of Chemistry
University of Silesia
Szkolna 9, 40-006 Katowice, Poland

The effectiveness of heating and cooling systems are often limited by insufficient heat transfer by working fluids. The optimal working fluids should have high heat capacity and thermal conductivity, relatively low viscosity and density, high stability in a broad range of temperature and low toxicity. This work describes the use of the Ionanofluids, consist of Al_2O_3 nanoparticles dispersed in imidazolium ionic liquids as a heat transfer fluids in a new generation of heating and cooling systems. Our research revealed that systems of

1-etyl-3-methylimidazolium ethyl sulfate and 1,3-diethylimidazolium ethyl sulfate with Al_2O_3 nanoparticles exhibit high heat capacity and energy storage density in comparison with commercially available heat transfer fluids working in similar temperature range. Moreover, working fluids based on ionic liquids have an advantage among other working fluids due to its broad liquidity range. The structure of obtained Ionanofluids was investigated using transmission electron microscopy after cooling in liquid ethane. Long-term stability, acceptable density and viscosity cause that investigated Ionanofluids are promising candidates as heat transfer fluids.

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Fabrication of particle capsules and their manipulation in electric and acoustic fields

Banaszak Joanna
Józefczak Arkadiusz
Rozynek Zbigniew

Institute of Acoustics
Faculty of Physics
Adam Mickiewicz University
Umultowska 85, 61-614 Poznań, Poland

Particle capsules are promising candidates for superior materials to be used in variety of applications, including drug delivery, food industry and material science. Such capsules can be formed by locking particles in Pickering drops, e.g. by sintering. Electric fields can be utilized to

form Pickering drops with shells composed of highly ordered and jammed nano- or microparticles. Here we use electric field induced convective flows to assemble particles into a packed layer at a drop interface. This leads to formation of a Pickering drop, from which we make a particle capsule. We then study the mechanical properties of such capsules by using electric field generated stresses. Finally, we investigate the possibilities of using ultrasounds for directional release of an encapsulated liquid.

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Monitoring of pickering emulsions formation by optical microscopy and ultrasounds

Bielas Rafał
Józefczak Arkadiusz
Rozynek Zbigniew

Institute of Acoustics
Faculty of Physics
Adam Mickiewicz University
Umultowska 85, 61-614 Poznań, Poland

An emulsion is a thermodynamically unstable system that phase separate over time. Surface active agents or solid particles are typically used to tackle the kinematic instability of emulsions, i.e. to prevent drop coalescence. Covering droplets with particles rather than surfactants may be advantageous, particularly when low toxicity or stimuli-responsiveness are under consideration. Such particle stabilized emulsions are called Pickering emulsions, and can be used in variety of applications, including drug delivery, food industry and material science. In our research, we prepare oil-in-oil Pickering emulsions using polymer microparticles. The process of Pickering emulsion formation is monitored by both optical microscopy and ultrasounds. In my presentation, I will be discussing possibilities of using ultrasound methods to either prepare emulsions or to monitor the emulsion formation process, as well as the use of ultrasounds in studying different properties of Pickering emulsions. I will also present our experimental results and demonstrate usefulness of ultrasound approach to monitoring Pickering emulsion fabrication.

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Conductometric studies on the ionic association of selected imidazolium ionic liquids in various solvents

Boruń Agnieszka

Department of Physical Chemistry
University of Łódź
Pomorska 165, 90-236 Łódź, Poland

Considering the ionic nature of ionic liquids, ionic association should be expected in their solutions. However, a survey of literature indicated that no systematic conductometric studies had yet been conducted on the phenomenon of ionic association and solvation in solutions of ionic liquids in various solvents, as a wide range of temperatures and low IL concentration range. It is important to emphasize the significance of the infinite-dilution limit of such data in understanding the ion-ion and ion-solvent interactions and the possibility of predicting the behaviour of ILs in a specific application.

This work summarizes the conductometric studies on the ionic association and solvation of imidazolium ionic liquids 1-ethyl-3-methylimidazolium tetrafluoroborate [emim][BF_4] and 1-butyl-3-methylimidazolium tetrafluoroborate [bmim]BF_4] in water, propan-1-ol, propan-2-ol, butan-1-ol, N,N-dimethylformamide, N,N-dimethylacetamide and dichloromethane in a wide range of temperatures. The following points are discussed: the effect of structure and solvent properties, cation of IL and temperature on the limiting molar conductivity and ionic association, ion transport processes and thermodynamic properties of ionic association.

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Hydration of polyethylene glycol monododecyl ethers in their diluted aqueous solutions

Burakowski Andrzej[1]
Gliński Jacek[1]
Riederer Marcus[2]

[1] Faculty of Chemistry
University of Wrocław
F. Joliot-Curie 14, 50-383 Wrocław, Poland
[2] Julius-von-Sachs-Institut für Biowissenschaften
und Botanischer Garten
Universität Würzburg
Julius-von-Sachs-Platz 3, D-97082 Würzburg, Germany

Long-chained ethers with relatively high relation of the number of ether groups to the chain length are interesting because of their ability to form micellar aqueous solutions even in very low concentrations. This behaviour has been practically exploited in plant protection products, where micelle-forming components facilitate dissolution of the active ones. The acoustic properties of these ethers are evidently related to the specific hydration of the micelle-forming compounds. In this work the acoustic method was applied to determine the hydration numbers of two members of the family of the long-chained ethers. It was found that formation of micelles is responsible for the hydration numbers lower than theoretically calculated ones.

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Densities, refractive indices and excess properties of tetrachloromethane with 2-methoxyethanol at various temperatures

Chęcińska-Majak Dorota

Department of Physical Chemistry
Faculty of Chemistry
University of Lodz
Pomorska 163/165, 90-236 Łódź, Poland

The weak non-covalent interactions in solution play an important role in chemistry, biochemistry, biology or pharmacology. One of the most extensively investigated non-covalent interactions is the hydrogen bond (HB), but there is another interesting type of non-covalent interaction with shorter intermolecular contacts, called halogen bond (XB). The physico-chemical properties like density and refractive

indices of liquid mixtures are essential for understanding of the nature and strength of interactions, and can provide knowledge of structure rearrangement.

The paper presents the study of mixtures of tetrachloromethane (CCl_4) with 2-methoxyethanol (ME). Densities (ρ) and refractive index (n) were measured over the whole composition range from 283.15 K to 308.15 K at 5 K intervals. The experimental values of density were used to determine the molar volume, V_m, the excess molar volume V_m^E, molar refraction, R_m, deviations from additivity of molar refraction, ΔR_m and reduced free molar volume, $\Delta(V_m/R)$. The results were analyzed mainly in terms of the formation of intermolecular complexes by directional hydrogen and halogen bonds.

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Theranostic ultrasound

Józefczak Arkadiusz

Institute of Acoustics
Faculty of Physics
Adam Mickiewicz University
Umultowska 85, 61-614 Poznań, Poland

Theranostic nanomedicine is a combination of therapy and diagnostics functions in the same nanoparticles. For theranostic treatment it is possible to use ultrasonic waves. Ultrasound imaging can be easily integrated with ultrasound therapeutic modality for diagnosing, introducing targeted treatment, and monitoring efficiency to therapy. Various materials have been explored for ultrasound imaging and therapy, including magnetic nanoparticles. Next, by surface chemical modification, nanoparticles can be coated, functionalized, and integrated with different applications. Magnetic nanoparticles improve the efficiency of ultrasonic hyperthermia and thermal ablation for anti-cancer treatments and improve the imaging contrast (USG, MRI).

This work was supported by a Polish National Science Centre grant, no DEC-2015/17/B/ST7/03566.

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Heating induced by focused ultrasound (FUS) in the presence of magnetic nanoparticles

Kaczmarek Katarzyna
Józefczak Arkadiusz
Dobosz Bernadeta
Hornowski Tomasz

Institute of Acoustics
Faculty of Physics
Adam Mickiewicz University
Umultowska 85, 61-614 Poznań, Poland

One of the earliest medical applications of ultrasound is the therapeutic heating of tissues. Using focused ultrasound the temperature increase can be induced in a very precise manner in a small area of tissue. Additionally, the effectiveness of ultrasound in hyperthermia therapy can be improved by using so-called sonosensitizers – materials which can maximize the effect of ultrasonic irradiation. In our study, we used superparamagnetic nanoparticles as such material. The influence of magnetic nanoparticles on thermal effect was measured in the focal area and at different distances from the center in a tissue-mimicking phantom. The experimental results confirm that the presence of magnetic nanomaterial in phantoms increases the thermal effect of hyperthermia. The acoustic power increase contributes to the increase in temperature rise. The most significant increase in the ultrasonic hyperthermia efficiency is in the focus because nanoparticles concentrate heat.

This work was supported by a Polish National Science Centre grant, no DEC-2015/17/B/ST7/03566.

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Manipulation of microparticles in oil droplets by ultrasonic and electric fields

Kesa Peter
Józefczak Arkadiusz
Rozynek Zbigniew

Institute of Acoustics
Faculty of Physics
Adam Mickiewicz University
Umultowska 85, 61-614 Poznań, Poland

Particle designed assembly inside drops or at their surfaces holds promise for a variety of practical applications, in particular for generation of new complex structures, such as patchy particles or capsules. There are different methods for structuring particles, including electric or magnetic field-driven approaches. Here we use a synergetic action of electric and ultrasonic fields to manipulate particles of different kinds in either silicone oil or water drops formed in castor oil. We primarily use two physical phenomena, namely electrohydrodynamic convective flows and acoustic radiation force, to either arrange particles into vertically positioned particle ribbons or form columnar phase of packed particle discs. Both the ultrasound wave amplitude and frequency determine the structure formation. Various aspects of our approach for particle assembly, including the role of particle size, material type and particle concentration, are studied in detail.

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Destruction of amyloid structures with the help of ultrasonics, hyperthermia and radiation treatments in the presence of magnetic nanoparticles

Kopcanski Peter[1], Siposova Katarina[1]
Molcan Matus[1], Timko Milan[1]
Józefczak Arkadiusz[2], Skumiel Andrzej[2]
Leszczyński Błażej[2], Haysak Ivan[3]

[1] Institute of Experimental Physics
Slovak Academy of Sciences
Watsonova 47, 040 01 Košice, Slovakia
[2] Institute of Acoustics
Faculty of Physics
Adam Mickiewicz University
Umultowska 85, 61-614 Poznań, Poland
[3] Uzhhorod National University
Pidhirna St. 46, 88000 Uzhhorod, Ukraine

Protein amyloid fibrils are one of the causes of the neurodegenerative diseases development, such as Alzheimer's

and Parkinson's. It will be shown, that magnetic nanoparticles have a considerable impact on the aggregation process, especially depolymerization and inhibition effects. Magnetic nanoparticles with different surfactants and size have various effects on lysozyme and insulin amyloid fibrils that were observed using atomic force microscopy, TEM and fluorescency methods. In addition the antiamyloid activity using ultrasonics, hyperthermia and radiation in presence of magnetic nanoparticles was studied also. Due to heat conduction from particles as a result of relaxation processes in magnetic hyperthermia experiment the destruction/shortening of amyloid fibrils was analysed. The present findings represents starting point for the application of the selected active magnetic nanoparticles as therapeutic agents targeting amyloidosis.

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Thermodynamic speed of sound in ionic liquids

Musiał Małgorzata, Dzida Marzena
Zorębski Edward, Zorębski Michał

Institute of Chemistry
University of Silesia
Szkolna 9, 40-006 Katowice, Poland

Ionic liquids (ILs) are dissipative liquids because of their high or very high viscosities. The most of ILs characterise moderate or high absorption and the velocity dispersion. Thus, special care should be taken during speed of sound investigations. The reported speed of sound often cannot be regarded as thermodynamic property, thus it is not possible to use the Newton-Laplace equation and to determine the thermodynamic quantities. This approach is especially important when measurements are provided at relatively low temperatures and under high pressures (both the temperature and pressure shift the relaxation regions). Unfortunately, this problem is often ignored and the values that are measured by commercial apparatuses (developed for non-dispersive liquids) are treated as thermodynamic values.

In this study, we present the methods for selecting the right conditions outside the regions of dispersion. To select temperature range, the analysis of $c(T)$ dependence and the classical ultrasound absorption at atmospheric pressure was done together with a comparison of group speed of sound with phase speed of sound. To narrower the pressure range, an initial analysis on the basis of calculated classical absorption at high pressure was done.

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Drops with particles: physical mechanisms for particle assembly

Rozynek Zbigniew, Mikkelsen Alexander

Institute of Acoustics
Faculty of Physics
Adam Mickiewicz University
Umultowska 85, 61-614 Poznań, Poland

Controlled structuring of particles on droplet surfaces and inside drops holds promise for many practical applications, including synthesis of functional materials. In my talk, I will demonstrate and explain how oil droplets behave when subjected to external electric fields and ultrasound waves. Especially how electrohydrodynamic, electrorheological effects, and ultrasonic radiation force in such droplets can be used to structure and dynamically control colloidal and granular particle assemblies inside a droplet or at drop interfaces. This includes electric-field-assisted convective assembly of jammed colloidal "ribbons", electrorheological colloidal chains confined to a two-dimensional surface, spinning colloidal domains, and particle discs forming columnar phases. I will also present different approaches to fabricating homogenous and patchy particle shells and capsules, as well as the results of our experimental investigation on mechanical properties of such structures.

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New composites based on liquid crystals with superionic nanoparticles: development, preparation, dielectric and acoustic properties

Timko Milan[1], Kopcanski Peter[1]
Studenyak Ihor P.[2], Kovalchuk Olexander V.[3]

[1] Institute of Experimental Physics
Slovak Academy of Sciences
Watsonova 47, 040 01 Košice, Slovakia
[2] Uzhhorod National University
Pidhirna St. 46, 88000 Uzhhorod, Ukraine
[3] National University of Technologies and Design
Nemirovich-Danchenko St. 2, 01011 Kyiv, Ukraine

Dielectric and acoustic properties of the composites based on the planar oriented 6CHBT and 6CB liquid crystals with Cu6PS5, superionic nanoparticles were studied in the 10–106 Hz frequency range. The concentration of the nanoparticles with the average size of 35 nm in the liquid crystals was 0.01, 0.05, and 0.1 mg/ml. Introduction of the nanoparticles is shown to result in an increase of the electric conductivity. Contrary to 6CHBT liquid crystal, the conductivity monotonously depends on the nanoparticles concentration. Moreover the conductivity of 6CB with Cu6PS5I nanoparticles is much higher than the conductivity of 6CHBT at the same concentration of nanoparticles. The main reason of the much greater influence of Cu6PS5, nanoparticles on the 6CB conductivity in comparison with 6CHBT is related to a greater dissociation coefficient of Cu6PS5, in 6CB than in 6CHBT.

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XLVI Winter School on Environmental Acoustics and Vibroacoustics

The Hopping Discrete Fourier Transform in Acoustics

Bismor Dariusz

Institute of Automatic Control
Silesian University of Technology
Akademicka 2a, 44-100 Gliwice, Poland

Frequency-domain LMS algorithm is one of the fastest ways to update adaptive filters, which are nowadays very frequently used in many sound processing applications, like

predictive voice coding, acoustic echo cancellation, or active noise control. Even if the Cooley-Tukey Fast Fourier Transform algorithm allows to calculate a frequency implementation very fast, the calculation time may be too long in applications using long filters. The Hopping Discrete Fourier Transform algorithm may be used as a solution to this problem. The algorithm calculates the frequency representation update based on the previous result and the new data, and may use significantly less operations than the Cooley-Tukey algorithm. This work presents an application of the Hopping DFT in an active noise control system.

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Fireworks noise in the urban areas – a case study

Kukulski Bartłomiej
Wszołek Tadeusz
Mleczko Dominik

AGH University of Science and Technology
Faculty of Mechanical Engineering and Robotics
al. Mickiewicza 30, 30-059 Kraków, Poland

New Year's Eve is an example of a situation in which the entire urban environment is exposed to an almost continuous and increased noise level from the impulsive sounds sources – fireworks. This custom arouses many controversies, related to environmental pollution, including noise, as well as protection of human and animal health, but it does not seem possible to completely prohibit these practices. It should also be considered, that young people and adults are aware of the uniqueness of New Year's Eve, which cannot be said about children, babies and animals, for whom events of that night may have traumatic consequences.

In this work the issues of identification, analysis and assessment of impulsive noise of fireworks and acoustic climate during New Year's Eve were undertaken. First part of the work discusses results of impulsive noise measurements of fireworks recorded during New Year's Eve in 2016–2017. Material presented refers to measurements at three measurement points spread over the city of Kraków. Obtained results were compared with typical noise levels for night time in urban area. Second part of the paper presents time series, spectrum and acoustical parameters of firework noise, depending on mass of the explosive and distance from measurement point.

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Acoustic treatment of interconnected rooms – computational tests

Mikulski Witold

Central Institute for Labour Protection
– National Research Institute
Czerniakowska 16, 00-701 Warszawa, Poland

Recently, the possibility of combining work rooms has been considered. The idea is not to use the door between rooms. From the point of view of the acoustic environment, this impact must be limited as much as possible. In the article, due to the multi-variant acoustic treatment of school rooms, this impact was considered. In the assessment of this impact, the acoustic properties of the rooms and the acoustic environment in the rooms were taken into account. The following parameters were used for the assessment: the reverberation time of the rooms, the speech transmission index STI and the A-weighted sound pressure level of speech in both rooms. The tests were carried out by using computational methods of the ODEON program. The acoustic adaptation includes: acoustic ceilings, sound absorbing materials on the walls and acoustic screen. The best acoustic conditions have been achieved after using sound-absorbing material on two walls and using an acoustic screen or using sound-absorbing material on one wall, using a sound-absorbing suspended ceiling and using an acoustic screen.

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Laboratory sound source in the 8–50 kHz frequency range

Mikulski Witold

Central Institute for Labour Protection
– National Research Institute
Czerniakowska 16, 00-701 Warszawa, Poland

Ultrasonic noise tests, i.e. sounds in the frequency range 10–40 kHz in the work environment, have been conducted for many years at the Central Institute for Labour Protection – National Research Institute. Ultrasonic noise in workplaces was mainly studied. The emission of ultrasonic noise sources has been studied for several years. It is determined by the sound power level, the emission sound pressure level and the source directional characteristics. In the near future, the works will concern soundproof enclosures for the sources. For this purpose, a four-loudspeaker laboratory source emitting sounds in the 8–50 kHz frequency range was designed and made. In the paper the construction of the source and the results of measurement of the noise emitted by this source are presented.

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Possibilities of using wireless communication and the Internet of Things for monitoring and reduction of hazards arising from noise

Morzyński Leszek
Młyński Rafał
Szczepański Grzegorz
Kozłowski Emil

Central Institute for Labour Protection
– National Research Institute
Czerniakowska 16, 00-701 Warszawa, Poland

Noise is a common hazard in the working environment and may cause permanent hearing loss in workers. Noise can also be a cause of accidents at work, as it masks sounds that carry information about hazards (for example vehicles moving nearby). These hazards and exposure of workers to them should be eliminated or limited by applying appropriate preventive actions with the use of modern technical measures. Such activities include monitoring of hazards caused by noise and warning employees about these hazards. Due to technical progress in the field of electronics and in particular in the field of wireless communication,

such activities can be carried out in real time. The article presents the possibilities of using wireless communication to implement a wireless sensor network that enables constant monitoring of noise hazards in the working environment and warning employees about these hazards with the use of wearable devices. Network structure, basic technical issues related to its implementation and possibilities of increasing its functionality through the use of solutions in the field of the Internet of Things were described. The article also presents the possibilities of using wireless communication to develop technical solutions enabling the reduction of threats arising from masking useful acoustic signals by the noise.

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Factors affecting the acoustic quality of residential environment

Nurzyński Jacek

Department of Acoustics
Building Research Institute
Filtrowa 1, 00-611 Warszawa, Poland

Acoustic quality of dwellings and the residential environment in general, depends on a building itself and acoustical conditions in its surroundings. Different factors contribute to the building performance class. Sound insulation of external and internal partitions, impact sound pressure level from structural noise sources, noise from technical equipment and sanitary appliances as well as reverberation conditions should be taken into consideration. Besides, diverse parameters and single number indicators may be used for the assessment in each of these areas and also different threshold values may be applied to define specific comfort and acoustic quality level. Such indices and values should be well balanced to determine the building quality properly and comprehensively.

The paper presents assessment criteria selected for multifamily residential buildings, threshold values and the classification scheme for dwellings of a higher acoustic standard. Particularly the questions of low frequency sound insulation and outdoor conditions on balconies and terraces due to service equipment are considered. The scheme gives clear assessment rules for buildings evaluation, and the next step is to develop an acoustic classification for residential areas.

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Ultrasonic noise measurement method for the exposure assessment

Pleban Dariusz, Radosz Jan, Smagowska Bożena

Central Institute for Labour Protection
– National Research Institute
Czerniakowska 16, 00-701 Warszawa, Poland

In Poland ultrasonic noise is included in the list of factors harmful to health in the work environment and therefore the admissible values of ultrasonic noise in the workplaces are established. It is estimated that about 25 000 employees are exposed in Poland to ultrasonic noise emitted by technological ultrasonic devices and a similar number of employees are exposed to ultrasonic noise emitted by other machines and pieces of equipment.

Since 1970s the ultrasonic noise related matters are subjects of many research projects in the Central Institute for Labour Protection – National Research Institute. In the 70s most of these studies concerned the impact of ultrasounds on humans, in particular the thermal effects and the functional changes in the human body.

Recently the studies concerned ultrasonic noise include among others the problem related to sound pressure levels measurements in high frequency range. The results of it is a new test procedure for ultrasonic noise measurements at workplaces. The procedure includes among others requirements for measuring equipment, requirements for the testing environment, the method of the uncertainty assessment and the description of proceeding during measurements. The characterization of the procedure and the examples of assessments of ultrasonic noise at the workplaces are presented in the paper.

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GUM's capabilities in the field of calibrating the instrument for shock measuring

Siejda Zbigniew

Central Office of Measures
Laboratory of Acoustics and Vibration
Elektoralna 2, 00-139 Warszawa, Poland

Similar to vibrations, shocks occur commonly in the human environment. Many scientific institutions deal with their measurement. So far in Poland there was no institution that would ensure measurement consistency. In recent years, there have been repeated questions about the calibration of shock accelerometers or measurement instruments. There are a number of technical solutions that use various physical phenomena in the construction of calibration stands. They are described in the article. The article presents the instrumentation purchased by GUM. The first measurements made by laboratory employees were presented in article.

The results obtained are promising. For the full implementation of the shock calibration it is necessary to develop the quality system documentation and the uncertainty of measurement.

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Results of environmental noise investigations in factory for corrugated cardboard and cardboard packaging

Smagowska Bożena, Pleban Dariusz

Central Institute for Labour Protection
– National Research Institute
Czerniakowska 16, 00-701 Warszawa, Poland

According to Statistics Poland, in 2016 in Poland – 268 000 employed persons counted once in the group of the predominant factor were exposed to work environment hazard. Among hazardous factors related to work environment, noise was the most serious hazard affecting 186 000 persons. This group includes people employed in the production of

plastic, paper and cardboard, metal, glass, wood and textile packaging. In most of those plants, employees work in a shift system, which, beside harmful and annoyance factors occurring in the work environment may additionally have an additional negative impact on their safety.

This paper presents the results of environmental test carried out on selected 12 workstations in the corrugated board and cardboard packaging plant. Based on the results of noise level measurements in the audible frequency range, it was found that the noise exposure level values referred to the 8-hour working day were exceeded at all workstations (with the exception of the position of the main operator of the corrugator).

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Automated system for acoustical measurements support – needs and requirements

Szczepański Grzegorz

Central Institute for Labour Protection
– National Research Institute
Czerniakowska 16, 00-701 Warszawa, Poland

Noise measurements are important in research related to work protection. Noise adversely affects human health and can cause hearing loss, which is one of the most common occupational diseases in Poland. The quantities determining the noise emission are: the sound power level of the source and emission sound pressure level at the workplace and/or in other places near the noise source. In determining the sound power, the shape of the measuring surface is an important issue (the number of measuring points and their location). This shape may be substantially different, depending at least from the dimensions of machines and their environment. The article presents the concept of the system intendent to support implementation acoustic measurements developed in Department of Vibroacoustic Hazards on Central Institute for Labour Protection – National Research Institute. This support system will allows to automate and improve the noise measurement, especially will allow to improve the accuracy and repeatability of measurements. Based on the review of measurement methods of the sound power level and the acoustic energy level of noise sources, a set of requirements for the construction of the support system was selected, the structure and principles of operation have been defined. The support system can also be used for the development of own measurement methods, including the study of sound radiation distributions.

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