COMSOL analysis of acoustic streaming and microparticle acoustophoresis

COMSOL Conference, Milano Italy, 11 October 2012



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Excerpt from the Proceedings of the 2012 COMSOL Conference in Milan



Acoustophoresis

- Particle migration by sound
- Acoustic streaming (bulk flow driven at walls)
- Acoustic radiation forces (sound scattering off particles)

Applications

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- Ultrasound acoustofluidics
- Non-invasive cell manipulation
- Lab-on-a-chip
- Numerical simulations
 - Design and optimization
 - Acquire fundamental insight

P. Augustsson, R. Barnkob, S.T. Wereley, H. Bruus, and T. Laurell Lab Chip **11**, 4152-4164 (2011)







Acoustophoresis

- Particle migration by sound
- Acoustic streaming (bulk flow driven at walls)
- Acoustic radiation forces $-\frac{1}{2}h$ (sound scattering off particles) $-\frac{1}{4}\lambda$

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F. Petersson, A. Nilsson, C. Holm, H. Jönsson & T. Laurell *The Analyst* **129**, 938-943 (2004)



Stabilized





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Thermoacoustics in first-order perturbation theory



$$\begin{split} \partial_t T_1 &= D_{\rm th} \nabla^2 T_1 + \frac{\alpha T_0}{\rho_0 c_p} \; \partial_t p_1, \\ \partial_t p_1 &= \frac{1}{\gamma \kappa} \Big[\alpha \partial_t T_1 - \boldsymbol{\nabla} \cdot \boldsymbol{v}_1 \Big], \\ \rho_0 \partial_t \boldsymbol{v}_1 &= -\boldsymbol{\nabla} p_1 + \eta \nabla^2 \boldsymbol{v}_1 + \beta \eta \; \boldsymbol{\nabla} (\boldsymbol{\nabla} \cdot \boldsymbol{v}_1). \end{split}$$

$$\partial_t p_1 = -i\omega p_1 \qquad \frac{\nabla^2 p_1 + k_0^2 p_1 = 0}{k_0 = \omega/c_0}$$



for water at 20 °C and f = 2 MHz



Acoustic streaming in second-order perturbation theory

Governing equations

$$\begin{split} \partial_t \rho_2 &= -\rho_0 \boldsymbol{\nabla} \cdot \boldsymbol{v}_2 - \boldsymbol{\nabla} \cdot (\rho_1 \boldsymbol{v}_1), \\ \rho_0 \partial_t \boldsymbol{v}_2 &= -\boldsymbol{\nabla} p_2 + \eta \nabla^2 \boldsymbol{v}_2 + \beta \eta \boldsymbol{\nabla} (\boldsymbol{\nabla} \cdot \boldsymbol{v}_2) \\ &- \rho_1 \partial_t \boldsymbol{v}_1 - \rho_0 (\boldsymbol{v}_1 \cdot \boldsymbol{\nabla}) \boldsymbol{v}_1, \end{split}$$



Sketch of the classical **Rayleigh-Schlichting** streaming pattern in a parallel-plate geometry

Time averaging over one period

us time scale of the ultrasound is $\rho_0 \langle \boldsymbol{\nabla} \cdot \boldsymbol{v}_2 \rangle \langle \boldsymbol{\nabla} \cdot (\rho_1 \boldsymbol{v}_1) \rangle,$ not resolved $\eta \nabla^2 \langle \boldsymbol{v}_2 \rangle + \beta \eta \nabla \left(\boldsymbol{\nabla} \cdot \langle \boldsymbol{v}_2 \rangle \right) - \langle \boldsymbol{\nabla} p_2 \rangle$ $\langle \rho_1 \partial_t \boldsymbol{v}_1 \rangle + \rho_0 \langle (\boldsymbol{v}_1 \cdot \boldsymbol{\nabla}) \boldsymbol{v}_1 \rangle.$ Thermal second-order effects ignored but see

Rednikov and Sadhal, JFM **667**, 426 (2011) Department of Physics

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The acoustic radiation and drag force on a

The model system: a straight rectangular channel in silicon/glass



2D cross section of a long, straight rectangular channel



Lab Chip **11**, 4152-4164 (2011)



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Numerical procedure using COMSOL

COMSOL Multiphysics

- Finite element program
- User defined equations and expressions
- First order fields
 - Thermoacoustics
- Second order fields
 - Flow with sources
- Forces on particles
 - Radiation force
 - Stokes drag force
- Transient particle tracing
- Mesh
 - Several length scales
 - Acoustic boundary layer
 - <u>Mesh convergence test</u>!!



Results: First-order field amplitudes



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Results: Second-order time-averaged fields





Results: Particle tracing animations





Results: Particle tracing animations





Results: Particle tracing gallery

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- Implementation and numerical solution of:
 - Acoustophoretic motion of particles
 - Second-order acoustic phenomena
 - Streaming

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Radiation forces

P. B. Muller, R. Barnkob, M. J. H. Jensen, and H. Bruus Lab Chip **12**, online (2012)

- Second-order thermal effects need to be incorporated
- Application to a relevant geometry
 - Motion dependent on particle size
 - Development and design of lab-on-a-chip systems
 - Elasticity of the walls needs to be incorporated
- > 3D measurements of acoustophoresis needed
 - New collaboration between the groups of Laurell (Lund University, Sweden)
 Kähler (Universität der Bundeswehr, Germany)
 Bruus (Technical University of Denmark, Denmark)