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Acoustical Performance Design of Automotive Muffler

Asutosh Prasad* and Raj C Thiagarajan

*Corresponding Author: ATOA Scientific Technologies Pvt Ltd, 204 Regent Prime, 48 Whitefield Main Road, Whitefield, Bengaluru 560066, India, www.atoa.com, corp.hg@atoa.com

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Automotive Muffler

- The muffler is acoustically engineered as an soundproofing device designed to reduce the loudness of the sound pressure generated from the engine by help of acoustic quieting.
- Types of Mufflers
 - Dissipative (absorptive) muffler
 - Reactive Muffler
 - Hybrid Muffler
- Reactive Muffler :- Sound is attenuated by reflection and cancellation of sound waves.



Model Definition

Inlet diameter = 40 mm Outlet diameter = 34 mm Chamber length = 300 mm Chamber width = 160 mm Chamber depth = 60 mm Resonating chambers = 5 Total Length = 510 mm





Meshing Process

Wavelength
$$\lambda = \frac{c}{f}$$

= $\frac{343}{2000} = 0.1715 m$

Maximum Element Length

$$\frac{Wavelength}{4} = \frac{0.1715}{4} = 0.042875 \text{ m}$$
Tetrahedral Elements = 20542
Triangular Elements = 5101
Edge Elements = 626
Vertex Elements = 90
Mesh Volume = 2965000 mm³



Physics & Study Environments

- Physics Interface
 - Pressure Acoustics, Frequency Domain
- Boundary Conditions
 - Sound Hard (Wall)
 - Incident pressure field
 - Radiation pressure field
- Study Environment
 - Frequency Domain
 - Frequency range (100 Hz to 2000 Hz)
- Solver Configuration
 - Linear
 - Direct Solver



Governing Equation

Domain equation

$$\nabla \cdot \left(-\frac{\nabla p}{\rho}\right) - \frac{\omega^2 p}{c^2 \rho} = 0$$

Where

ρ = Density
ω = Angular Frequency
c = Speed of Sound
p = Acoustic Pressure

Sound hard
$$\left(-\frac{\nabla p}{\rho}\right).n=0$$

Incident
$$\left(-\frac{\nabla p}{\rho}\right).n = \frac{i\omega}{\rho c}p - \frac{2i\omega}{\rho c}p_0$$
.n

Transmitted
$$\left(-\frac{\nabla p}{\rho}\right) . n = \frac{i\omega}{\rho c} p$$

Results and Discussion



Transmission Loss

$$TL = 10 \log\left(\frac{P in}{P out}\right)$$



Transmission loss (dB)

Here P_{in} , P_{out} denotes the acoustic effects at inlet and outlet of the muffler respectively



Sound Pressure comparison



Conclusion & Future Works

- Acoustical analysis and Muffler performance prediction by numerical methodologies shows potential to increase productivity of Automotive manufacturers, reduces production time and cost respectively.
- Future work:- Multiphysics design optimization will be performed for superior sound cancellation in Automotive Muffler.



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