

INVESTIGATION OF THE THERMOACOUSTIC EFFECT

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Introduction

Defenition [1]

Thermoacoustic effect is the conversion of heat energy to sound energy or vice versa

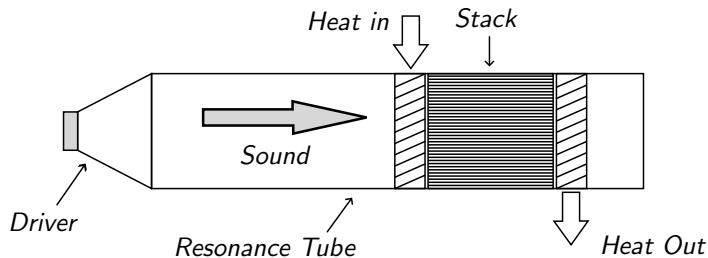


Figure 1: Schematic illustration of the thermoacoustic refrigerator

Theory [2], [3]

- ① Adiabatic compression

$$\frac{\delta T_1}{T_{mean}} = \frac{\gamma - 1}{\gamma} \frac{\delta P_1}{P_{mean}}$$

- ② Constant-pressure heat transfer

$$\delta T = 2\delta T_1 - 2x_1(\nabla T)_{mean}$$

$$Q \approx mC_p \delta T$$

- ③ Adiabatic expansion

- ④ Constant-pressure heat transfer

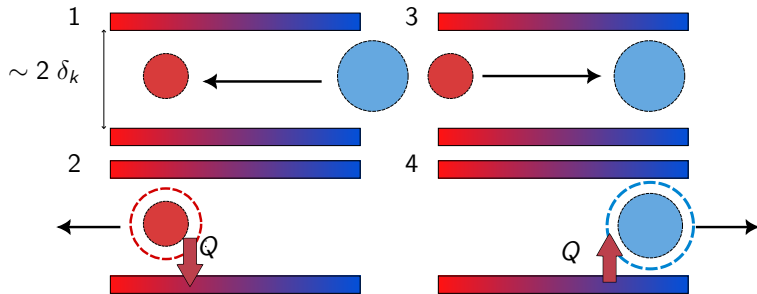


Figure 2: Heat transfer process in the stack

x_1 - gas oscillation distance, $(\nabla T)_{mean}$ - temperature gradient on the plate

Research design

- ① What happens if you remove stack?
- ② At what frequency the effect is more productive?
- ③ What changes when you change stack position (x)?

Experimental setup I

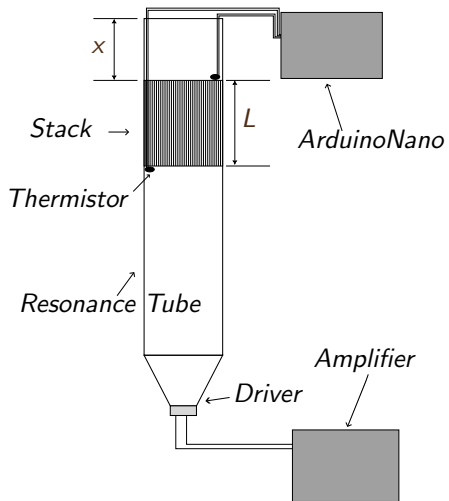


Figure 3: Schematic illustration of the setup

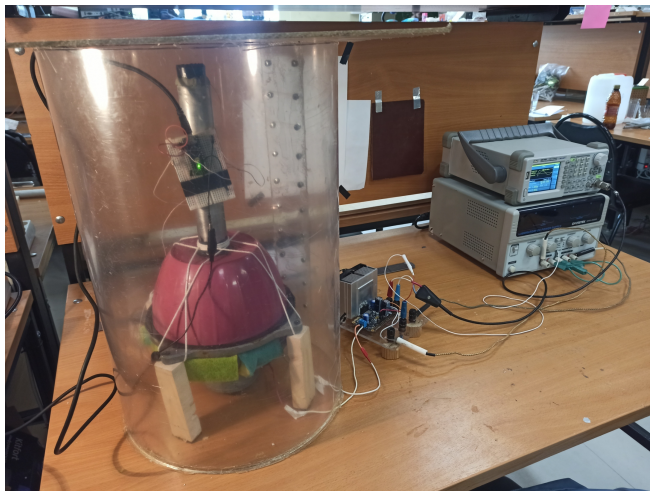


Figure 4: Setup photo

Experimental setup II

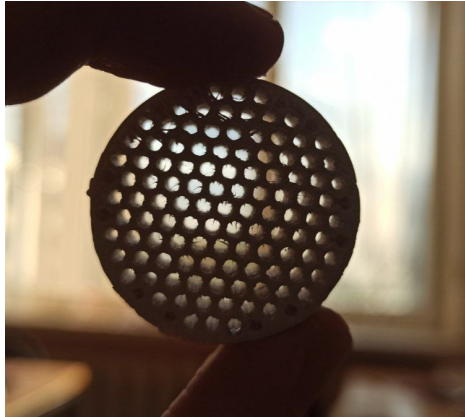


Figure 5: 3D printed stack;
hole diameter 2 mm

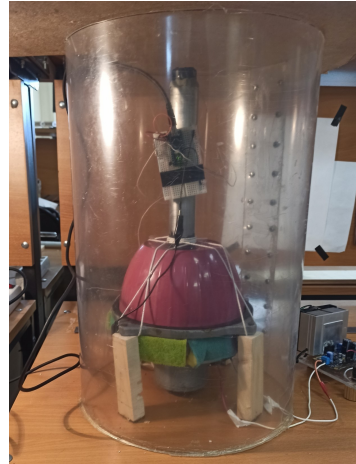


Figure 6: Resonance tube with
driver

The need for a stack I

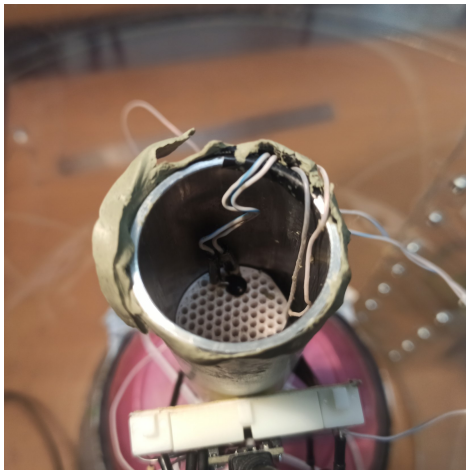


Figure 7: Stack 45 mm long inside the resonance tube



Figure 8: Thermistors without stack

The need for a stack II

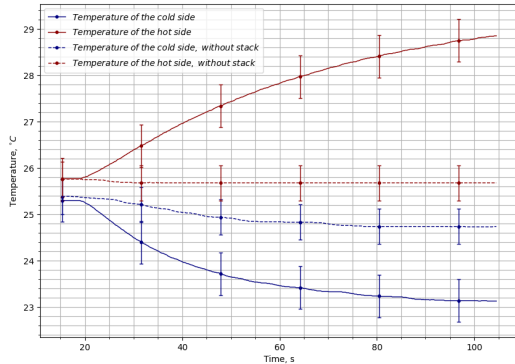


Figure 9: Dependence of the temperatures of the cold and hot sides of the stack on time

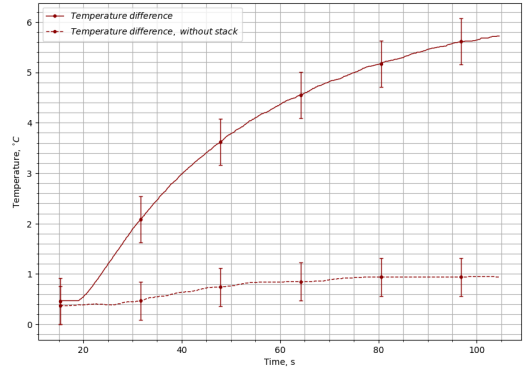


Figure 10: Dependence of the temperature difference on time

Frequency optimization

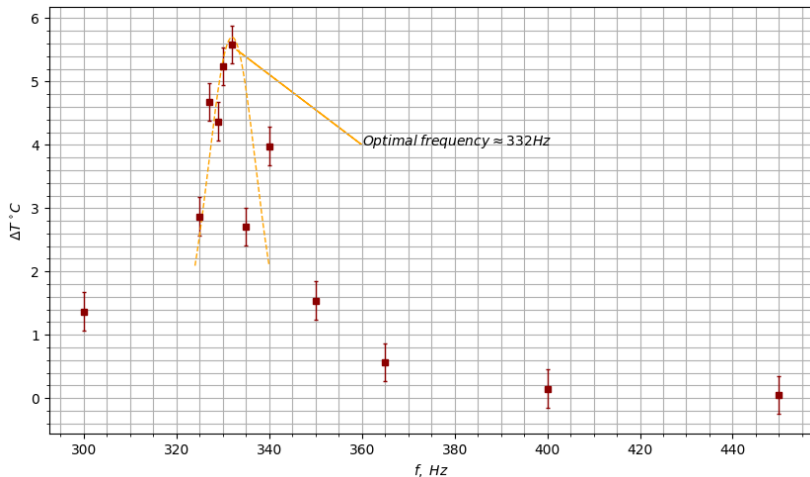


Figure 11: The dependence of the temperature difference reached in 75 seconds on the oscillation frequency of the driver

Stack position optimization

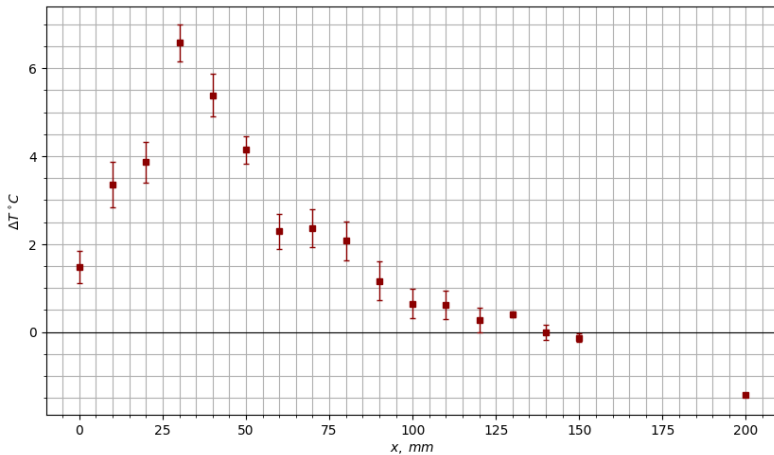


Figure 12: Dependence of the temperature difference at the ends of the stack on its position

Conclusions

- A Thermoacoustic effect was observed, namely, a temperature gradient was obtained due to the acoustic wave
- The optimal frequency for my setup was found
- The optimal stack position has been determined $\approx 30\text{mm}$ from closed end.
- It was noticed that starting from a certain distance, the direction of the temperature gradient changes to the opposite

References

- [1] Amirin. *Experimental study of thermoacoustic cooling with parallel-plate stack in different distances*. IOP Publishing Ltd, 2019.
- [2] Kajurek J. and Rusowicz A. *Experimental Investigation on the Thermoacoustic Effect in Easily Accessible Porous Materials*. Energies, 2021.
- [3] M. E. H. Tijani. *Loudspeaker-driven thermo-acoustic refrigeration*. Technische Universiteit Eindhoven, 2001.