B5.4 Waves & Compressible Flow

Question Sheet 2

1. Consider an ocean of depth h between a fixed base z = -h and an upper surface z = 0 held at constant atmospheric pressure p_a . The fluid in the ocean is incompressible and starts in a stratified static state with density $\rho = \rho_0 F(z)$. Show that the corresponding pressure is given by

$$p_0(z) = p_a + \rho_0 g \int_z^0 F(\zeta) \,\mathrm{d}\zeta.$$

The fluid is perturbed by small-amplitude two-dimensional disturbances, such that the density, pressure and velocity fields are given by

$$\rho = \rho_0 F(z) + \rho'(x, z, t), \qquad p = p_0(z) + p'(x, z, t), \qquad \mathbf{u} = u(x, z, t)\hat{\mathbf{e}}_x + w(x, z, t)\hat{\mathbf{e}}_z,$$

and the free surface lies at $z = \eta(x,t)$ (but remains at pressure p_a). Show that w satisfies the equation

$$\frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} \left(\frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial z^2} \right) = \frac{1}{F} \frac{\mathrm{d}F}{\mathrm{d}z} \left(g \frac{\partial^2 w}{\partial x^2} - \frac{\partial^3 w}{\partial z \partial t^2} \right).$$

and write down the boundary conditions that apply at the bottom z = -h and on the free surface $z = \eta$. Linearise the free surface conditions to z = 0, and write them as a single condition on w. [Considerable care is required with this linearisation.]

If waves propagate such that $w = \operatorname{Re} \{A(z)e^{i(kx-\omega t)}\}$, derive an equation for A(z) and show that the appropriate boundary conditions are

$$A(-h) = 0$$
, $\omega^2 \frac{\mathrm{d}A}{\mathrm{d}z}(0) - k^2 g A(0) = 0$.

For high-frequency waves, the condition at z = 0 can be approximated by dA/dz = 0. In this case, and supposing that $F(z) = e^{-\lambda z}$, show that the frequency of such waves must satisfy

$$\omega^2 < \frac{4\lambda g k^2}{\lambda^2 + 4k^2}$$

2. A barotropic compressible fluid, for which the pressure p and density ρ are related by $p = P(\rho)$, is contained in a rectangular pipe between rigid walls at x = 0, x = a, y = 0, y = b, a rigid end at z = 0 and a free end at z = h maintained at constant pressure p_0 .

Assuming that gravity is negligible, show that small-amplitude sound waves may be described using a velocity potential ϕ that satisfies the three-dimensional wave equation with speed c_0 , which you should define. Also find the boundary conditions for ϕ on each of the boundaries.

Find the natural frequencies of oscillation and show that, if a and b are both very much smaller than h, then the lowest frequencies are approximately of the form

$$\omega = \left(j + \frac{1}{2}\right) \frac{\pi c_0}{h},$$

for non-negative integer j.

Compare with the equivalent result when the end at z = 0 is also maintained at pressure p_0 , and hence describe the difference in pitch (the fundamental frequency) between 'stopped' and 'open' organ pipes of the same length.

- 3. Small-amplitude waves disturb a gas contained in a two-dimensional box 0 < x < L, 0 < y < b. The flow is described by a velocity potential ϕ that satisfies the wave equation with speed c_0 .
 - (a) If one side of the box is driven, so that

$$\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} = a \mathrm{e}^{-\mathrm{i}\omega t}$$
 (real part assumed) at $x = 0$,

write down appropriate boundary conditions for the other three sides, and obtain the solution

$$\phi = \frac{ac_0 \cos(\omega(L-x)/c_0)}{\omega \sin(\omega L/c_0)} e^{-i\omega t}.$$

For which values of ω is this solution invalid? What happens if ω takes one of these values? (b) Now suppose $L = \infty$, and

$$\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial x} = a \cos\left(\frac{\pi y}{b}\right) e^{-i\omega t}$$
 at $x = 0$

Show that

$$\phi = \cos\left(\frac{\pi y}{b}\right) e^{-i\omega t} \left(A e^{\lambda x} + B e^{-\lambda x}\right)$$

is a possible solution provided

$$\lambda^2 = \frac{\pi^2}{b^2} - \frac{\omega^2}{c_0^2}$$

Explain how to determine the constants A and B, distinguishing carefully between the cases $0 < \omega < \pi c_0/b$ and $\omega > \pi c_0/b$. [Hint: think about what condition must be applied at infinity.]

4. Acoustic waves are generated in a compressible fluid by small oscillations of a cylinder, whose radius at time t is given in plane polar coordinates by

$$r = a \left(1 + \epsilon e^{-i\omega t} \right)$$
 (real part assumed).

The flow is described by a velocity potential ϕ satisfying the two-dimensional wave equation, with sound speed c_0 . Assuming ϵ is small, derive the approximate boundary condition

$$\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial r} = -\epsilon \omega a \mathrm{i} \mathrm{e}^{-\mathrm{i}\omega t}$$
 at $r = a$.

Show that separable radially-symmetric solutions are given by

$$\phi(r,t) = e^{-i\omega t} \left\{ A J_0\left(\frac{\omega r}{c_0}\right) + B Y_0\left(\frac{\omega r}{c_0}\right) \right\},\,$$

where A and B are constants, and $J_0(\xi)$ and $Y_0(\xi)$ are Bessel functions.

Given that $J_0(\xi) \to 1$ and $Y_0(\xi) \to -\infty$ as $\xi \to 0$, and that $J_0(\xi)$ and $Y_0(\xi)$ have the asymptotic behaviour

$$J_0(\xi) \sim \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi\xi}} \cos(\xi - \pi/4), \qquad Y_0(\xi) \sim \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi\xi}} \sin(\xi - \pi/4),$$

as $\xi \to \infty$, determine the constants A and B for (a) the waves inside the cylinder, and (b) the waves outside the cylinder. [*Hint: think about what condition must be applied at infinity.*]