Numerical Simulation of low-frequency micro seismic and acoustic emissions of onshore turbines: Comparison with acoustic and seismic measurements

Dr.-Ing. Stylianos Chrisopoulos



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Content

- Joint Research Project "TremAc"
- Simulation of acoustic-structure and soil-structure interaction
 - Boundary Element Method and Model
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 - Acoustic source
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 - Micro-seismic source
 - Wave propagation due to seismic source
 - Decay of acoustic and seismic emissions
- Comparison with acoustic and seismic measurements carried out at the wind turbine in Ingersheim
- Conclusions and outlook







Joint Research Project

"Objective criteria for vibration and sound emissions of onshore wind turbines" (TremAc) 2016 - 2019

Partners

- 8 research institutes from 5 universities: Aerodynamics and Gas Dynamics(USt), Wind Energy (TUM), Structural Engineering, Geotechnics and Geophysics (KIT), Psychology (Uni Bielefeld), Environmental Medicine (Uni Halle) and the industrial partner ENERCON
- Associated partners: Ingersheim, Wilstedt (WT)

Motivation

Microseismic and acoustic noise generated during the operation of wind turbines can be a disturbance for residents

Objective

Continuous chain of aerodynamic and elastic emission/propagation models from the blades to the resident's homes, validated by measurements, related to health and opinion

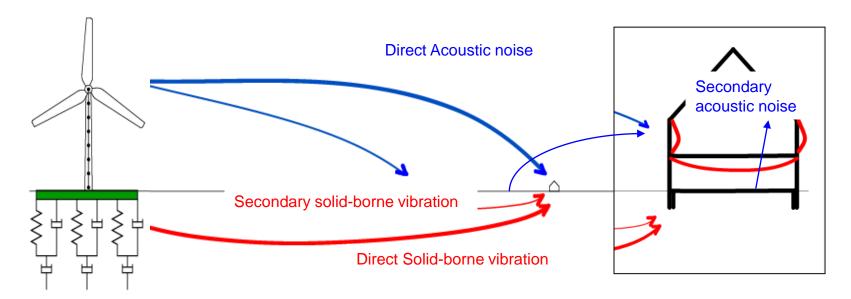






Chain of emisions (Simulation and monitoring)

- Acoustic and elastic wave propagation due to dynamic Soil-Structure Interaction
- Secondary effects caused by transmisions on the boundaries between the acoustic and elastic media (secondary noise in nearby building due to the vibration of structural elements and secondary elastic waves in the soil due to acoustic emissions)

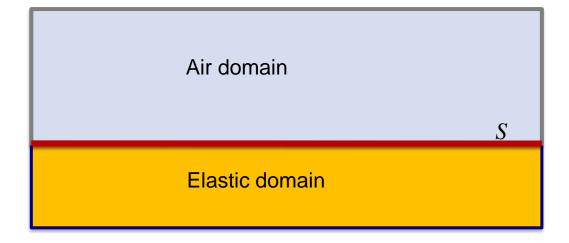






Basic Idea of Boundary Element Method (BEM)

- Instead of searching the fundamental solution of the Helmholtz equation in one air domain $\nabla^2 p(x) + \left(\frac{\omega}{c}\right)^2 \cdot p(x) = 0$
- and the fundamental solution of the Navier-Cauchy equation in one elastic domain $\mu \cdot \nabla^2 u(x) + (\lambda + \mu) \cdot \nabla \nabla u(x) + \rho \cdot \omega^2 \cdot u(x) = 0$
- or in several air domains (layers) or elastic domains (ground layers)
- for N³ points inside the whole continuum
- search for the solution in only N² points on the boundary surface S









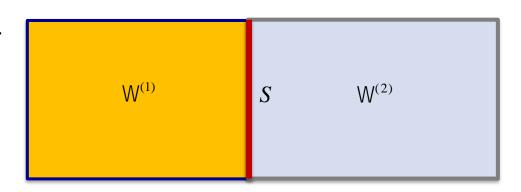
Boundary Element Method (BEM) for coupled elastic-acoustic domains

Continuity conditions at interface S:

$$\mathbf{u}^{1} = \mathbf{u}^{2}, \ \mathbf{t}^{1} = -\mathbf{t}^{2}$$

$$p^{1} = p^{2}, \ \partial_{n}p^{1} = -\frac{\rho^{1}}{\rho^{2}}\partial_{n}p^{2}$$

$$\frac{1}{\omega^{2}\rho^{1}}\partial_{n}p^{1} = -\widehat{\mathbf{n}}\cdot\mathbf{u}^{2}, \ p^{1} = \widehat{\mathbf{n}}\cdot\mathbf{t}^{2}$$



Fundamental solutions G and U of the boundary integral equations

$$c(x) \cdot p(x) + \int \partial_n G(x, y) \cdot p(y) dS = \int G(x, y) \cdot \partial_n p(y) dS$$
$$k(x) \cdot u(x) + \int T(x, y) \cdot u(y) dS = \int U(x, y) \cdot t(y) dS$$

- p acoustic pressure, u displacement, t mechanical traction, ρ density
- Solution of linear systems of algebraic equations

$$T \cdot u = U \cdot t$$

$$Q \cdot p = G \cdot q$$

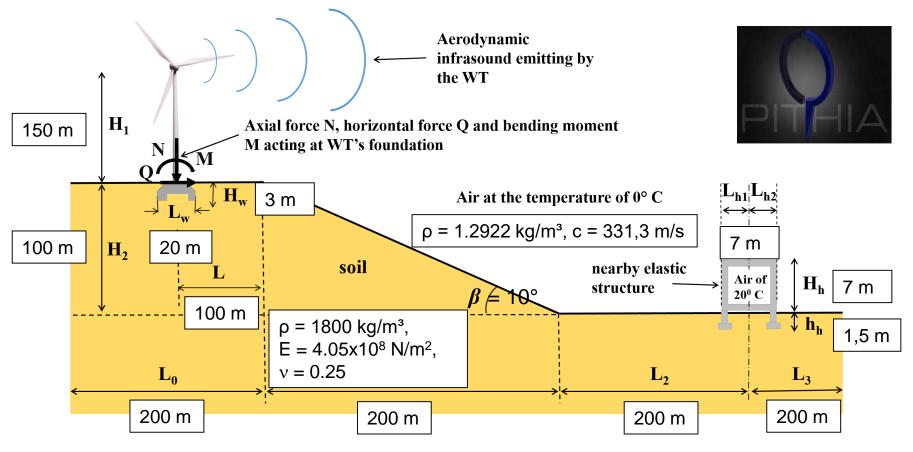
Hierarchical-submatrices (Gkortsas et al., 2017)







Boundary Element Model



- 5 Regions: Granular soil, foundation of WT, building and two air regions
- Soil linear elastic, justified by measurements due to the small disp. amplitudes
- ≈100000 four-node linear boundary elements at all boundaries and interfaces







Acoustic and Microseismic Actions due to WT operation

Load Simulation by UST-IAG:

- CFD code FLOWER, uniform or turbulent inflow, delivers acoustic pressure
- Structural code SIMPACK coupled to FLOWER delivers 6 tower base load components
- Simulation of 41 sec. WT operation at 12 m/s wind as time series (aerodynamic and acoustic rotor-tower interaction is taken into account)

Further Proceeding:

- Perform FFT for each time series
- Subtract mean values (due to constant load or steady wind) and irregular amplitudes at the start of simulation
- Identification of dominating frequencies and their amplitudes
- Application to their respective source points as mean-value-free harmonic signals for BEM simulations in the frequency domain.

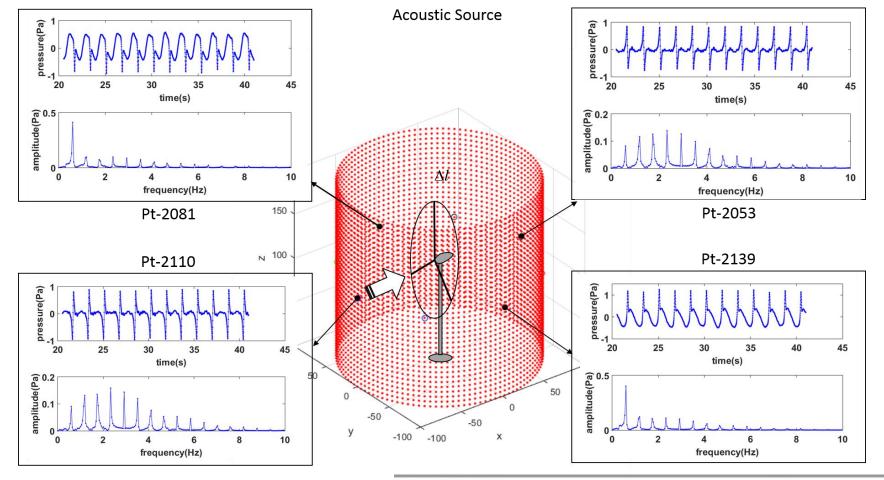






Acoustic Source around WT

Acoustic pressure interface: 4218 equidistant points (distance 5 m) on a cylinder (R = 100 m, H = 200 m) around the WT

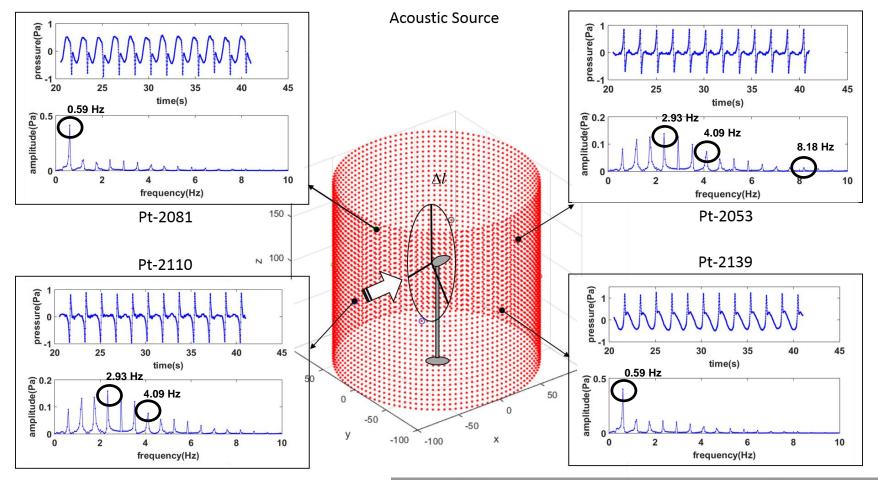






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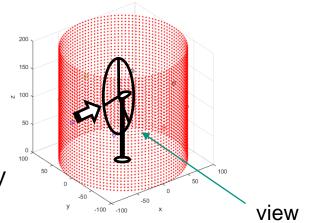


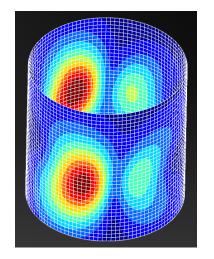


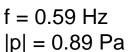


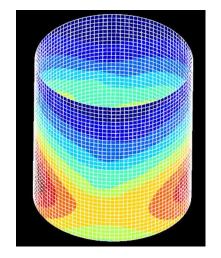
Acoustic Source around WT

- Acoustic pressure distribution on source cylinder for the examined frequencies
- Viewed in rotor plane (y-direction)
- Pronounced directivity change with frequency

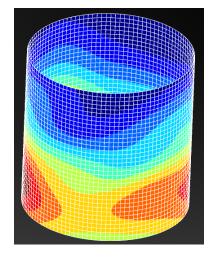




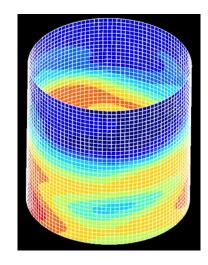




f = 2.93 Hz|p| = 0.144 Pa



f = 4.09 Hz|p| = 0.095 Pa



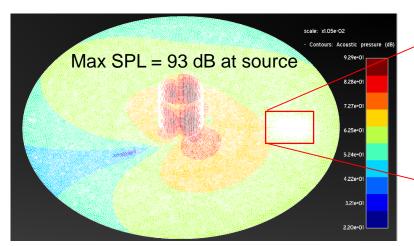
f = 8.18 Hz|p| = 0.018 Pa

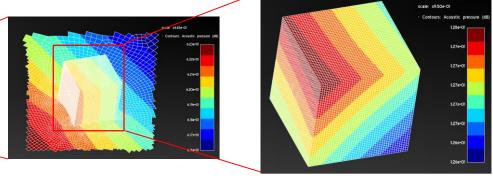




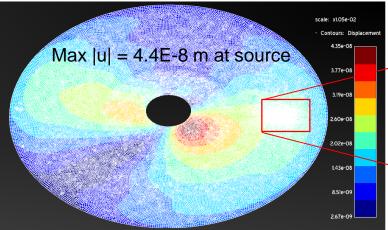


- Acoustic pressure and secondary displacement amplitudes for f = 0.59 Hz
- Source 180° rotated (so that main directivity hits building)

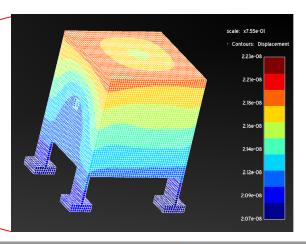




Max SPL = 62 dB outdoor, 12 dB indoor



Max |u| = 2.2E-8 m at building

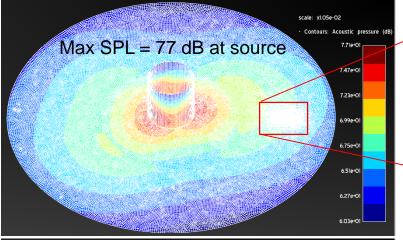


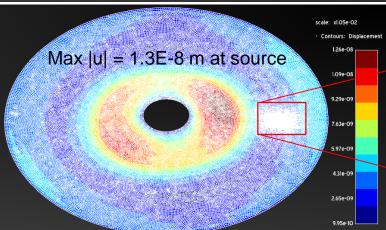


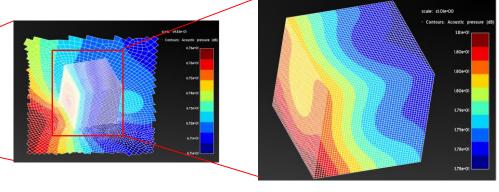




- Acoustic pressure and secondary displacement amplitudes for f = 2.93 Hz
- Source 180° rotated (so that main directivity hits building)

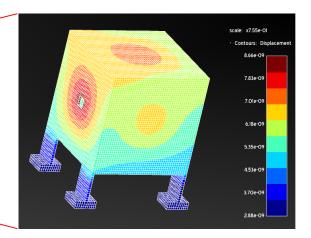






Max SPL = 68 dB outdoor, 19 dB indoor

Max |u| = 8.7E-9 m at building

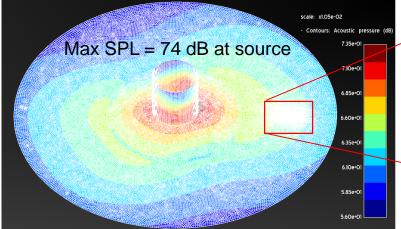


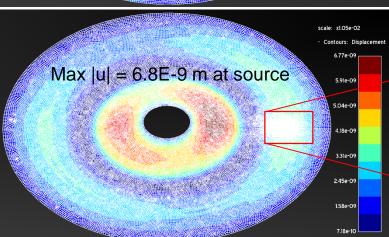


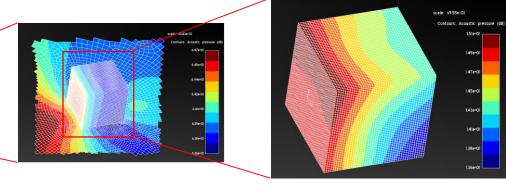




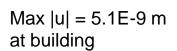
- Acoustic pressure and secondary displacement amplitudes for f = 4.09 Hz
- Source 180° rotated (so that main directivity hits building)

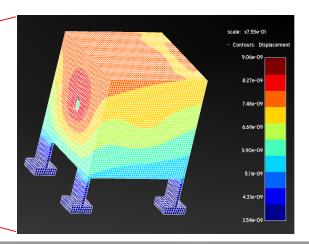






Max SPL = 65 dB outdoor, 15 dB indoor



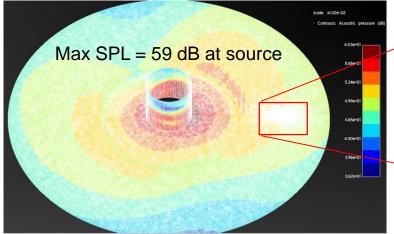


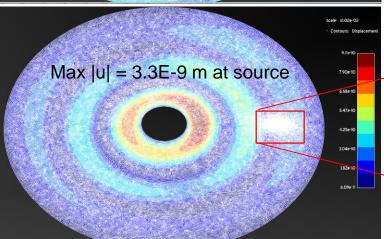


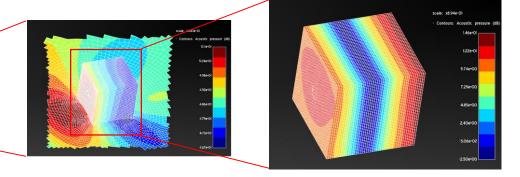




- Acoustic pressure and secondary displacement amplitudes for f = 8.18 Hz
- Source 180° rotated (so that main directivity hits building)

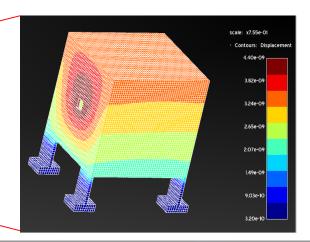






Max SPL = 51 dB outdoor, 15 dB indoor

Max |u| = 2.4E-9 m at building



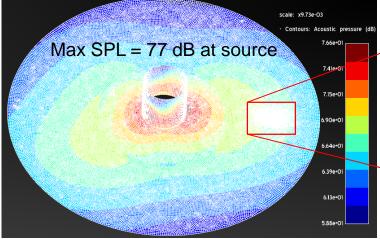


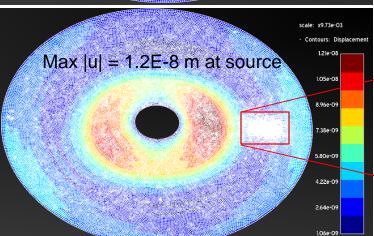


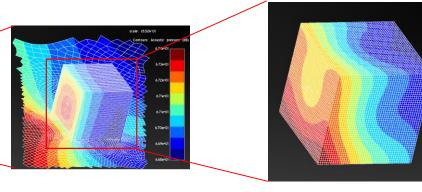


Wave Propagation due to Acoustic Source (turbulent inflow)

- Acoustic pressure and secondary displacement amplitudes for f = 2.93 Hz
- Source 180° rotated (so that main directivity hits building)

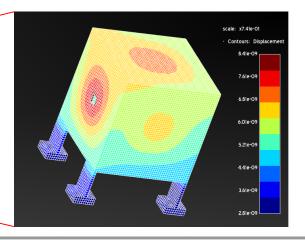






Max SPL = 67 dB outdoor, 18 dB indoor

Max |u| = 8.4E-9 m at building









1.76e+0

Acoustic pressure and displacement amplitudes due to Acoustic Source (uniform inflow)

Variation of building distance

Freq. [Hz]	Pressur	e level out	side build	ing [dB]	Pressure level inside building [dB]			
[]	Build. at 350 m	Build. at 500 m	Build. at 650 m	Build. at 1 km	Build. at 350 m	Build. at 500 m	Build. at 650 m	Build. at 1 km
0.59	66	62	60	56	16	13	11	5
2.93	70	68	66	62	21	19	16	13
4.09	67	65	63	60	17	15	13	10

Freq. [Hz]	Displacement amplitude at building [m]									
	Building at 350 m	Building at 500 m	Building at 650 m	Building at 1 km						
0.59	2.7E-08	2.2E-08	1.9E-08	1.2E-08						
2.93	1.5E-08	8.7E-09	7.0E-09	5.2E-09						
4.09	5.7E-09	5.1E-09	3.8E-09	2.8E-09						

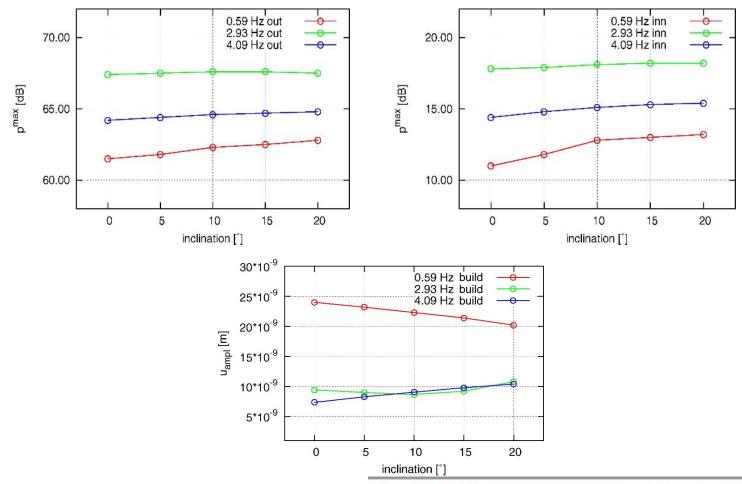






Acoustic pressure and displacement amplitudes due to Acoustic Source (uniform inflow)

Variation of slope inclination



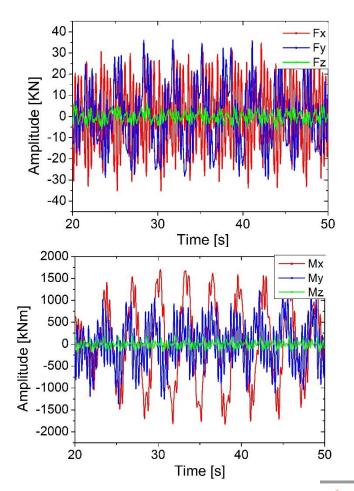
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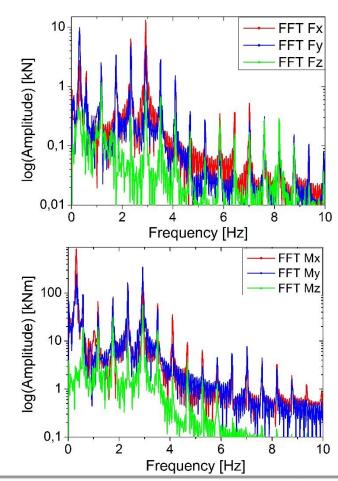
German Academic Exchange Service



Micro-seismic Source at WT

- Mechanical load interface: foundation base (R = 9.9 m, H = 3.0 m)
- Dominant frequencies also 0.59, 2.93, 4.09, 8.18 Hz





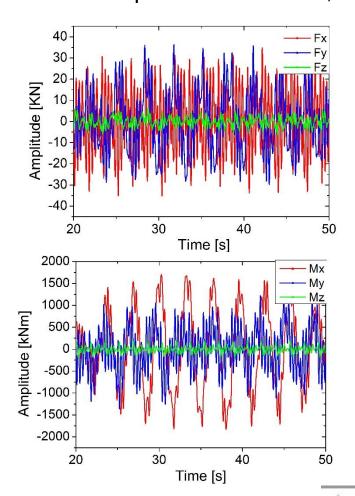


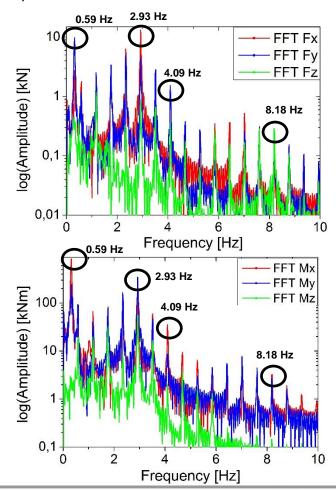




Micro-seismic Source at WT

- Mechanical load interface: foundation base (R = 9.9 m, H = 3.0 m)
- Dominant frequencies also 0.59, 2.93, 4.09, 8.18 Hz



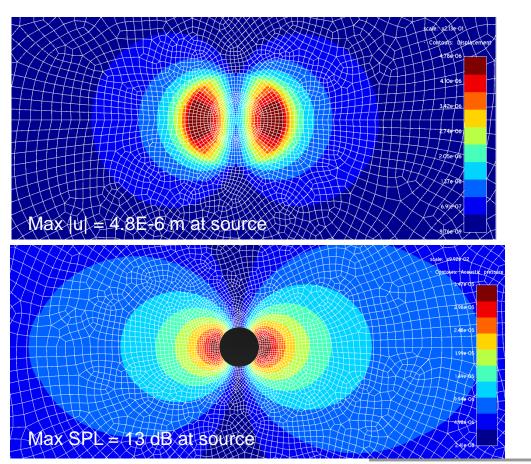


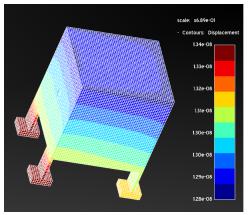




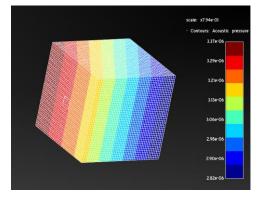


- Displacement and secondary acoustic pressure amplitudes for f = 0.59 Hz
- Source not rotated (main directivity hits building)





Max |u| = 1.4E-8 m at building



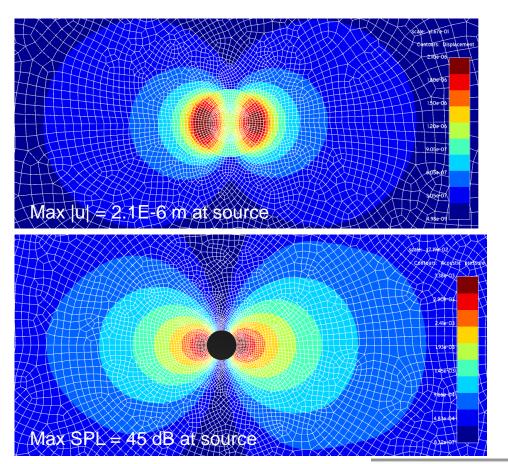
Max SPL = -7 dB outdoor, -15 dB indoor

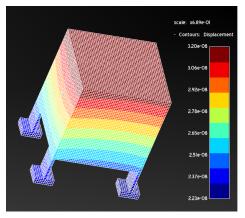




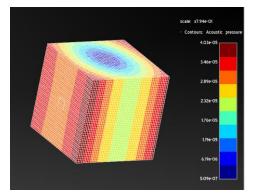


- Displacement and secondary acoustic pressure amplitudes for f = 2.93 Hz
- Source not rotated (main directivity hits building)





Max |u| = 3.2E-8 m at building



Max SPL = 21 dB outdoor, 7 dB indoor

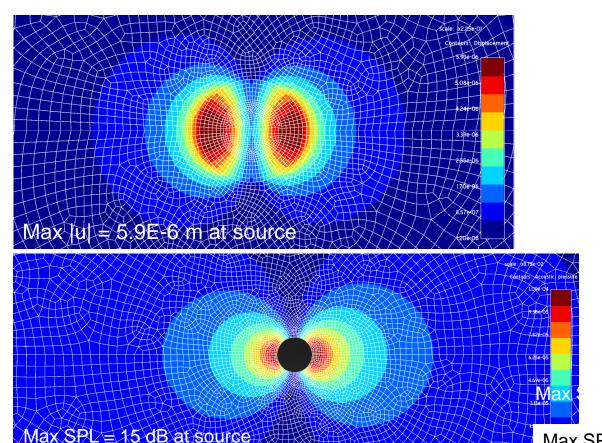


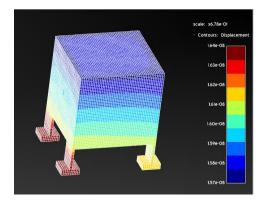




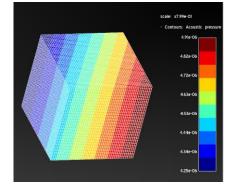
Wave Propagation due to Seismic Source (turbulent inflow)

- Displacement and secondary acoustic pressure amplitudes for f = 0.59 Hz
- Source not rotated (main directivity hits building)





Max |u| = 1.7E-8 m at building



Max SPL = -4 dB outdoor, -12 dB indoor







Acoustic pressure and displacement amplitudes due to Seismic Source (uniform inflow)

Variation of building distance

Freq. [Hz]	Pressur	e level out	side build	ing [dB]	Pressure level inside building [dB			
[]	Build. at 350 m	Build. at 500 m	Build. at 650 m	Build. at 1 km	Build. at 350 m	Build. at 500 m	Build. at 650 m	Build. at 1 km
0.59	-2	-7	-6	-10	-13	-15	-18	-36
2.93	25	21	20	8	9	7	4	-4
4.09	13	10	4	0	-1	-5	-9	-18

Freq. [Hz]	Displacement amplitude at building [m]								
	Building at 350 m	Building at 500 m	Building at 650 m	Building at 1 km					
0.59	2.3E-08	1.4E-08	9.1E-09	5.9E-09					
2.93	3.6E-08	3.2E-08	2.2E-08	9.0E-09					
4.09	7.4E-09	4.6E-09	3.1E-09	1.0E-09					

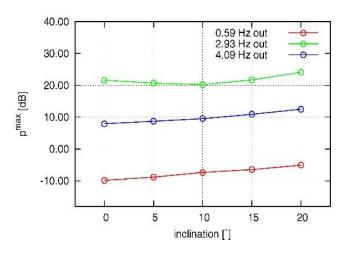


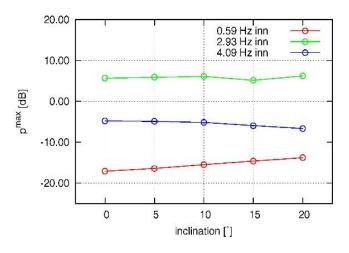


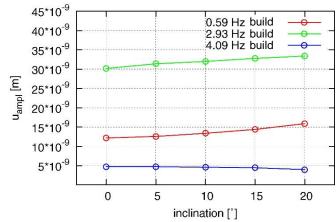


Acoustic pressure and displacement amplitudes due to Seismic Source (uniform inflow)

Variation of slope inclination







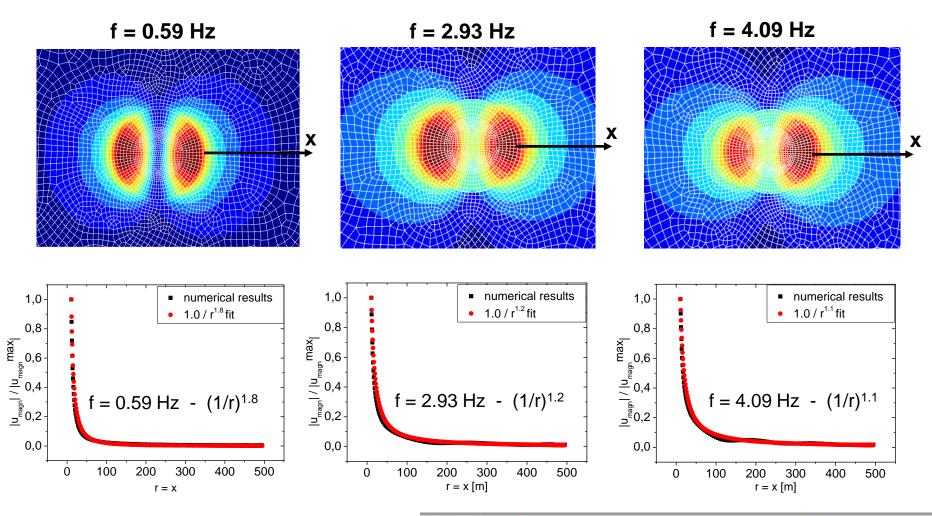






Attenuation of Seismic Noise

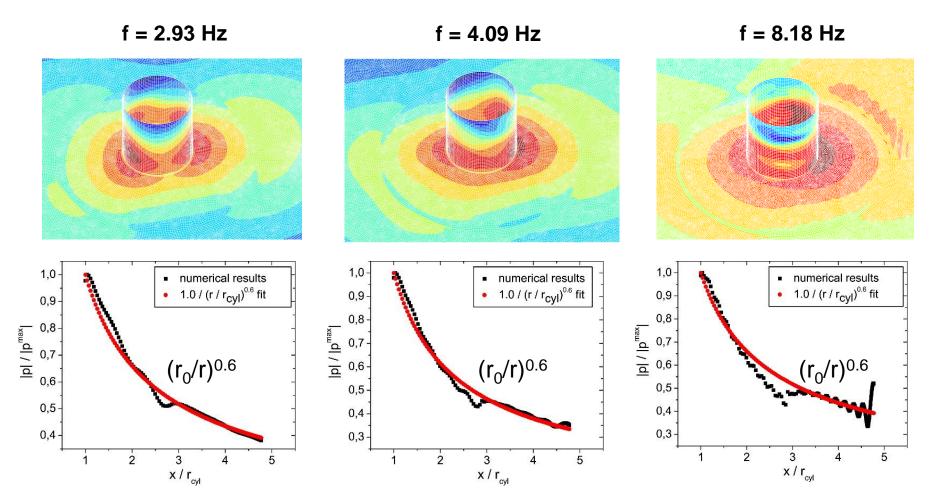
Predominant moment load







Attenuation of Acoustic Noise



Acoustic waves decay slower than the decay of seismic displacement amplitudes







Acoustic pressure and displacement amplitude

Freq. [Hz]			on pressure level Displacement am- at source [dB] plitude at source [m]			pressure level outside	Displ. ampl. at	pressure level inside
		found.	cylinder	found.	cylinder	build. [dB]	build. [m]	build. [dB]
0.59	acoustic		93		4.4E-08	62	2.2E-08	13
0.59	seismic	13		4.8E-06		-7	1.4E-08	-15
2.93	acoustic		77		1.3E-08	68	8.7E-09	19
2.93	seismic	45		2.1E-06		21	3.2E-08	7
4.09	acoustic		74		6.8E-09	65	9.1E-09	15
4.09	seismic	31		2.4E-07		10	4.6E-09	1
8.18	acoustic		59		1.3E-09	54	4.4E-09	15
0.10	seismic	22		3.8E-08		-3	1.3E-09	-5

- The small displacements justify the elastic approach
- The displacement amplitudes due to direct seismic emission are greater at source but comparable to those due to secondary acoustic emission at the building
- The acoustic sound is mainly caused by acoustic radiation rather than by seismic effects
- The maximum noise is reached for 2.93 Hz, where the pressure level outside the house is 68+21=89 dB and inside the house is 19+7=26 dB

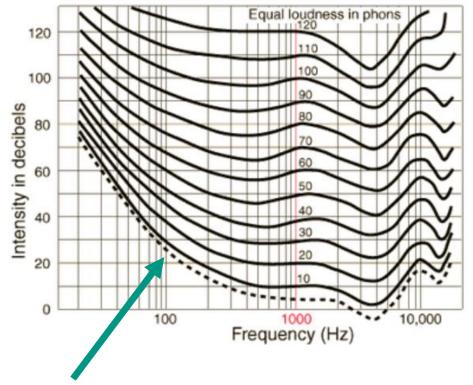






Sound pressure level and threshold of audibility

SPL = 20 log (p/p₀) [dB], with $p_0 = 2.10^{-5} \text{ Pa}$



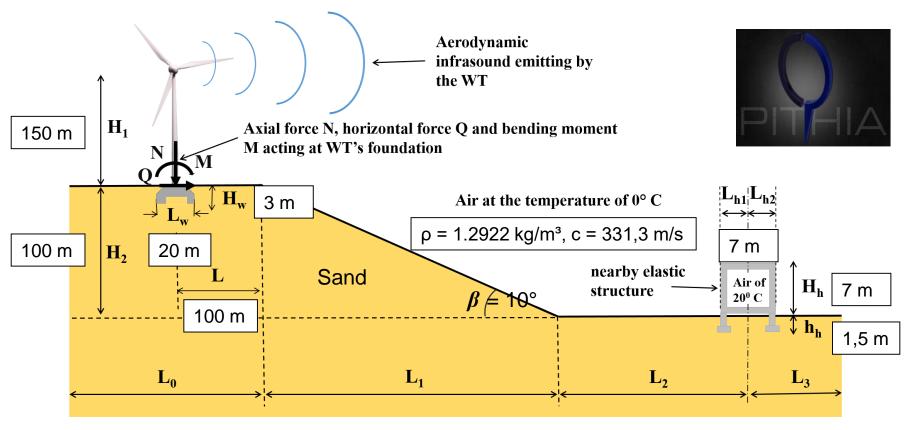
Threshold of audibility







Boundary Element Modell



Case 1: Sand

 $E = 4,05 * 10^5 \text{ kN/m}^2$: Elastic modulus

v = 0.25 : Poisson's ratio

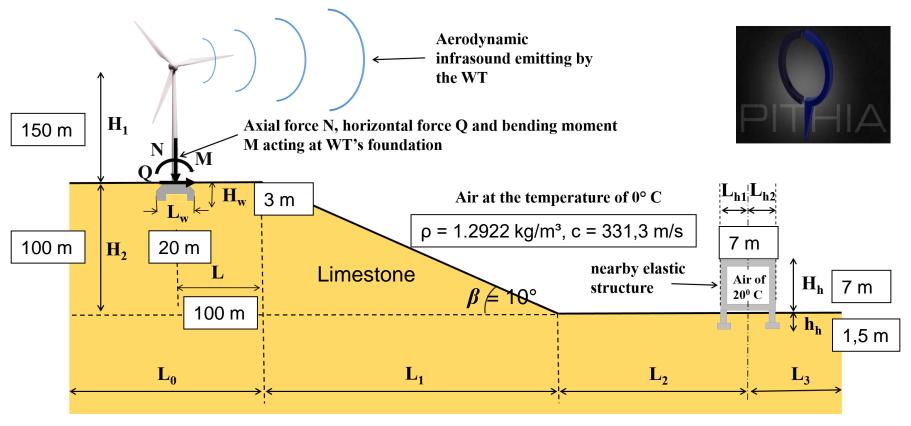
 $\rho = 1800 \text{ kg/m}^3$: Density







Boundary Element Modell



Case 1: Sand

 $E = 4.05 * 10^5 \text{ kN/m}^2$: Elastic modulus

v = 0.25: Poisson's ratio

 $\rho = 1800 \text{ kg/m}^3$: Density

Case 2: Limestone

 $E = 3.0 * 10^7 \text{ kN/m}^2$: Elastic modulus

v = 0.25: Poisson's ratio

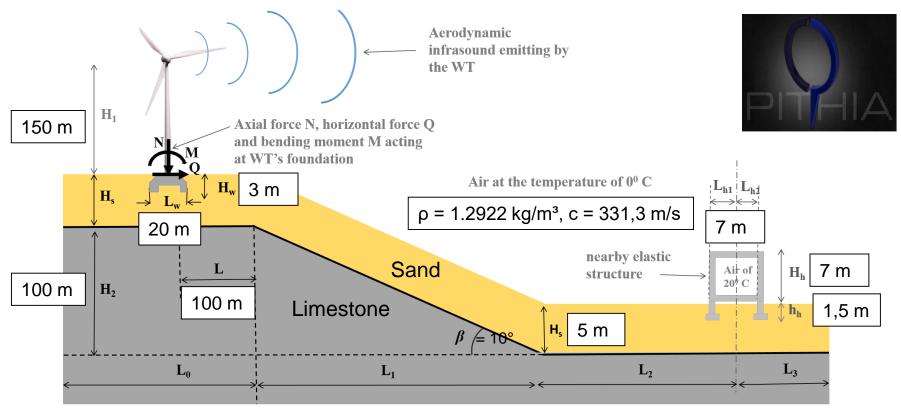
 $\rho = 2600 \text{ kg/m}^3$: Density







Boundary Element Modell



Case 3: Sand (Hs = 5m) and limestone

 $E = 4,05 * 10^5 \text{ kN/m}^2$: Elastic modulus $E = 3,0 * 10^7 \text{ kN/m}^2$: Elastic modulus

v = 0.25 : Poisson's ratio v = 0.25 : Poisson's ratio

 $\rho = 1800 \text{ kg/m}^3$: Density $\rho = 2600 \text{ kg/m}^3$: Density







Acoustic pressure and displacement amplitude

Case 2: Limestone

Freq. emission [Hz]		pressure level at source [dB]		Displacement am- plitude at source [m]		pressure level outside	Displ. ampl. at	pressure level inside
		found.	cylinder	found.	cylinder	build. [dB]	build. [m]	build. [dB]
0.59	acoustic		93		7.5E-10	62	3.2E-10	13
0.59	seismic	-20		3.3E-07		-44	2.8E-10	-55
2.93	acoustic		77		2.0E-10	68	9.2E-11	19
2.93	seismic	10		1.4E-07		-18	2.6E-10	-34
4.09	acoustic		74		1.2E-10	65	4.2E-11	15
4.09	seismic	-4		1.5E-08		-31	3.0E-11	-45
0.40	acoustic		59		2.1E-11	54	2.8E-11	15
8.18	seismic	-10		2.0E-09		-35	1.2E-11	-42

- The displacement amplitudes are much smaller than in Case 1
- The secondary sound pressure level due to seismic emissions are practically negligible
- The direct acoustic sound pressure level is identical to Case 1





Acoustic pressure and displacement amplitude

Case 3: Sand (Hs = 5m) and limestone

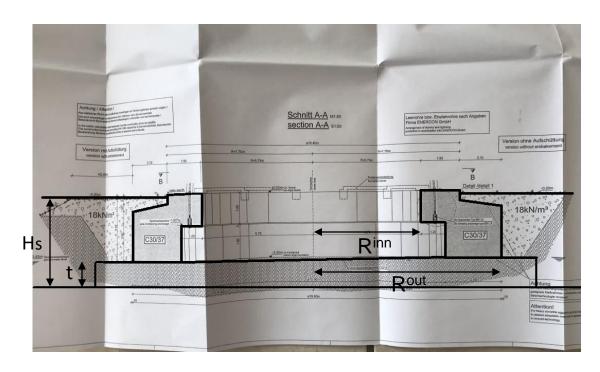
Freq. [Hz]	emission pressure level at source [dB]		Displacen plitude at		pressure level outside	Displ. ampl. at	pressure level inside	
		found.	cylinder	found.	cylinder	build. [dB]	build. [m]	build. [dB]
0.50	acoustic		93		3.1E-09	62	4.5E-10	13
0.59	seismic	0		3.2E-06		-35	2.4E-10	-44
2.93	acoustic		77		1.5E-09	68	5.1E-10	19
2.93	seismic	31		1.3E-06		-11	2.1E-10	-25
4.09	acoustic		74		1.0E-09	65	3.3E-10	15
4.09	seismic	18		1.4E-07		-21	3.1E-11	-32
8.18	acoustic		59		1.55E-10	54	7.1E-11	15
0.10	seismic	11		2.0E-08		-26	1.4E-11	-34

- The values of the secondary acoustic pressure amplitudes lie between the first two cases
- The underlying rocky subsoil leads to a stronger geometric decay of the direct seismic emissions



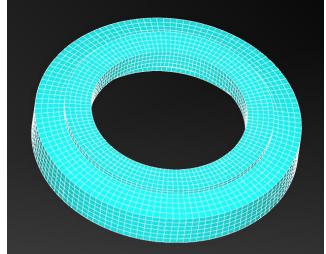


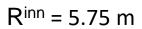
Foundation of WT and soil stratification (Ingersheim)



Google

Aufnahmedatum: Dez. 2011 Die Bilder sind eventuell urheberrechtlich geschützt. Ponscomlo





 $R^{out} = 9.8 \text{ m}$

t = 1.30 m

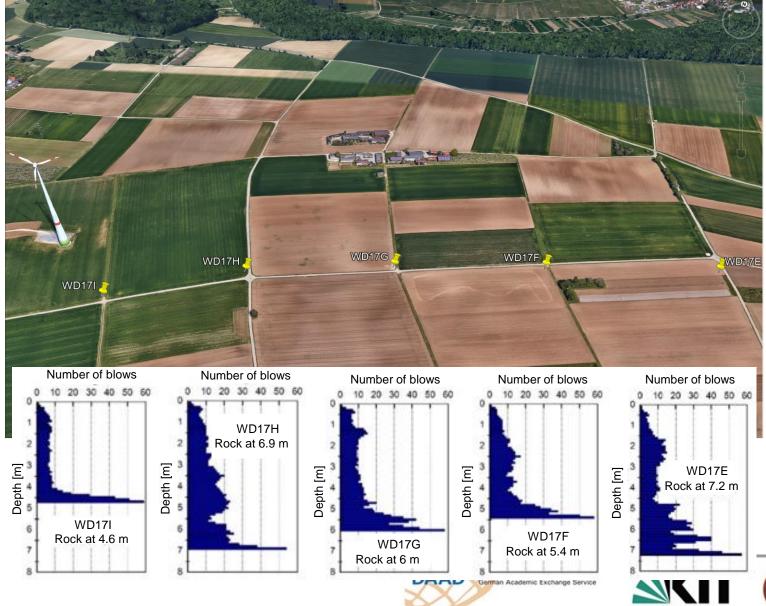
 $Hs \approx 4.0 - 6.0 \text{ m}$



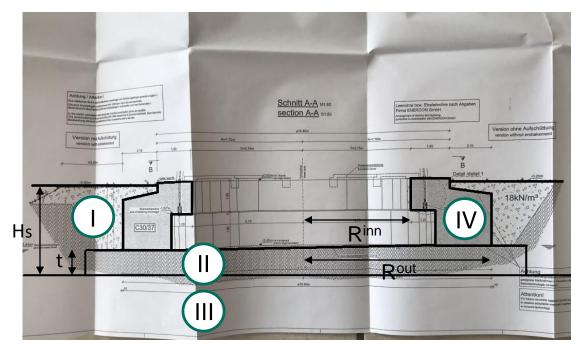




Locations of the pile driving tests (Ingersheim)



Foundation of WT and soil stratification (Ingersheim)



 $R^{inn} = 5.75 \text{ m}$

 $R^{out} = 9.8 \text{ m}$

t = 1.30 m

 $Hs \approx 4.0 - 6.0 \text{ m}$

(IV) Beton

 $E = 33 * 10^6 \text{ kN/m}^2$

v = 0,2

 $\rho = 2500 \text{ kg/m}^3$

1 Humus

 $E = 3.12 * 10^4 kN/m^2$

v = 0.25

 $\rho = 1800 \text{ kg/m}^3$

(II) Gravel

 $E = 2.9 * 10^5 kN/m^2$

v = 0.25

 $\rho = 1800 \text{ kg/m}^3$

(III) Limestone

 $E = 3.0 * 10^7 \text{ kN/m}^2$

v = 0.25

 $\rho = 2600 \text{ kg/m}^3$

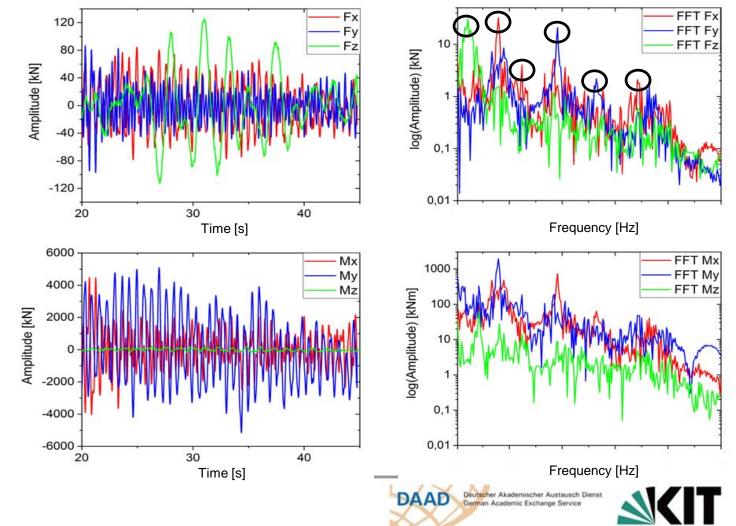






Micro-seismic Source at WT (Ingersheim)

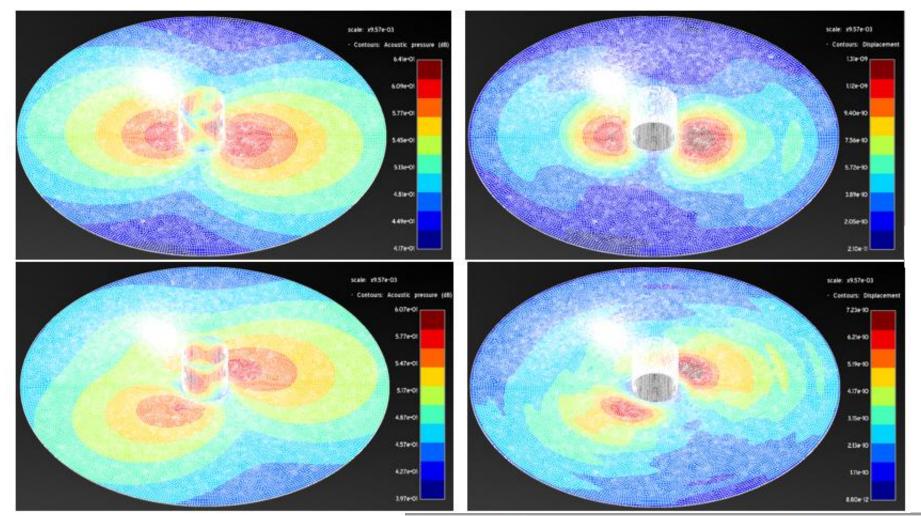
Time series and FFT of the dynamic parts of all 6 load components acting on the foundation





Wave Propagation due to Acoustic Source

 Acoustic pressure (left) and secondary displacement (right) amplitudes for two representative dominant frequencies (2nd and 4th higher harmonics of the BPF)



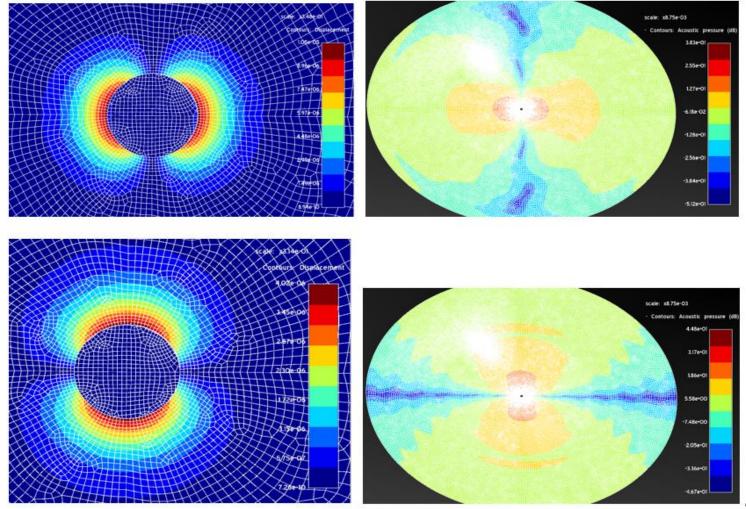






Wave Propagation due to Seismic Source

 Displacement (left) and secondary (right) acoustic pressure amplitudes for two representative dominant frequencies (2nd and 4th higher harmonics of the BPF)







Acoustic pressure and displacement amplitude (acoustic emissions)

Higher harmonic to the BFP		Displacement amplitude at source [m] cylinder	level at SWE	Displ. ampl. at GPI measurement point [m]	Pressure level at barn [dB]	Displ. ampl. at barn [m]
1	0	7.2E-10	-2	2,2E-10	-10	1,2E-10
2	-7	1.3E-9	0	7,2E-10	0	3,7E-10
3	-7	1.1E-9	0	3,5E-10	-2	1,1E-10
4	-10	7.2E-10	-3	4,6E-10	-3	2,7E-10
5	-11	5.9E-10	-4	5,3E-10	-9	1,2E-10
6	-16	4.4E-10	-7	3,2E-10	-7	1,9E-10
7	-17	3.2E-10	-10	3,0E-10	-11	1,3E-10
8	-16	3.4E-10	-9	1,9E-10	-12	8,7E-11
9	-22	2.5E-10	-15	2,3E-10	-20	4,2E-11

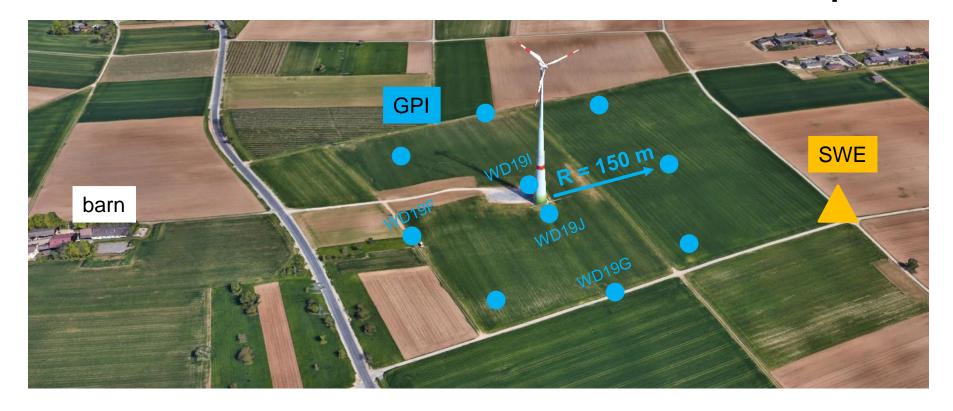
 Secondary displacement amplitudes due to acoustic emissions are almost negligible in the immediate vicinity of the WT







Locations of the acoustic and seismic measurement points



- Seismic measurements were carried out at 8 measuring points located on a circle around the WT with a radius of 150m (measurements GPI) and at the barn
- Acoustic measurements were carried out at a measuring point at a distance of about 400 m from the WT (measurement SWE) and also inside the barn







Acoustic pressure and displacement amplitude (seismic emissions)

Higher harmonic to the BFP	pressure level at source [dB] foundation	amplitude at	level at SWE	Displ. ampl. at GPI measurement point [m]	Pressure level at barn [dB]	Displ. ampl. at barn [m]
1	-46	4.9E-7	-32	1,7E-09	-36	7,2E-10
2	-7	1.1E-5	-11	1,1E-08	-11	3,0E-09
3	-23	6.9E-7	-28	1,1E-09	-29	3,3E-10
4	-21	5.2E-7	-22	1,2E-09	-27	4,4E-10
5	-11	1.3E-6	-13	3,4E-09	-17	1,1E-09
6	0	4.0E-6	0	7,4E-09	0	2,4E-09
7	-14	6.7E-7	-19	2,1E-09	-18	6,9E-10
8	-6	4.1E-7	-14	1,7E-09	-15	5,5E-10
9	-16	1.9E-7	-18	6,2E-09	-17	9,3E-10

The sound pressure level due to the secondary seismic effects is almost negligible at both measurement points







Methodology:

- The acoustic and elastic boundary value problem must initially be solved for each frequency of the spectrum
- The obtained results must be converted to the time domain by a common inverse IFFT algorithm
- This method requires the solution of each 3D-boundary value problem for several hundreds of frequencies which is practically impossible

Approximation:

- The IFFT algorithm is carried out only for the solutions of the dominant frequencies
- All non-dominant frequencies for both the acoustic and elastic boundary value problems have a sound pressure or load amplitude smaller than 15-20% of the corresponding maximum amplitude

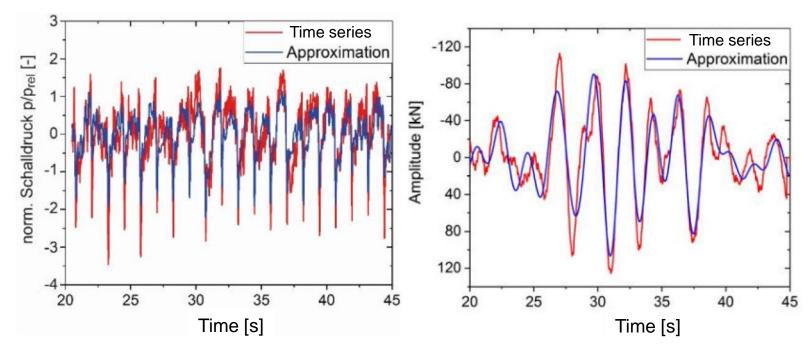






Verification:

Calculation of the known boundary conditions at the acoustic and seismic source



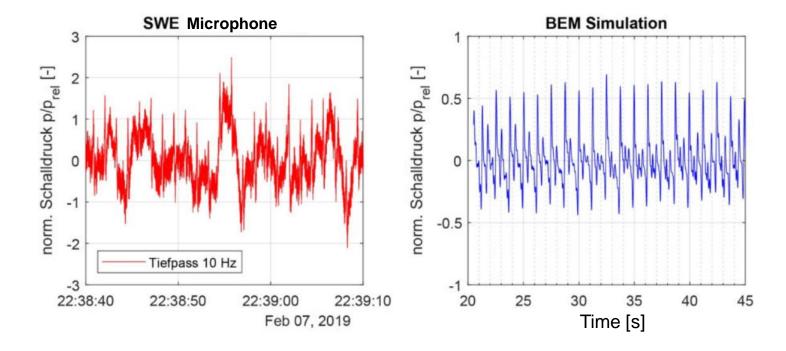
- The approximation can satisfactorily reproduce the known time series
- The amplitudes of sound pressure and vertical force component are somewhat underestimated







Evolution of sound pressure at the accoustic measuring point (SWE)



■ The predicted sound pressure amplitude is about the half of the measured.

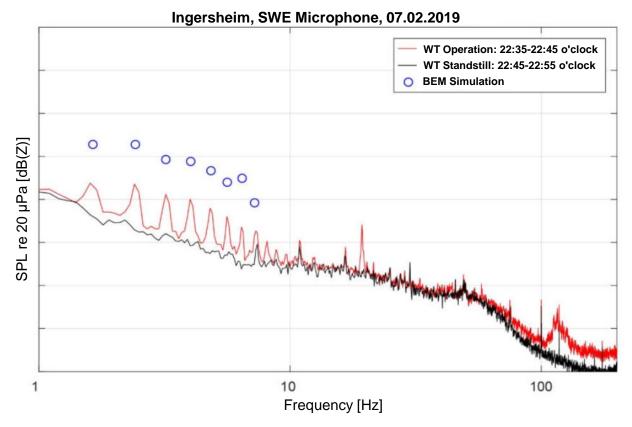
This deviation is is not significantly larger than the discrepancy at the source







Amplitude spectrum of the sound pressure level at accoustic measuring point (SWE)



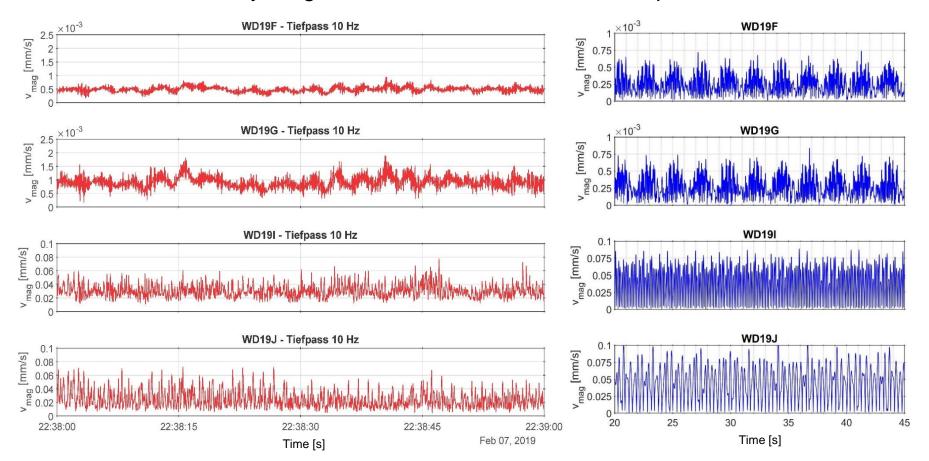
- The sound pressure amplitude decreases with increasing the frequency
- The difference in sound pressure level is less than 10 dB for all dominant frequencies







Evolution of velocity magnitude at the GPI measurement points



Satisfactory agreement between measured and calculated results







Conclusions and outlook

- The WT behaves as a dipole emitter for seismic as well as for acoustic emissions
- The radial attenuation of direct acoustic emission $(r^{0.6})$ is lower than of seismic surface waves $(r^{1.0}...r^{2.0})$
- Outdoor and indoor noise are rather caused by acoustic radiation than by seismic effects.
- The parameters of the subsoil significantly affect the seismic emissions
- → precise knowledge of soil stratification is essential
- Numerical results are able to reproduce the measurements
- No restriction to infrasoung, but the current element mesh size (5-8 m) is not fine enough f > 20 Hz
- → Simulation data from UST-IAG with fine mesh and time resolution at the source
- → Element size must be reduced to less than 1 m







Thank you for your attention!





