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Data for sound pressure level prediction in lightweight constructions caused by structure-borne sound sources and their uncertainties

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a r t i c l e i n f o

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a b s t r a c t

When predicting sound pressure levels induced by structureborne sound sources and describing the sound propagation path through the building structure as exactly as possible, it is necessary to characterize the vibration behavior of the structure-borne sound sources. In this investigation, the characterization of structure-borne sound sources was performed using the two-stage method (TSM) described in EN 15657. Four different structure-borne sound sources were characterized and subsequently installed in a lightweight test stand. The resulting sound pressure levels in an adjacent receiving room were measured. In the second step, sound pressure levels were predicted according to EN 12354-5 based on the parameters of the structure-borne sound sources. Subsequently, the predicted and the measured sound pressure levels were compared to obtain reliable statements on the achievable accuracy when using source quantities determined by TSM with this prediction method.

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In addition to the co-submitted article (Vogel et al., 2023), the sound pressure level prediction according to EN 12354- 5 in detail is described. Furthermore, all data used are provided.

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Specifications Table

Value of the Data

- The calculation and dataset presented in this article allow other researchers, especially acousticians, to conduct further calculations to reduce the uncertainties of the prediction method. For example: using frequency depending on radiation efficiency as well as new information concerning the sound propagation in buildings, and simulation of the investigated setup.
- This full dataset of a sound pressure level prediction provides also detailed information about the structure especially the walls in the test stand
- This full dataset of a sound pressure level prediction caused by structure-borne sound sources provides detailed information about the characterized values of the structureborne sound sources

• This dataset illustrates the difference between predicted and measured uncertainties to specific frequencies as well as to single values representing the whole frequency range (total sum, arithmetic mean, A-weighted sum levels, etc.)

1. Objective

The supported article [\[1\]](#page-15-0) presents analysis, discussions, and insights into the data and measurement method of the two-stage method (TSM) while characterizing a shaker, compressor, extractor fan, and ventilation unit (typical structure-borne sound sources). To determine the uncertainties of the predicted sound pressure levels based on these source parameters, subsequently the sound pressure levels were measured in a lightweight test stand by mounting the sound sources on a flanking wall and compared with predicted data. This article presents the full dataset of these sound pressure level predictions due to the four structure-borne sound sources including the measured data of the source characterization with TSM and all necessary data.

2. Data Description

In [\[6\]](#page-15-0) the full dataset used for the sound pressure level prediction is provided. The data consist of numerical values and related formulas, which are necessary for the sound pressure level prediction in rooms due to structure-borne sound sources. The data also characterize the building elements of a lightweight test stand and the vibrational behavior of the sources used.

Fig. 1 shows the lightweight test stand, sketches and dimensions, where the measurement of the data was done. [Table](#page-3-0) 1 shows the characteristic structure-borne sound source parameters v_f , *F*b, and *Y*s. [Table](#page-4-0) 2 shows constant parameters and room dimensions. [Table](#page-4-0) 3 shows the receiving mobility *Y_r* and [Table](#page-5-0) 4 the resulting coupling term $D_{C,i}$ for each source. Table 5 shows the adjustment term $D_{\text{as},i}$ and installed structure-borne sound power $L_{\text{Ws},\text{inst},i}$. [Table](#page-6-0) 6 provides the sound reduction index R_i of the walls. [Table](#page-6-0) 7 contains the structural reverberation time $T_{s,i}$ of the walls. shows the equivalent absorption length a_i [Table](#page-7-0) 8. Table 9 contains the directionaveraged junction velocity level difference $\frac{D_{\rm v,ij}+D_{\rm v,ji}}{2}$. [Table](#page-8-0) 10 provides the reverberation time T_{60} and equivalent absorption area *A* of the source and receiving rooms. [Table](#page-8-0) 11 contains the vibration reduction indices K_{ii} ; the flanking sound reduction index R_{ii} and the flanking sound reduction coefficient $R_{\text{i,ref}}$. [Table](#page-9-0) 12 provides the sound pressure levels $L_{\text{n,s,ii}}$ for paths 1 and 2

Fig. 1. Left - lightweight test stand [\[3\];](#page-15-0) middle, top - flanking wall with tiled section in source room; middle, bottom - separating wall in source room; right top - construction of the flanking walls; right bottom - construction of the separating wall.

Characteristic structure-borne sound parameters of the sources used, measured with two-stage method according to [\[2\].](#page-15-0)

and the resulting sum *L*n,s in the receiving room, predicted and measured values. [Table](#page-11-0) 13 shows the differences between the predicted and measured normalized sound pressure levels *L*n,s in the receiving room as mean values across all investigated sources. [Table](#page-11-0) 14 shows the list of measurement equipment.

Room parameters and constants.

Table 3 Mobility (absolute and real part) of the flanking wall sr, where the source is mounted; mean over 3 coupling points.

third-octave band [Hz]	$ Y_i $ $[m/Ns]$	Re[Yi][m/Ns]
50	$1.1 E-4$	1.9 E-4
63	$1.7 E-4$	$2.2 E-4$
80	1.9 E-4	2.9 E-4
100	2.4 E-4	3.6 E-4
125	$2.7 E-4$	3.7 E-4
160	3.0 E-4	4.7 E-4
200	3.9 E-4	5.3 E-4
250	4.1 E-4	5.3 E-4
315	4.3 E-4	5.6 E-4
400	5.0 E-4	6.5 E-4
500	5.2 E-4	6.5 E-4
630	5.8 E-4	7.5 E-4
800	$6.5 E-4$	8.6 E-4
1000	7.4 E-4	$9.2 E-4$
1250	$7.2E-4$	8.6 E-4
1600	$7.7 E-4$	$9.3 E-4$
2000	$9.1 E-4$	$1.1 E-3$
2500	9.1 E-4	$1.1 E-3$
3150	$1.0 E-3$	$1.3 E-3$
4000	$1.4 E-3$	$1.7 E-3$
5000	$1.7 E-3$	$2.0 E-3$

Table 4 Coupling term $D_{C,i}$ of the flanking wall sr, where the source is mounted.

third-octave band [Hz]	Compressor [dB]	Shaker [dB]	Ventilation unit [dB]	Extractor fan [dB]
50	26.6	14.6	10.9	20.7
63	21.4	13.9	6.2	11.6
80	15.2	12.1	6.7	10.7
100	13.9	11.4	11.6	5.6
125	11.6	10.6	9.8	9.2
160	8.4	8.7	5.2	6.8
200	5.8	7.8	4.7	5.9
250	5.5	7.3	6.9	6.4
315	5.7	6.5	7.1	5.6
400	5.5	5.6	6.2	5.3
500	5.3	5.4	5.9	6.3
630	5.6	5.0	5.1	5.0
800	5.5	4.8	5.6	5.8
1000	5.3	5.2	5.1	6.6
1250	5.6	5.4	5.3	6.0
1600	6.0	5.5	5.9	6.5
2000	6.5	5.8	5.2	5.8
2500	7.4	6.0	8.3	6.2
3150	5.8	5.7	9.3	5.9
4000	5.2	6.0	13.1	6.5
5000	5.3	6.0	16.9	6.9

Adjustment term $D_{as,i}$; installed structure-borne sound power lever $L_{Ws,inst,i}$ on the flanking wall in the source room.

third-octave band [Hz]	Flanking wall sr R_f [dB]	Flanking wall $rr R_f$ [dB]	Separating wall R_D [dB]
50	23.3	23.3	23.3
63	18.3	18.3	18.3
80	13.4	13.4	13.4
100	22.3	22.3	22.3
125	30.6	30.6	30.6
160	30.4	30.4	30.4
200	33.4	33.4	33.4
250	36.7	36.7	36.7
315	38.0	38.0	38.0
400	37.7	37.7	37.7
500	40.4	40.4	40.4
630	44.1	44.1	44.1
800	44.6	44.6	44.6
1000	46.1	46.1	46.1
1250	46.6	46.6	46.6
1600	49.2	49.2	49.2
2000	51.6	51.6	51.6
2500	49.3	49.3	49.3
3150	46.4	46.4	46.4
4000	49.9	49.9	49.9
5000	54.2	54.2	54.2

Table 7 Structural reverberation time $T_{s,i}$ of the walls.

Direction-averaged junction velocity level difference $\frac{D_{v,j}+D_{v,j}}{2}$ (mean of 3 shaker positions).

third-octave band [Hz]	flank sr - flank rr [dB]	flank sr - sep. wall rr [dB]
50	22.4	19.1
63	19.9	15.1
80	15.3	18.8
100	15.7	19.9
125	23.7	20.1
160	24.2	22.7
200	21.6	22.7
250	20.2	20.6
315	22.6	24.9
400	24.7	27.1
500	26.0	27.2
630	23.2	27.1
800	24.7	28.5
1000	21.5	26.2
1250	22.2	27.6
1600	21.6	27.3
2000	17.5	26.9
2500	18.4	27.6
3150	18.8	27.2
4000	19.0	28.9
5000	14.8	27.6

Vibration reduction indices *K*ij; flanking sound reduction index *R*ij; flanking sound reduction coefficient *R*ij,ref.

		Vibration reduction indices	flanking sound reduction index		flanking sound reduction coefficient	
third-octave band [Hz]	K_{FF} [dB]	$K_{\rm Fd}$ [dB]	R_{Ff} [dB]	$R_{\rm Fd}$ [dB]	$R_{\rm{Ff,ref}}$ [dB]	$R_{\rm Fd,ref}$ [dB]
50	21.8	18.2	49.7	46.2	50.9	47.4
63	17.0	13.2	39.9	36.2	41.1	37.4
80	11.1	15.3	29.1	33.4	30.3	34.6
100	11.0	16.5	37.9	43.5	39.1	44.8
125	18.2	15.8	53.5	51.1	54.7	52.3
160	18.2	17.4	53.2	52.5	54.5	53.7
200	15.9	17.5	53.9	55.6	55.1	56.9
250	15.3	16.6	56.6	58.0	57.8	59.2
315	17.0	20.1	59.6	62.7	60.9	64.0
400	19.3	22.7	61.6	65.1	62.8	66.3
500	21.3	23.2	66.3	68.3	67.6	69.6
630	18.1	22.7	66.8	71.5	68.0	72.7
800	20.0	24.9	69.2	74.2	70.5	75.4
1000	18.3	23.4	69.0	74.2	70.2	75.5
1250	18.5	25.4	69.7	76.6	70.9	77.9
1600	17.5	24.9	71.3	78.8	72.5	80.0
2000	13.6	26.2	69.8	82.5	71.1	83.8
2500	16.9	28.8	70.8	82.8	72.1	84.0
3150	15.8	27.2	66.8	78.3	68.1	79.5
4000	13.3	27.7	67.8	82.3	69.1	83.6
5000	10.9	27.6	69.7	86.5	70.9	87.8

Sound pressure levels $L_{n,s,ij}$ for paths Ff and Fd and the resulting sum $L_{n,s}$ in the receiving room, predicted and measured values.

(*continued on next page*)

Table 12 (*continued*)

		Ventilation unit				
third-octave band	path Ff	path Fd	sum	sum	measured	measured
[Hz]	[dB]	[dB]	[dB]	[dB(A)]	[dB]	[dB(A)]
50	50.1	53.6	55.2	25.0	37.2	6.9
63	38.7	42.5	44.0	17.8	38.7	12.4
80	47.6	43.3	49.0	26.5	34.2	11.8
100	43.6	37.9	44.6	25.5	39.4	20.2
125	33.8	36.1	38.1	22.0	38.1	21.9
160	39.3	40.0	42.7	29.3	37.0	23.7
200	42.3	40.5	44.5	33.6	32.9	22.1
250	44.0	42.6	46.4	37.8	36.1	27.4
315	35.0	31.9	36.8	30.2	46.9	40.2
400	30.0	26.6	31.6	26.8	39.2	34.4
500	24.6	22.6	26.7	23.5	26.7	23.4
630	26.8	22.1	28.0	26.1	23.5	21.5
800	28.6	23.6	29.8	29.0	25.3	24.5
1000	26.8	21.6	27.9	27.9	24.7	24.7
1250	24.9	18.0	25.7	26.3	19.6	20.2
1600	22.3	14.8	23.0	24.0	18.1	19.1
2000	30.7	18.0	30.9	32.1	16.1	17.3
2500	19.9	8.0	20.2	21.5	15.9	17.2
3150	13.7	2.2	14.0	15.2	15.8	17.0
4000	8.2	-6.3	8.3	9.3	11.4	12.4
5000	8.4	-8.4	8.5	9.0	10.1	10.7
	Extractor fan					
third-octave band	path Ff	path Fd	sum	sum	measured	measured

Differences of the predicted and measured normalized sound pressure levels *L*n,s in the receiving room; mean value across all investigated sources.

Table 14

List of measurement equipment used.

3. Experimental Design, Materials and Methods

The data article presents the prediction method including all necessary data concerning the structure-borne sound sources (compressor, shaker, ventilation unit, and extractor fan) and the sound pressure level prediction. The structure-borne sound source characterization was done by the two-stage method, according to $[2]$. Therefore, the sources were mounted on a heavy and a light reception plate (approx. $3 - 5$ m²) and were switched on. The induced structure-borne sound power was determined on the plate surfaces using the measured surface velocity. Using the two reception stages heavy and light one can make simplifications regarding the receiver mobility (very high or very low compared to the source mobility) and this yields to installationindependent source parameters. Detailed information about the structure-borne sound source characterization method itself is provided in $[2]$. In $[1]$, the characterization of the sources used is described in detail. The determined source parameters free velocity v_f , blocked force F_b , and source mobility Y_S are provided in [Table](#page-3-0) 1. All measured data used for the investigation of the sound pressure level prediction were measured in a lightweight test stand at Working Group 1.72 Applied Acoustics, PTB Braunschweig.

3.1. Data of the Characterized Structure-borne Sound Sources

Using to the measurement method described above [Table](#page-3-0) 1 provides the measured installation independent source parameters.

3.2. Calculation of the Sound Pressure Levels According to EN 12354-5 in a Lightweight Test Stand

3.2.1. Lightweight Test Stand at PTB Braunschweig

The lightweight test stand at the PTB in Braunschweig is a wooden plate construction with a length of 7.10 m and a width of 3.25 m. There are two adjacent rooms on each of the two

Fig. 2. Left: Floor plan of the Lightweight test stand with relevant transmission paths: Fd – **F**lanking wall source room to **d**irect/ separating element, Ff – **F**lanking wall source room to **f**lanking wall receiving room; right: Section plan of the Lightweight test stand.

floors with a room height of 2.55 m, so that sound transmission can be reproduced horizontally, vertically, and diagonally with a coupling of structure-borne sound sources to the partition wall or flanking elements.

The perimeter walls are made of 60-mm x 80-mm timber studs spaced 625 mm apart and filled with 80-mm mineral wool. On the outside, these flank walls are covered with 13-mm chipboard, and on the inside with 13-mm chipboard and 12.5-mm plasterboard. In the interior wall area of one of the flanking walls, on which the structure-borne sound sources were mounted for this investigation, there was also a partially tiled section of approx. 0.80 m x 2.00 m.

The substrate of the tiles (plasterboard) was first treated with deep primer before the tile adhesive was applied, so that it does not lose all of its moisture and thus its adhesive strength on the wall. Then the tiles were glued and grouted. The tiles are standard bathroom tiles with the dimensions 20 \times 25 [cm] and a weight of approx. 750 g per tile.

Both separating walls, one per floor, consist of a 60-mm x 155-mm wooden framework that is also filled with 80-mm mineral wool. They are covered on both sides with 13-mm chipboard and 12.5-mm plasterboard. On both floors, the separating walls are butt-jointed to the flanking exterior walls (with continuous planking) and arranged offset to each other on each floor, so that all element connections of the lightweight test stand are always designed as T-joints (no cross-joints existing).

The upper ceiling, which closes off the test stand, is constructed in the same way as the surrounding perimeter walls. The bottom floor consists of a reinforced concrete floor slab on which 20-mm polystyrene, 10-mm wood fiber insulation, and 20-mm Fermacell gypsum fiber boards are laid from bottom to top. The separating ceiling is designed as a typical wooden beam ceiling with 180-mm high ceiling beams. On top, it is finished from bottom to top with a 22-mm flat pressed board, 30-mm mineral fill, a 10-mm wood fiber insulation board, and a 20-mm Fermacell gypsum fiberboard. Since the three investigated sound sources as well as the shaker were connected to a flanking exterior wall on the upper floor and the standardized sound pressure level was only investigated in the neighbor receiving room, the ceiling components were neglected in the prediction according to EN 12354-5. The relevant dimensions of the lightweight test stand and the element constructions are shown in [Figs.](#page-2-0) 1 and 2. Here, the dimensions of the separating and flanking walls differ, because a higher sound reduction index of the separating wall was chosen.

3.2.2. Prediction Method

The normalized sound pressure level *Ln*,*^s* in the receiving room induced by structure-borne sound sources is predicted with a prediction method according to $[4,5]$. The equations and the full data set for the prediction are given in this section.

The sound reduction index of the flanking walls is taken from the measurement of the sound reduction index of the separating wall, the constructions are similar.

Since the existing joints were not sufficiently known, the vibration reduction indices *K*ij were determined experimentally according to Equation 10 by measuring the velocity level differences *D_{v,ij}*, and *D_{v,ji}* [\(Table](#page-7-0) 9) for the relevant transmission paths. The equivalent absorption lengths a_i and a_j [\(Table](#page-7-0) 8) were calculated using Equation 11 and the measured structure-borne sound reverberation time $T_{\rm si}$.

[Table](#page-8-0) 11 presents the vibration reduction index, the flanking sound reduction index, and the flanking sound reduction coefficient for both transmission paths, Ff and Fd.

3.2.3. Comparison of Predicted and Measured Sound Pressure Levels

Columns 1 and 2 of [Table](#page-9-0) 12 contain the predicted normalized sound pressure level components of the individual transmission paths *L*_{n,s,ij}. Columns 3 and 4 contain the energetic sum of columns 1 and 2 as normalized sound pressure level *L*_{n,s} in the receiving room. Columns 5 and 6 show the measured values of the normalized sound pressure level *L*n,s in the receiving room.

[Table](#page-11-0) 13 shows the differences between the predicted and the measured values of the normalized sound pressure levels. The values represent the energetic mean value across all investigated sources. Since the shaker is an ideal source of structure-borne sound for the characterization and prognosis method (punctiform one-point contact with the receiving structure), it cannot be regarded as a common source of structure-borne sound. Therefore, the deviations are shown with (columns 3 and 4) as well as without the shaker (columns 5 and 6). For the frequency range relevant to building acoustics in Germany (normative requirements of 100 – 3150 Hz), the A-weighted total level results in an average deviation of 5.2 dB, and the arithmetic mean value of all 16 single third-octave band differences is 7.0 dB. It must be discussed, which frequency range is valid and if the levels must be A-weighted because of the typical acting of structure-borne sound sources in the low and very low frequency range and because of their tonal behavior, which can be very disturbing.

3.3. Measurement Equipment

In [Table](#page-11-0) 14, the main components of the measurement equipment are listed, which were used for the investigation of the characterization method, the characterization of the sources, and the sound pressure level measurements.

Ethics Statements

No ethical issues are associated with this work.

Declaration of Competing Interests

The authors declare that they have no known competing financial interests or personal relationships that could have appeared to influence the work reported in this paper.

Data Availability

Data for sound pressure level [prediction](https://data.mendeley.com/datasets/sn39mbyngb) (Original data) (Mendeley Data).

CRediT Author Statement

Albert Vogel: Investigation, Writing – original draft; **Joerg Arnold:** Investigation, Validation; **Conrad Voelker:** Supervision; **Oliver Kornadt:** Supervision.

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