

# Introduction to Transfer Path Analysis

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Realize innovation.

## Transfer path analysis for mechanical industry The basics, from theory to practice





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#### Transfer Path Analysis Introduction





Transfer path analysis quantifies and visualizes the strengths of selected sources and their contribution via multiple transmission paths to a selected receiver signal

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#### Transfer Path Analysis Source-transfer-receiver approach

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#### Transfer Path Analysis Step 1: Which path is contributing?

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## Transfer Path Analysis Step 2: Why is path contributing?

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## System Engineering for NVH Source-transfer-receiver model

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# Hybrid Modeling – Example Engine Noise inside Cabin

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## Benefits of hybrid modeling:

- Spend less time correlating components. Use test representation of components in a system assembly.
- Promotes component reuse FE model of new component and reuse of test data from legacy/previous programs.
- Smaller models → Rapid design iteration (e.g. when tuning mounts).
- NVH targets can be cascaded to suppliers.

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# Hybrid Modeling – Use Case 2 (AUTO OEM)

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- Test Tire Component
- Equivalent model of a damper
- FE models of Subframe, Suspension Arms, Knuckle, Strut and Brake

(<u>Courtesy</u>: A Hybrid Full Vehicle Model for Structure Borne Road Noise Prediction – SAE Paper 2005-01-2467)

Focus  $\rightarrow$  Modeling accuracy



# Hybrid Full Vehicle Road Noise Evaluation (Simcenter and NX Nastran)

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# NVH Results – Post-processing in Simcenter Noise and Vibration Modeling

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## Transfer Path Analysis What needs to be measured?

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- Forces going into the structure, requires in general quiet some measurements
- Acoustical sources
- Target locations

In the lab: measurement of the FRF, is also a tedious job

In general, TPA is a measurement intensive application

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## **OPA** method



Only operational measurements required:

- Accelerations at the force locations
- Pressures at the Acoustical sources
- Target locations

<u>Fast</u> method, takes ±1 day of measurements

Transmissibility method



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## OPA method: Potential problems for wrong results: cross-coupling

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 $y = T_1 a_1 + T_2 a_2 + T_3 p_3$ 

Where each acceleration/pressure can be written as:  $a_i = H_{1i} \cdot f_1 + H_{2i} \cdot f_2 + H_{3i} \cdot Q_3$ 

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## OPA method: Potential problems for wrong results: cross-coupling

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E.g.  $a_2 = H_{12} \cdot f_1 + H_{22} \cdot f_2 + H_{32} \cdot Q_3$ 

Normally  $H_{22}f_2 >> H_{12}.f_1 + H_{32}.Q_3$ 

Or the acceleration for a path is normally proportional to the force at that location  $a_2 \approx f_2$ 

## OPA method: Potential problems for wrong results: cross-coupling





With cross coupling it can happen that e.g.  $H_{12}f_1 >> H_{22}f_2 + H_{32}Q_3$ 

Or the acceleration at one location is caused by a force at another location, causing this path, e.g. 2, to be considered to be the largest contribution while the cause is due to a force at another location

 $T_2 a_2 > T_1 a_1$  and  $T_2 a_2 > T_3 p_3$  due force at  $f_1$ 

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## Transfer Path Analysis Operational measurements

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During operations:

- Forces going into the structure, requires in general quiet some measurements
- Acoustical sources
- Target locations

In the lab: measurement of the FRF, is also a tedious job

In general, TPA is a measurement intensive application

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## Test Based TPA Process Overview

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## Transfer Path Analysis: Requirements: One integrated process





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# Transfer Path Analysis: Simcenter QSources Requirements: Efficient & Accurate FRF Acquisition

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#### **Reciprocal FRF excitation hardware**

- ✓ Fast installation
- ✓ High noise levels(>100dB)
- Internal sound source strength measurement
- ✓ Omni-directional sources

#### **Direct FRF excitation hardware**

- ✓ Miniaturized to the maximum
- ✓ Efficient installation, auto-alignment and no external support necessary
- ✓ Integrated force and local acceleration sensors
- ✓ Enables excitation at body engine/suspension interfaces
- ✓ Wide frequency range



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## Transfer Path Analysis: Requirements: All Load Estimation Methods

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## Transfer Path Analysis Load identification: mount stiffness method

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# **Transfer Path Analysis** Load identification: matrix inversion method







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## Transfer Path Analysis Measurements - Loads

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## Transfer Path Analysis Measurements - Loads

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## **Transfer Path Analysis** Measurements Simcenter OPAX

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$$P(\omega) = \sum H_i(\omega) F_i(parameters, a_{ai}(\omega), a_{pi}(\omega))$$

- Soft mounts  $F_i(\omega) = K_i \frac{(a_{ai}(\omega) a_{pi}(\omega))}{-\omega^2}$  Hard mounts  $F_i(\omega) = K_i \frac{a_{ai}(\omega)}{-\omega^2}$



(dis)advantages

- Limited set of FRFs required
- No disassembly into trimmed-body condition (depends on the expected accuracy)
- Limited body-information • (compared to Matrix-Inversion)

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#### **Transfer Path Analysis** Measurements – Transfer functions – Removal of source

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## Demo



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## Strain-based load identification Problem definition: Closely coupled paths example

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#### **Road Noise TPA:**

- 72 paths/loads examined
- Some forces very close together

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## Strain-based load identification Problem Definition: Matrix Inversion

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Both Acceleration and Strain Based TPA provide a good quality target response synthesis

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## Strain-based load identification Problem Definition: Matrix Inversion

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## Based on this quick **TPA acceleration result** evaluation

- → Path # 2 has an important contribution to the interior noise
- → Path # 2 high contribution level seems to be related to a high force level

However, Path # 2 is the **vertical load** of the connection of a **lateral** suspension link to the body. Can this result be trusted?





Page 34 31-01-2019

## Solution Evaluation and Validation Matrix Inversion for Road Noise studies

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Body Load in X-direction Body Load in Y-direction Body Load in Z-direction



## **Strain-based load identification Problem Definition: Matrix Inversion**

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## Strain-based load identification Problem Definition: Matrix Inversion What is the problem?

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 $\{F(\omega)\} = [H(\omega)]^{-1} \cdot \{a(\omega)\}$ 



# Condition Number for an example structure with a high number of inputs

- → Acceleration FRF Matrix Condition number is much higher as the Strain FRF Matrix Condition number
- → Accurate load identification using the Acceleration FRF Matrix can be problematic



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## Frequency domain TPA vs. Time domain TPA



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## Frequency domain TPA vs. Time domain TPA



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## Frequency domain TPA vs. Time domain TPA



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## Time-Domain TPA for PBN Instrumentation

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## Time-Domain TPA for PBN Force / target response calculations

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## Time-Domain TPA for PBN PBN Contribution Analysis – Example in 3<sup>rd</sup> gear

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Good match between measured I-PBN result and synthesized ASQ I-PBN result

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## Demo



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## **Blocked force/free velocity principle**



Blocked force/free velocity is a property of the component independent of the environment it's assembled in

Converting Blocked Force (spring connection) to assembly connection forces



$$\{F_{2r}\} = \{F_{3r}\} = [H_{22}^A + H_{33}^B + K^{-1}]^{-1} * [H_{22}^A] * \{F_{2bl}^A\}$$
$$\{F_{2r}\} = \{F_{3r}\} = [H_{22}^A + H_{33}^B + K^{-1}]^{-1} * \{v_{2free}^A\}$$

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# Example Applications Steering System

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## Example Applications Road Noise - Tire

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#### Source Mechanism



Tire Road Noise



Example: Invariance of wheel center blocked force: Strongly coupled system & coupled to very different vehicles

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# **Concept: Component Based TPA Test components and virtual assemble components**





Benefits:

- Can try out different car variants before there is a prototype.
- Can use this technique for component target setting  $\implies$  Less surprises when assembling the vehicle.
- Can find out worst case combination and limit validation/testing to this configuration intelligent reduced testing

## Thank You





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