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Imaging velocities of a vibrating object by stroboscopic sideband holography

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Abstract: We propose here to combine sideband holography with stroboscopic illumination synchronized with the vibration of an object. By sweeping the optical frequency of the reference beam such a way the holographic detection is tuned on the successive sideband harmonic ranks, we are able to image the instantaneous velocities of the object. Since the stroboscopic illumination is made with an electronic device, the method is compatible with fast (up to several MHz) vibration motions. The method is demonstrated with a vibrating clarinet reed excited sinusoidally at 2 kHz, and a stroboscopic illumination with cyclic ratio 0.15. Harmonic rank up to $n = \pm 100$ are detected, and a movie of the instantaneous velocities is reported.

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1. Introduction

There is a big demand for full field vibration measurements, in particular in industry. Different holographic techniques are able to image and analyse such vibrations. Double pulse holography [1, 2] records a double-exposure hologram with time separation in the 1...1000 $\mu$s range, and measures the instantaneous velocity of a vibrating object from the phase difference. The method requires a quite costly double pulse ruby laser system, whose repetition rate is low. Multi pulse holography [3] is able to analyse transient motions, but the setup is still heavier (4 pulses laser, three cameras).

The development of fast CMOS camera makes possible to analyse vibration efficiently by triggering the camera on the motion in order to record a sequence of holograms that allows to track the vibration of the object as a function of the time [4, 5]. The assessment analysis of the motion can be done by phase difference or by Fourier analysis in the time domain. The method requires a CMOS camera, which can be costly. It is also limited to low frequency vibrations, since a complete analysis of the motion requires a camera frame rate higher than the vibration frequency, because the bandwidth $\Delta \nu$ of the holographic signal, which is sampled at the camera frame rate $\nu_{\text{CCD}}$, must be lower than the Nyquist-Shannon frequency limit $\Delta \nu < \nu_{\text{CCD}}/2$. For a periodic motion of frequency $\nu_A$, the bandwidth $\Delta \nu \simeq 0$ is much smaller than $\nu_A$, and $\nu_A$ can overcome this limit: $\nu_A > \nu_{\text{CCD}}/2$. The exposure time must remains nevertheless lower that the vibration period, in order to avoid to wash out the signal, whose phase may vary during exposure. This limits the duty cycle and the thus SNR (Signal to Noise Ratio).
Powell and Stetson [6] have shown that the time averaged hologram of an harmonically vibrating object yields alternate dark and bright fringes. The dark fringes correspond to the zeros of the Bessel function \( J_0(z) \), where \( z \) is proportional to the vibration amplitude. One gets then a direct mapping of this amplitude. Picard et al. [7] has simplified the processing of the data by performing time averaged holography with a digital CCD camera. Time averaged holography has no limit in vibration frequency and do not involve costly laser system, nor an expensive CMOS fast camera. These advantages yield numerous recent developments of the technique [8–18]. Although the time averaged method gives a way to determine the amplitude of vibration [19], quantitative measurement remain quite difficult, especially for high vibration amplitudes. To solve this problem, Borza proposed high-resolution time-average speckle interferometry and digital holography techniques, which allow subpixel resolution (optical) phase recovery by inverting the Bessel function on its monotonic intervals and works well with larger vibration amplitudes [20–22].

Joud et al. [23] extended the time averaged technique to the detection of the optical signal at the vibration sideband frequency \( \nu_n \), where \( n \) is the harmonic rank. It was demonstrated that the signal amplitude of rank \( n \) is then proportional to the Bessel function \( J_n(z) \). As in the seminal work of Aleksoff [24], in Sideband holography the reference beam frequency is tuned in order to select the sideband of rank \( n \). This tuning is made by the heterodyne holography technique [25]: the frequency of the illumination and reference beams are shifted by acousto optic modulators (AOMs) so that the reference versus illumination frequency offset can be finely adjusted. Sideband holography, which is able to detect MHz frequency vibrations [26], is able on the other hand to image sidebands up to rank \( n = \pm 1000 \) [27], and by the way to analyse vibration of large amplitude, which can be studied by time averaged technique at the price of inverse methods [22].

Since both time averaged and sideband holography record the holographic signal over a large number a vibration periods, these two techniques are not sensitive to the phase of the vibration, and are thus unable to measure the instantaneous velocities of the object. To respond this problem, Leval et al. [28] combine time averaged holography with stroboscopic illumination, but, since Leval uses a mechanical stroboscopic device, the Leval technique suffer of a quite low duty cycle (1/144), and is limited in low vibration frequencies (\( \nu_A < 5 \) kHz).

We propose here to combine Sideband Digital Holography (SDH) with stroboscopic illumination synchronized with the vibration. To perform the stroboscopic illumination, we make use of two AOMs to control both the frequencies and the amplitudes of the illumination and reference beams. This is done by switching electronically on and off the Radio Frequency signals (\( \approx 80 \) MHz) that drive the two AOMs.

If the amplitude of vibration is high, the light scattered by the vibrating object exhibit many sideband components. By sweeping the reference frequency such a way the holographic detection is tuned on the successive sideband harmonic ranks \( n \), stroboscopic sideband holography is then able to detect, for any stroboscopic time delay, all the harmonic ranks generated by Doppler effect. One can then reconstruct the instantaneous velocity map of the vibrating object. The mechanical phase, which is related to the sign of the velocity is obtained by the way. Note that since the stroboscopic illumination is made by AOMs that are electronically driven, there is no practical limitation in the stroboscopic frequency and duty cycle.

In the following we will describe the principle of the method, and our optical and electronic setup. A test experiment is made with a clarinet reed excited sinusoidally at \( \nu_A = 2 \) kHz. The amplitude of vibration is such that we get sideband signal up to rank \( n = \pm 100 \). By sweeping the stroboscopic time delay, and by recording holograms for all harmonic ranks \( n \), we can retrieve images of the reed instantaneous velocity.
Fig. 1. Distribution on the sidebands energy $|A_{n,x,\delta x}|^2$ as a function of the sideband harmonic $n$ without (a) and with (b-d) stroboscopic illumination. Curves are plotted for different stroboscopic illumination time $t = xT_A$ with $x = 0.25, 0.35, 0.45, 0.55, 0.65$ and 0.75, and different stroboscopic illumination duration $\Delta t = \delta x T_A$ with $\delta x = 1$ (a), 0.2 (b), 0.1 (c) and 0.05 (d). The vibration amplitude is $\Phi = 50$.

2. Stroboscopic SDH principle

2.1. Periodic sinusoidal motion

Consider a point of the object in vibrating sinusoidal at frequency $\nu_A$ and amplitude $z_{max}$. Its displacement $z(t)$ is:

$$z(t) = z_{max} \cos(2\pi \nu_A t)$$ (1)

In backscattering geometry, this corresponds to a phase modulation:

$$\varphi(t) = 4\pi z(t)/\lambda = \Phi \cos(2\pi \nu_A t)$$ (2)

where $\lambda$ is the optical wavelength and $\Phi = 4\pi z_{max}/\lambda$. The scattered field is then

$$E(t) = \varepsilon e^{j2\pi \nu_0 t + j\varphi(t)}$$

$$= \varepsilon \sum_{n=-\infty}^{\infty} J_n(\Phi)e^{j2\pi(\nu_0 + n\nu_A)t}$$ (3)
where $\mathcal{E}$ is the complex amplitude of the field, $v_0$ the frequency of the illumination optical field $E_i$, and $J_n$ the $n$th order Bessel function of the first kind. The scattered field is a sum of components of frequency $v_n$:

$$v_n = v_0 + n\nu_A$$

where $n$ is the harmonic rank of the sideband ($n = 0$ for the carrier). Equation 3 means that the weight of the field component of frequency $v_n$ is $\mathcal{E}J_n(\Phi)$. Figure 1 (a) shows how the energy of the sideband $|\mathcal{E}|^2|J_n(\Phi)|^2$ varies with $n$, assuming $\Phi = 50$ rad.

To interpret the spectrum of Fig. 1 (a), one can reverse Eq.4, considering $\Phi$ delays $xT$ where $xT$ and $A\nu$ are the illumination time and illumination duration. The scattered field

$$E(t) = \mathcal{E}H_{x,\delta x}(t)e^{j2\pi v_A t}$$

is thus multiplied by the rectangular function $H_{x,\delta x}(t)$ of period $T_A = 1/\nu_A$

$$H_{x,\delta x}(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } t/T_A < x - \delta x/2 \\ 1 & \text{for } x - \delta x/2 < t/T_A < x + \delta x/2 \\ 0 & \text{for } x + \delta x/2 < t/T_A \\ \end{cases}$$

where $v_0$ is the Doppler frequency shift $v - v_0$ in $\nu_A$ units. This shift is, by definition, related to the distribution of the out-of-plane velocity $V = dz/dt$ of the object:

$$v - v_0 = n\nu_A = 2V/\lambda$$

where $\lambda$ is the optical wavelength. The shift of harmonic rank $n$ is confined between the values $\pm\Phi$ that correspond to the maximum velocities $\pm V_{max}$ with $V_{max} = 2\pi\nu_A\delta_{\max}$. The discrete spectrum $|J_n(\phi = 50)|^2$ of Fig. 1 (a) remains thus mostly confined between $\pm\Phi$, and drops abruptly from a maximum reached close to $n = \pm\Phi$ to almost zero [27].

In order to reconstruct the object velocity map at given time of the vibration motion, we have considered a stroboscopic illumination. The field $E(t)$ is thus multiplied by the rectangular function $H_{x,\delta x}(t)$ of period $T_A = 1/\nu_A$

$$E(t) = \mathcal{E}H_{x,\delta x}(t)e^{j2\pi v_0 t}$$

where $\mathcal{E}A_{n,x,\delta x}$ is the amplitude of the $n$th sideband component.

We have calculated $A_{n,x,\delta x}$ from Eq.8 by numerical Fast Fourier Transform, and we have plotted on Fig. 1 (b-d) the energy $|A_{n,x,\delta x}|^2$ as a function of $n$ for different illumination phase delays $xT_A$ and and different illumination durations $\delta xT_A$. The energy $|A_{n,x,\delta x}|^2$ is centered on the Doppler shift $\pi$ corresponding to the instantaneous velocity $V$ at time $xT_A$:

$$\pi\nu_A = 2\frac{v(xT_A)}{\lambda} = -2\frac{V_{max}}{\lambda}\sin(2\pi x)$$

For $\Phi = 50$ and $x = 0.25, 0.35, 0.45, 0.55, 0.65$ and $0.75$, we get $\pi = -50, -40.4, -15.4, +15.4, +40.4$ and $+50$ respectively, in good agreement with the curves plotted of Fig. 1 (b-d). As expected, the shape of the energy spectrum $|A_{n,x,\delta x}|^2$ strongly depends on the illumination duration $\delta xT_A$. 
Fig. 2. Distribution on the sidebands energy $|A_{n,x,\delta x}|^2$ as a function of the sideband harmonic $n$ without (a) and with (b-d) stroboscopic illumination for the triangular motion defined by Eq.10. Curves are plotted for different stroboscopic illumination time $t = xT_A$ and different stroboscopic illumination duration $\Delta t = \delta xT_A$ with $\delta x = 1$ (a), 0.2 (b), 0.1 (c) and 0.05 (d). The vibration maximum amplitude corresponds to $\Phi = 50$.

For short illumination duration (i.e. $\delta x = 0.05$ on Fig. 1 (d)), we get a wide distribution of the energy along $n$, whose shape do not depends on illumination time $xT_A$. This is expected since the illumination duration is too short to define the Doppler shift frequency precisely. One is limited here by a $\delta t \times \delta \nu \sim 1$ "Fourier uncertainty principle", where $\delta t = \delta xT_A$ is the width in time and $\delta \nu = \delta n\nu_A$ the width in frequency ($\delta n$ being the width in harmonic rank).

For longer illumination duration (i.e. $\delta x = 0.2$ on Fig. 1 (b)), the shape of the energy spectrum $|A_{n,x,\delta x}|^2$ strongly depends on illumination time $xT_A$. It can be narrow (for $x = 0.25$ and 0.75) or wide (for $x = 0.45$ and 0.55), since the Doppler shift may vary slowly ($x = 0.25$ and 0.75) or fast ($x = 0.45$ and 0.55) during the illumination pulse. The best result (i.e. the narrower distribution of $n$ around $\pi$) is obtained for intermediate value of the illumination duration (i.e. for $\delta x = 0.1$ on Fig. 1 (c)).

2.2. Example of non sinusoidal motion: triangular motion

In the more general case of a non sinusoidal but periodic motion of $z$ (period $T_A = 1/\nu_A$), the calculation of the distribution of energy $|A_n|^2$ along the harmonic ranks $n$ can be made similarly. To illustrate the method, we have considered a triangular motion of period $T_A$: the displacement $z$ increases from $z = -z_{\text{max}}$ at $t = 0$ to $z = +z_{\text{max}}$ at $t = T_A/2$, and decreases from $z = +z_{\text{max}}$ at $t = T_A/2$ to $z = -z_{\text{max}}$ at $t = T_A$.

Equation 8 remains still valid for that motion, and can be used to calculate $A_{n,x,\delta x}$ by FFT as done for the sinusoidal motion. Nevertheless, the phase $\varphi(x) = 4\pi z(t)/\lambda$ is no more sinusoidal,
but is given by:

\[ \varphi(t) = (-1 + 4t/T_A)\Phi \]
\[ \varphi(t + T_A/2) = (+1 - 4t/T_A)\Phi \]

where \(0 < t < T_A/2\) and \(\Phi = 4\pi z_{\text{max}}/\lambda\).

We have calculated by FFT \( A_{n,x,\delta x} \) from Eq.8 and Eq.10. We have plotted the energy distribution \( |A_{n,x,\delta x}|^2 \) without stroboscopic illumination on Fig. 2 (a), and with stroboscopic illumination on Fig. 2 (b-d). We have plotted \( |A_{n,x,\delta x}|^2 \) for different illumination phase delays \(xT_A\) and different illumination durations \(\delta xT_A\). The distributions of the energy \( |A_{n,x,\delta x}|^2 \) plotted here on Fig. 2 are very different than for the sinusoidal motion of same maximum amplitude \(\pm z_{\text{max}}\) plotted on Fig. 1.

For \(0.5 < x < 1.0\), the displacement \(z\) decreases at constant velocity, and the shape of the energy distribution \( |A_{n,x,\delta x}|^2 \), which is shifted to the negative harmonic rank \(n < 0\), not depends on the illumination time \(x\). For \(0 < x < 0.5\) a similar result is obtained: the shape do not change, but the shift is positive: \(n > 0\) since \(z\) increases. These results are expected for a triangular motion.

The analysis of distribution of energy \( |A_{n,x,\delta x}|^2 \) as a function of harmonic rank \(n\), illumination time \(xT_A\) and illumination duration \(\delta xT_A\) yields detailed informations on the motion and on its non harmonic components.

3. Experimental setup

The sideband holography setups presented in previous publications does not allow to reconstruct the object at a given time of the vibration motion. To circumvent this problem, we have realized a stroboscopic illumination synchronized on the vibration motion. Figure 3 (a) shows the optical part of our setup, which is similar to the setups previously described [23, 27]. Figure 3 (b) shows the electronic, which drives the acousto optics modulators AOM1 and AOM2, and which has been modified to add amplitude modulation abilities. This electronic is based on 3 direct digital synthesizer signal generators (SG1, 2 and 3), which are locked on the same 10 MHz time base. SG1 excites the loudspeaker, which makes the reed vibrate at \(v_A = 2143 \text{ Hz}\). SG2 generates a frequency tunable sinusoidal signal at \(v_{SG2} \approx 20 \text{ MHz}\), and a reference fixed frequency 10 MHz signal, which is doubled by a frequency doubler (FD2: Mini Circuit Lab Inc.). SG3 generates a rectangular gate of duration \(0.15 \times T_A = 70 \mu\text{s}\) at frequency \(v_A\). This gate (SG3) is synchronized with respect to the reed excitation (SG1) with an electronically adjustable phase delay \(xT_A\).

To realize the stroboscopic illumination, two NAND Logical Gates LG, driven by the SG3 gate, switch on and off the adjustable and the fixed 20 MHz frequency signals. The two 20 MHz gated signals obtained by the way are mixed with the signal of a 100 MHz quartz oscillator by two doubled balanced mixer (ZAD-1H: Mini Circuit Lab Inc.). We get thus two gated signals that exhibit two frequency components \(\pm 100 \text{ MHz} \pm 20 \text{ MHz}\). The signals at \(v_{AOM1} = 80 \text{ MHz}\) and \(v_{AOM2} \approx 80 \text{ MHz}\) that drive the acousto optic modulators AOM1 and AOM2, are thus obtained by filtering the \(\pm 100 \text{ MHz} \pm 20 \text{ MHz}\) signals with two 80 MHz LC resonant amplifiers.

Figure 4 illustrates the synchronization of the various signals. Out of the gate, the \(v_{AOM2}\) and \(v_{AOM2}\) signals are off, and one get no optical signals on the grating orders +1 of the acousto optic modulators AOM1 and AOM2. The illumination and reference beams are then off. Our stroboscopic gate acts thus both on illumination, and on holographic reference (i.e. on holographic detection efficiency).

The data acquisition is made by a computer that drive the three signal generators SG1, SG2 and SG3. For every value of the stroboscopic delay \(xT_A\), the harmonic rank of detection is

\[ A_{n,x,\delta x} \]
swept from $n = -100$ to $n = +100$, i.e., for each $n$, the computer drives SG2 such a way the frequencies of the acousto-optics modulators signals verify:

$$\nu_{AOM1} - \nu_{AOM2} = n\nu_{A} + \nu_{CCD}/4 \quad (11)$$

Four-phase heterodyne holography is then performed [25], i.e., a sequence of 4 images $I_0, ..., I_3$ is recorded yielding the complex hologram:

$$H = (I_0 - I_2) + j(I_0 - I_2) \quad (12)$$

The optical field image of the reed $E(x,y)$ is reconstructed from $H(x,y)$ with the standard one FFT (Fast Fourier Transform) method [29, 30], where $x$ and $y$ are the coordinates of the 1024 $\times$ 1024 calculation matrix. The reconstructed images intensity $I = |E|^2$ of rank $n$ is stored in a 3D 1024 $\times$ 1024 $\times$ 201 cube of data with axes $x$, $y$ and $n$. To the end, an image of the reed velocities is extracted from the cube.

For each stroboscopic delay $\Delta t_A$ the operations are repeated: the rank $n$ is swept; for each $n$ the holograms are recorded, reconstructed and stored within the cube of data. Images of the velocities are then obtained.
4. Experimental results

Figure 5 shows nine reconstructed images of the reed with stroboscopic delay $xT_A$ with $x = 0, 0.3$ and $0.7$ (respectively from top to bottom), and for $n = -60, 0$ and $+60$ (respectively from left to right). Each image of Fig. 5 represents thus one component $n$ of the instantaneous Doppler spectrum. Since the hologram are recorded off axis, the read images are off axis too. To center the images of the reed, the $1024 \times 1024$ reconstructed images are truncated to $1024 \times 512$ on Fig. 5. One recognize the reed on Fig. 5 (b) to (h), and the reed + mouthpiece on Fig. 5 (b,e and h). The right part of reed is clamped on the mouthpiece, while the tip, whose motion is free, is on the left.

On each image, we get signal on the zone $(x,y)$ of the reed where the instantaneous Doppler shift $2V(x,y,xT_A)/\lambda$ is close to $n\nu_A$. This point is illustrated by Fig. 6 that show as a function of the longitudinal axis $y$ the reed displacement $z(y,xT_A)$ and the reed velocity $V(y,xT_A)$ at illumination time $t = xT_A$. The size, shape and brightness of the zone with signal depend on the time of illumination $xT_A$ (i), on the illumination duration $\delta xT_A$ (ii), and on the harmonic rank $n$ (iii).

For delay time $xT_A = 0$, we observe signal on a narrow bright zone of the reed for $n = 60$ (Fig. 5(c)), no signal for $n = -60$ (Fig. 5(a)) and some signal for $n = 0$ (Fig. 5(b)). This means that the reed is illuminated when it moves towards the detector, and only the $n > 0$ harmonic are generated, and detected. The narrow bright zone of Fig. 5(c) corresponds to the points of

Fig. 4. Chronogram of the signals: (a) SG1 sinusoidal signal of period $T_A = 1/\nu_A$ exciting the reed; (b) SG3 rectangular gate and (c) $\approx 80$ MHz gated signals driving the acousto-optical modulators AOM1 and AOM2.
Fig. 5. Reconstruction images of the reed at time $xT_A = 0$ (a,b,c), $0.3\;T_A$ (d,e,f) and $0.7\;T_A$ (g,h,i) for $n = -60$ (a,d,g), 0 (b,e,h) and $+60.0$ (c,f,i). The images are displayed in logarithmic scale for the field intensity $|E|^2$.

Fig. 6. Reed displacement $z(y, xT_A)$ and the reed velocity $V(y, xT_A)$ at illumination time $t = xT_A$. The holographic signal on sideband of rank $n$ is obtained if $V(y, xT_A)$ is close to $V(n) = n\lambda
\nu_A$. 
the reed where the instantaneous velocity at time $xT_A = 0$ is close to

$$V_{n=60} = 60v_Ac/v_0 \simeq 8 \times 10^{-2} \text{m.s}^{-1}$$

(13)

For time $0.3T_A$, we observe a uniform signal on the reed for $n = 0$ (Fig. 5(e)) and no signal for $n = \pm 60$ (Fig. 5(d,f)). This means that the reed is in a position of maximal amplitude of oscillation, with a velocity near zero.

For time $0.7T_A$, the reed goes away from the detector. The results are similar to the ones obtained at time $xT_A = 0$. We observe a narrow bright zone for $n = -60$ (Fig. 5(g)), no signal for $n = +60$ (Fig. 5(i)), and some signal for $n = 0$ (Fig. 5(h)).

To image the reed instantaneous velocities during vibration motion, we have swept the illumination time $xT_A$ from 0 to $T_A$ by step of 0.1 $T_A$. For each time $xT_A$, we have recorded the hologram for $n = -100$ to +100, and we have stored the 201 reconstructed images in a 3D cube of data with axes $x$, $y$ and $n$. The $n$ axis corresponds to the Doppler shift, i.e. to the reed velocity. We have performed cuts of the 3D data in order to extract 2D images along axis $x$ and $n$ ($y$ being fixed). Figure 7 displays the cuts obtained for $y = 256$, which correspond to the horizontal white dashed line in Fig. 5(e).

We actually obtain on Fig. 7 a direct visualization of the shape of the reed instantaneous velocity, which varies with the illumination time $xT_A$. Since the motion is a sine function of
time, the images of the instantaneous velocities of Fig. 7 are similar to images of the reed itself, shifted in phase by $\pi/2$. A movie, made with the 10 images of Fig. 7, is provided in supplementary material (Media1.avi). Another movie, with 20 images per period, is also provided (Media2.avi). The movie shows the evolution of the reed velocities, or the reed motion (if one neglects the shift of phase).

We must notice that the images of Fig. 7 (or the supplementary material movie) correspond to a huge amount of data, since it is necessary to record, for every time $xT_A$, 4 images by harmonic rank $n$ with $n = -100$ to $+100$. We record thus $10 \times 4 \times 201 = 8040$ images. The frequency of acquisition of the camera being of 12.5 Hz, the total recording time is approximately 12 minutes. It is necessary to add the time necessary for the calculation of reconstruction of holograms as well as the time needed to control, during acquisition, the change of frequency of the synthesized signal generators SG2 and SG3. To get the 10 images of Fig. 7, the total time is thus about one hour.

5. Conclusion

This experiment demonstrates that it is possible to reconstruct a map of the instantaneous velocities of a vibrating object by combining sideband holography and stroboscopic illumination synchronized with the vibration motion. Although the amount of generated data is huge, its acquisition is quite simple, since it is fully automatized by using a computer that drives, through signal generators (SGs) and acousto optics modulators (AOMs), both the stroboscopic illumination, and the tuning of the sideband detection. The computer then performs both data acquisition and image reconstruction.

The technique is demonstrated here in the case of a simple sinusoidal oscillation. It can be extended to more complex periodic motions. One must notice that the technique is sensitive to the direction of the instantaneous velocity (sign of $n$). The technique can thus be used to get the geometrical shape of a vibration mode in order to remove any ambiguity.