

Elastic pulsed wave propagation in media with second- or higher-order nonlinearity. Part II. Simulation of experimental measurements on Berea sandstone

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The theoretical 1-D wave propagation model described in Part I is applied to laboratory data from dynamic propagating wave experiments on a 2-m-long cylindrical rod of Berea sandstone as previously reported by Meegan *et al.* [J. Acoust. Soc. Am. **94**, 3387–3391 (1993)]. Using the iterative procedure, good agreement is obtained limiting model parameters up to cubic anharmonicity (i.e., two nonlinear terms proportional to β and δ in the stress-strain polynomial expansion). Both the data and simulations illustrate that nonlinear response is likely to occur even at extremely small strains (order 10^{-7}). As generally expected for disordered materials, the resulting values for the nonlinear parameters are several orders of magnitude larger than those for intact (uncracked, noncompliant) materials. The values obtained for the dynamic nonlinearity parameters are discussed in relation to commonly obtained static and resonance results which suggest the need to include more complicated phenomena such as hysteresis in the theory. © 1996 Acoustical Society of America.

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INTRODUCTION

Elastic nonlinear behavior in rocks may manifest itself in a variety of manners (nonlinear stress-strain equation with or without hysteresis, nonlinear attenuation, harmonic generation, resonant peak shift) and can be observed in several different ways (static and quasistatic tests, torsional oscillator experiments, Young's mode resonance experiments, dynamic pulse mode experiments). (See the review by Johnson and Rasolofosaon¹ for references to each individual technique.) The mechanism responsible for this nonlinear behavior is believed to be due to the presence of compliant features and the influence of fluid.²

In this paper we focus on dynamic pulse wave propagation and apply the theoretical model described in Part I to simulate previously reported experiments conducted by Meegan *et al.*³ (MJGM in remainder of text) on Berea Sandstone. In the first section we briefly review the experimental setup used in the nonlinear measurements as applied by MJGM. We then discuss the experimental data and simulations using the 1-D model described in Part I.⁴ Different attenuation models are contrasted and compared in the calculations. We also show typical signal distortion based on the parameters resulting from the simulation. The dynamic values for the nonlinearity coefficients differ to some extent from the ones obtained in static stress-strain measurements and resonance experiments. We comment on this difference in the final section, and suggest alternative theories which might account for this difference.

I. EXPERIMENTAL SETUP

The experiment is described in detail by Meegan *et al.*³ A 2-m-long, 6-cm-diam, cylindrical sample of Berea sandstone was used in the experiment (see Fig. 1). Source frequencies of 8 to 24 kHz were used, and detectors (pinducers) were embedded in the rod at predetermined intervals. The source displacement was measured by use of an optical probe.

II. DATA AND SIMULATION

A. MJGM results

At ambient conditions, time-of-flight measurements yield a linear sound speed in the Berea Sandstone bar of about 2600 m/s, and, in the absence of the receiving pinducers, a value of about 60 for Q_L was reported. One experimental observation originally shown by MJGM providing evidence for the nonlinear response of the rock is shown in Fig. 2. In Fig. 2(a) the spectral composition of the displacement of the source transducer (measured by the displacement probe) while being driven at 13.75 kHz is illustrated. The five different curves correspond to five amplitudes of the source transducer varying over a factor of approximately 50. Note that, as the amplitude at the fundamental (drive) frequency was increased, the amplitude at frequencies other than the drive frequency remained very low [the 2ω harmonic (where ω is angular frequency) is down by approximately two orders of magnitude from the fundamental and no higher harmonics are observed]. As reproduced in Fig. 2(b), MJGM illustrated the spectral composition for the five drive amplitudes after the signal had propagated 58 cm (about three wavelengths of the fundamental) from the source transducer. Comparison of parts (a) and (b) of Fig. 2 reveals the presence of rich harmonic content at 58 cm that does not exist at the source.

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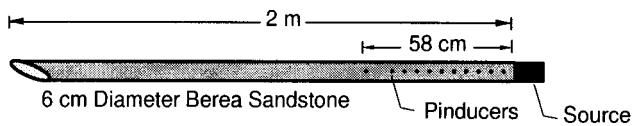


FIG. 1. Illustration of sandstone bar used in the MJGM experiment.

In their paper, MJGM approximately verified the three fundamental relations predicted by the 1-D perturbation theory derived by McCall.⁵ These include: the displacement amplitude of the second harmonic (A_2) grows linearly with propagation distance (using spectral ratios); A_2 shows a quadratic dependence on the fundamental source amplitude; and A_2 grows with a quadratic dependence on source frequency $\omega (=2\pi f)$.

The iterative theoretical model described in Part I⁴ is a more powerful approach than the basic perturbation results used by MJGM. This is because, (1) the method can account for the entire frequency spectrum (i.e., harmonics higher than 2ω and 3ω); (2) use of numerous iterations leads to more accurate results and functional dependencies (i.e., energy is approximately conserved); and (3) attenuation effects can be considered.

B. Application of the new theoretical approach

We tested the new model in a reduced form limiting ourselves to the weighting interaction functions W_1 and W_2 in the generalized solution of the nonlinear equation (i.e.,

second-order approximation $u = u_0 + u_1 + u_2$). Given the drive frequency ($f = 13.75$ kHz), the total travel distance ($L = 58$ cm) and a measured value for the linear speed ($c_0 = 2600$ m/s), we performed simulations of the 1-D wave propagation in β - δ parameter space. In a first attempt we used an estimation for the linear attenuation relation in a sandstone bar with $Q_L = 60$, corresponding to the medium constant for the sandstone bar in ambient conditions and in the absence of the receiving pinducers. We reproduced the MJGM observed spectra at the various source amplitudes to very good agreement using the following values: $\beta' = -250$ and $\delta' = -3.2 \times 10^8$ or equivalently $\beta = -500$ and $\delta = -9.6 \times 10^8$ (the primes indicate MJGM and McCall⁵ notation; the unprimed values are the classical nonlinear acoustics values).

The comparison between the theoretical predictions and the experimental data are shown in Fig. 3. Each of the drive levels corresponding to those shown in Fig. 2 are shown by a separate spectral plot. The simulation was performed using 20 iterations, equivalent to 20 distance steps of 2.9 cm. Except for the input intensity, all model parameters (input frequency, sound velocity, attenuation, distance, and both nonlinear coefficients) are kept constant in the simulations. The amplitudes and frequencies of the simulations are indicated by the vertical arrows in the figures. The amplitudes of the harmonics show good agreement with the experimental data for all levels of source intensity. On the other hand, the predicted amplitude of the fundamental component at 58 cm is always higher than the measured value. This implies that attenuation must be much larger than expected, especially considering the fact that the source intensity taken as input in the program is moderately lower than the actual data from the fiber optic probe.

A qualitative explanation for the excess attenuation has been suggested in the Appendix of MJGM relating the apparently lower Q to the presence of a periodic sequence of scatterers (the eleven receivers were imbedded in the rock at intervals of 5 cm). A simple scattering model applied by MJGM illustrated that the rock with intrinsic Q_L of about 50 can be altered to an apparent Q_L of about 10 due to wave scattering. This appears to be a direct result of imbedding of the pinducers in the sample. We therefore performed the simulation again in the case of $Q_L = 10$. The result, shown in the same manner as for the previous figure, is shown in Fig. 4 using 200 iterations. The input intensity in all cases identically equals the level recorded by the optical probe at the source. We found it necessary to allow the values for β and δ to float within predetermined bounds during the simulation in order to identically match the observations. The coefficients seem to be systematically growing as a function of input level. We will return to this later. Compared to the results for $Q_L = 60$, we note far better agreement with the measurements, especially for the fundamental component. Imbedding the pinducers indeed has had significant consequences on the dissipative nature of the medium.

To illustrate one strength of the iteration technique, we show in Fig. 5 simulation results at the highest input amplitude using a single iteration, i.e., direct calculation over a single step (one iteration) of 58 cm. The identical nonlinear-

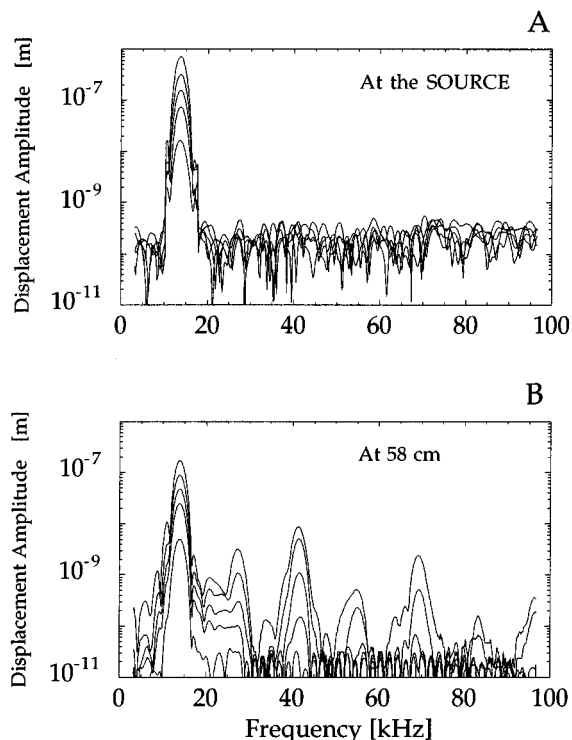


FIG. 2. (a) Source spectra as measured with a displacement probe for a 13.75-kHz drive at different amplitudes. (b) Spectra of propagated wave at receiver position 58 cm away from the source (from MJGM).

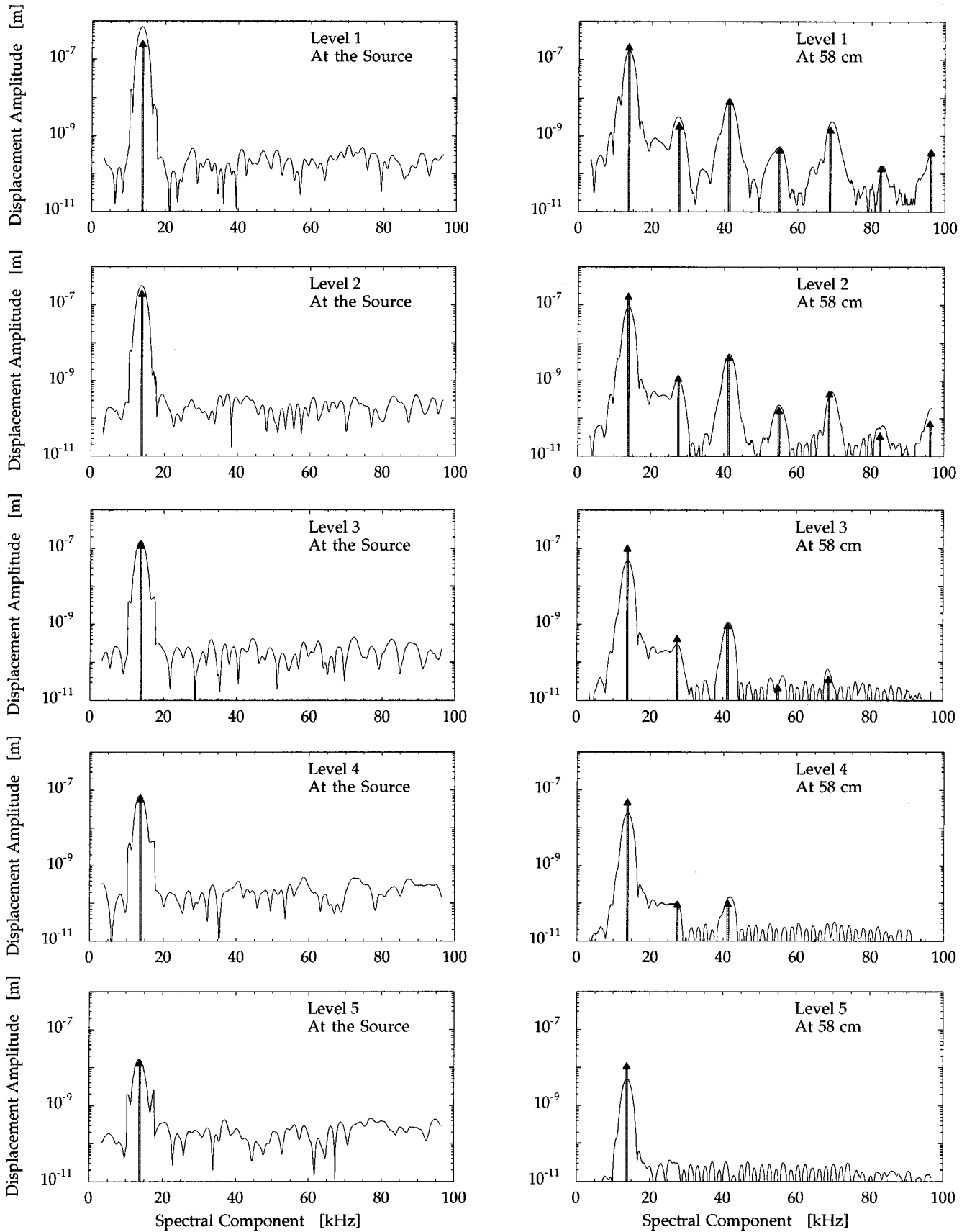


FIG. 3. Simulation of source (left) and receiver (right) spectra at 58 cm for the amplitudes measured in Fig. 2 for $Q_L=60$. Arrows indicate the simulation results where $\beta' = -250$ and $\delta' = -3.2 \times 10^8$.

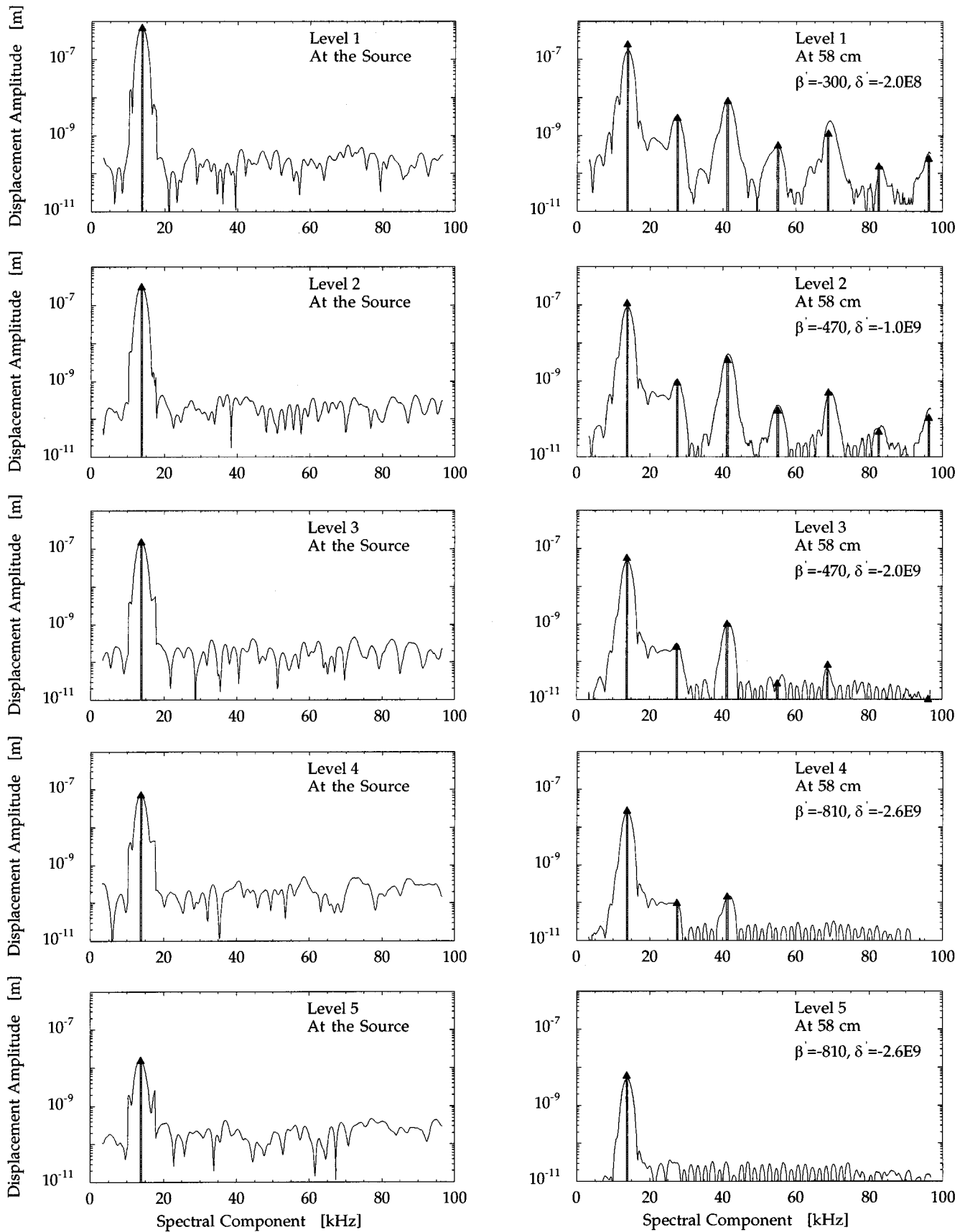


FIG. 4. Simulation of source (left) and receiver (right) spectra at 58 cm for amplitudes measured in Fig. 2 for $Q_L=10$. Arrows again indicate simulation results. β' and δ' vary systematically with intensity.

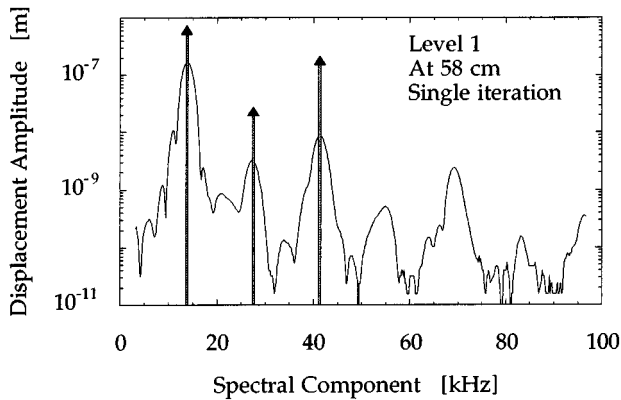


FIG. 5. Single iteration simulation for highest intensity level from Fig. 4 using the same parameters as in Fig. 4.

ity parameters were used as those in the highest drive level in Fig. 4 (top right, Fig. 4). In the case of a single iteration, only three spectral components can be modeled as opposed to the entire spectrum. Additionally, the spectral intensity of each component is much too high since attenuation effects enter the model significantly only after a few iterations.

Even in the presence of numerous iterations, the model predicts incorrect results when only one nonlinear parameter is used. To illustrate this, Fig. 6 shows the results for first-order approximation by limiting calculations to $u = u_0 + u_1$, which is equivalent to considering only the influence of β . Comparison to the top right plot in Fig. 4 clearly emphasizes the importance of the higher-order δ term in the observations.

Using complex representations for each frequency component, the full spectrum (amplitude and phase) and consequently the corresponding waveform can be obtained at any position from the source. Calculated waveforms at 58 cm, corresponding to the spectra shown in Fig. 4, are plotted in Fig. 7 for displacement and acceleration. Depending on the type of experiment, either displacement or acceleration is measured by our group. Each of the five drive levels are shown.

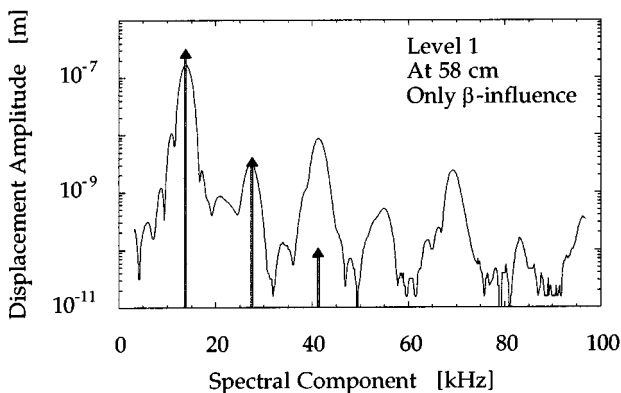


FIG. 6. Simulation for highest intensity level from Fig. 4 limiting calculations to a first order perturbation expression (taking into account only the influence of the first nonlinearity parameter $\beta' = -300$).

The distortion in the acceleration is more obvious since each spectral component is multiplied by ω^2 compared to the corresponding frequency displacement component. Although time series of waveforms for the data discussed here are not at our disposal, work by our group indicates that these waveforms exhibit the typical signal distortion response observed in our ongoing pulse investigations and nonlinear resonance experiments (e.g., Ten Cate *et al.*;⁶ Johnson *et al.*⁷).

III. DISCUSSION

The values obtained for the first and second nonlinearity parameters β and δ are several order of magnitude larger than those found in uncracked materials, which range typically between 3 and 15 for β and with the magnitude of δ in general of the order β^2 [i.e., $\delta/\beta^2=1$] (e.g., Johnson and Rasolofosaon⁸). The simulation for the data discussed in this paper yield a ratio of δ to β^2 between 1600 and 6800. This relationship illustrates that rock and other compliant materials are particularly nonlinear and care must be taken when modeling the nonlinear response of these materials.

It is noteworthy that odd harmonics dominate the even harmonics in this example, and this has also been noted in resonant bar experiments (e.g., Johnson *et al.*⁷). Figure 4 already illustrated that the δ -term contributes as an indispensable correction to the nonlinear state relation. Recently, Na and Breazeale reported similar abnormally high third harmonics in PZT ceramics.^{9,10} This feature has been related to the non-negligible influence of the fourth-order elastic constants as well. Calculations by Van Den Abeele and Breazeale¹⁰ yield ratios of δ to β^2 for various PZT samples ranging from 127 to 15 500.

A. Classical theory and hysteresis

The values of β and δ obtained from the theoretical simulation for the MJGM experiment are in disagreement with static stress-strain (and also with resonance results, e.g., Johnson *et al.*⁷). The first nonlinearity parameter β is roughly the same order of magnitude as that predicted by static measurements, but δ is at least two orders of magnitude higher than our measurements of static modulus-strain data (e.g., Guyer *et al.*¹¹). This is a classical result for rock.

The recently developed model of Guyer *et al.*¹¹ and McCall and Guyer,¹² which includes hysteresis and discrete memory in stress-strain space, predicts considerably lower values for δ in similar materials than does the theory presented here. Static measurements indicate that the nonlinear parameters increase significantly for small stress deviations compared with large static stress deviations. This observation has been reported by several authors.¹¹⁻¹⁴ Typical stress-strain behavior for large (static) and small (dynamic) excursions are visualized in Fig. 8. Irrespective of the bifunctional behavior of the curves, we note that the mean hysteresis loop is steeper in the case of the small pressure deviation than in the static experiment. This is an indication of higher values for the nonlinearity parameters at smaller pressure excursions. Therefore, a distinction between dynamic and static nonlinearity parameters appears appropriate and justifies the anomaly between our model prediction and the static measurement results to a certain extent.

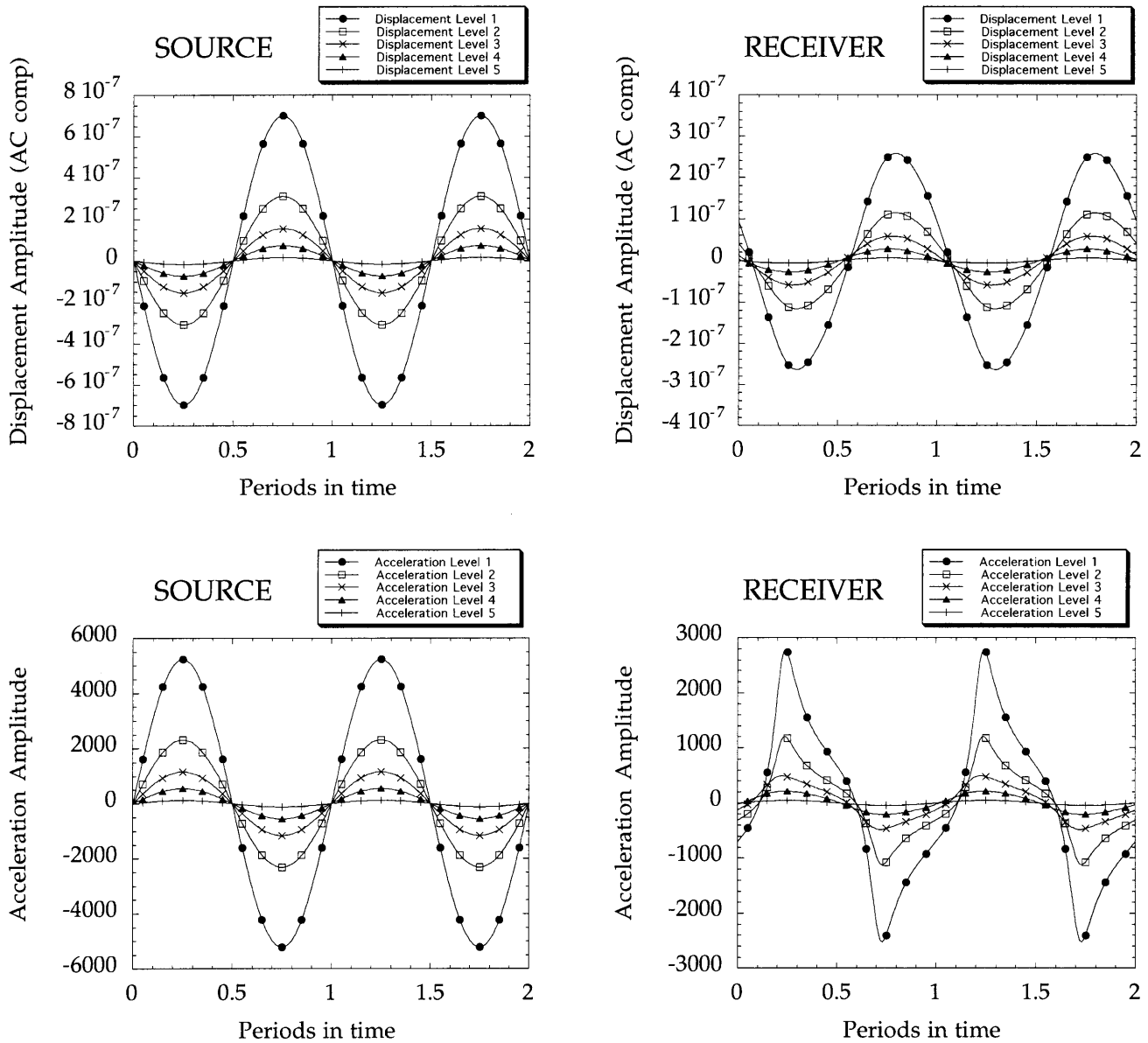


FIG. 7. Simulated waveforms for displacement and acceleration corresponding to the spectra shown in Fig. 4.

B. Are elastic pulse-mode waves hysteretic as well?

The fact that the simulation for $Q_L=10$ (Fig. 4) yields values for both nonlinearity parameters that grow systematically with the source amplitude may be a manifestation of hysteretic behavior. The question remains as to whether the exceptional nonlinearity in earth materials as obtained from dynamic experiments is ascribed to the presence of extreme fourth- (and maybe higher-) order nonlinear medium constants, to hysteresis, or to a combination of both. This investigation, both theoretically and experimentally, is continuing.

IV. CONCLUSION

The 1-D nonlinear propagation model, assuming a third order polynomial expansion of the stress-strain relation, is capable of reproducing observed experimental data for a rock

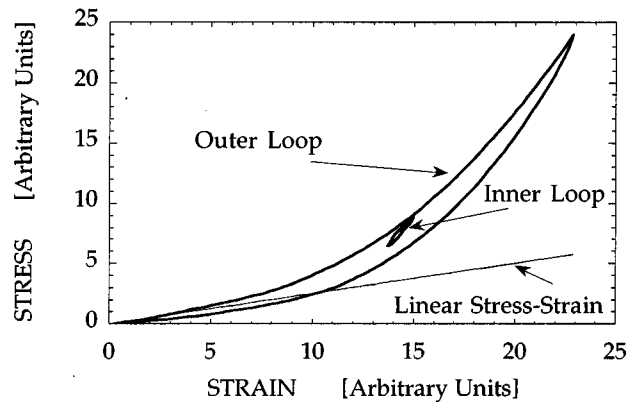


FIG. 8. Typical stress-strain dependencies for large (big loop) and small (inner loop) static experiments illustrating distinct nonlinear response between both cases.

(Berea sandstone) and of inferring dynamic values for the characterization of material nonlinearity. The simulation of the complete frequency spectrum is possible using an iterative procedure including attenuation and at least two nonlinearity parameters. The nonlinear parameters for Berea sandstone derived by the model are several orders of magnitude higher than found in noncompliant materials indicating that this material [and more generally all (?) rocks] exhibit highly nonlinear behavior. The modeling requires inclusion of a very large value for the second-order nonlinearity parameter δ . The relation for these values to other (static) estimations is still a topic of discussion and suggests consideration of other nonlinear material behavior such as hysteresis.

Because the effects certainly are significant in rocks, accurate measurement of nonlinear contributions along the propagation path due to non-negligible higher-order elastic constants or hysteresis effects may ultimately be used as a sensitive measure of consolidation and saturation in earth materials as well as symptoms of fatigue or damage.

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