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# ON THE RELATION BETWEEN TRANSMISSION FUNCTION OF COLUMN AND THAT OF SLAB FOR INFRA-RED ABSORPTION BAND

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## 1 Introduction

ROBERTS (4) and PHILIPPS (3) found that for a continuous spectrum the transmission of a slab of thickness  $u$  is practically equivalent to that of a linear column of length  $1.5 u$ . While, according to ELSASSER (2) the transmission through a slab of thickness  $u$  is approximately equal to that of a column of length  $1.66 u$  for the idealized absorption band

of equal and equi-distant lines. However, it will be shown in the present paper that the result for the continuous spectrum is also available for the absorption band.

## 2 Transmission functions for the idealized band

According to ELSASSER (2) the transmission function of a column,  $\Gamma_1$ , for the idealized band is given by

$$\Gamma_1 = \frac{1}{2\pi} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} e^{-k(s)u} ds = \sinh \beta \int_{\frac{Su}{d \sinh \beta}}^{\infty} e^{-y \cosh \beta} J_0(iy) dy \quad (1)$$

$$= \sinh \beta \left( \frac{Su}{d \sinh \beta} \right) \int_1^{\infty} e^{-\frac{Suy \cosh \beta}{d \sinh \beta}} J_0 \left( i \frac{Suy}{d \sinh \beta} \right) dy, \quad (2)$$

where  $k(s) = \frac{S}{d} \frac{\sinh \beta}{\cosh \beta - \cos s}$ ,  $\beta = \frac{2\pi\alpha}{d}$ ,  $s = \frac{2\pi\nu}{d}$ ,  $k$  is the absorption coefficient,  $\nu$  the frequency in  $\text{cm}^{-1}$ ,  $S$  the total intensity of a line,  $\alpha$  the half-width,  $d$  the line distance,  $J_0$  the zeroth order Bessel function of a imaginary argument. The corresponding transmission function of a slab,  $\Gamma_f$ , is defined by

$$\Gamma_f = \frac{1}{\pi} \int_1^{\infty} \frac{dt}{t^3} \int_{-\pi}^{\pi} e^{-k(s)ut} ds. \quad (3)$$

Introducing (1) in (3) and integrating by parts, we have

$$\Gamma_f = \sinh \beta \int_{\frac{Su}{d \sinh \beta}}^{\infty} \frac{e^{-y \cosh \beta}}{y^2} J_0(iy) dy - \sinh \beta \left( \frac{Su}{d \sinh \beta} \right)^2 \int_{\frac{Su}{d \sinh \beta}}^{\infty} \frac{1}{y^2} e^{-y \cosh \beta} J_0(iy) dy. \quad (4)$$

Or introducing (2) in (3), we have

$$\Gamma_f = 2 \sinh \beta \frac{Su}{d \sinh \beta} \int_1^{\infty} \frac{dt}{t^2} \int_1^{\infty} e^{-\frac{Suty \cosh \beta}{d \sinh \beta}} J_0 \left( i \frac{Suty}{d \sinh \beta} \right) dy. \quad (5)$$

If  $\beta$  is small and  $u$  is large, we can put  $\cosh \beta = 1 + \frac{\beta^2}{2}$ ,  $\sinh \beta = \beta$ ,  $J_0(i\eta) = \frac{e^{-\eta}}{\sqrt{2\pi\eta}}$  in (5).

Then we have

$$\Gamma_f = \frac{2}{3} \frac{1}{\sqrt{\pi}} \sqrt{\frac{lu}{2}} \left(2 \frac{lu}{2} - 1\right) e^{-\frac{lu}{2}} - \left\{ \frac{4}{3} \left(\frac{lu}{2}\right)^2 - 1 \right\} \left\{ 1 - \phi \right\} \left( \sqrt{\frac{lu}{2}} \right), \quad (6)$$

where  $l$  is ELSASSER's generalized absorption coefficient, given by  $l = \frac{S\beta}{d}$ , and  $\phi(\eta)$  is the error integral, given by

$$\phi(\eta) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{\pi}} \int_0^\eta e^{-\eta^2} d\eta.$$

Equation (6) was already obtained by ELSASSER.

### 3 The Relation between transmission functions of column and slab

At first we shall summarize the known result for a continuous spectrum. In this case the transmission of a column,  $\tau_I$ , is given by  $\tau_I = e^{-x}$  and that of a slab,  $\tau_f$ , is given by  $\tau_f = 2 \int_1^\infty \frac{e^{-xt}}{t^3} dt$ , where  $x = ku$ . Then by the mean value theorem of integral, we have  $\tau_f(x) = \tau_I(\xi x)$  where the value of  $\xi$  lies between 1 and  $\infty$  and depends on  $x$ . For small  $x$ , expanding  $\tau_f$  in series by the well known formula for exponential integral, we have  $\tau_f = 1 - 2x$ , while  $\tau_I = 1 - x$  for this case. Hence  $\xi = 2$  for small  $x$ . With increase of  $x$ ,  $\xi$  decreases rapidly and tends to 1 for large  $x$ . The mean value of  $\xi$  was defined by ROBERTS as the value of  $\xi$  which satisfies the following condition:

$$\int_0^\infty \tau_I(\xi x) dx = \int_0^\infty \tau_f(x) dx. \quad (7)$$

It is easily shown that  $\xi = 1.5$  satisfies this condition.

Now quite similar argument holds in the case of absorption band too. By the mean value theorem of integral,  $\Gamma_f(x)$  of (5) for the band can be expressed as  $\Gamma_I(\xi'x)$  of (2) with  $1 < \xi' < \infty$ , where  $x = \frac{Su}{d \sinh \beta}$ . For small  $x$ , we have from (1)

$$\Gamma_I(x) = 1 - \sinh \beta \int_0^x e^{-y \cosh \beta} J_0(iy) dy = 1 - x \sinh \beta. \quad (8)$$

And referring to the following relation, *i. e.*,

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} x \int_x^\infty \frac{1}{y^2} e^{-y \cosh \beta} J_0(iy) dy = 1, \quad (9)$$

we have from (4)

$$\Gamma_f(x) = 1 - 2x \sinh \beta. \quad (10)$$

Hence we have  $\xi' = 2$  for small  $x$  in the case of a band too. With increase of  $x$ ,  $\xi'$  also decreases rapidly and tends to 1 for large  $x$ . Now it will be reasonable to define the mean value of  $\xi'$  so as to satisfy the condition,

$$\int_0^\infty \Gamma_I(\xi'x) dx = \int_0^\infty \Gamma_f(x) dx. \quad (11)$$

Then from (2) and (5), by the aid of the known integral\*

$$\int_0^\infty e^{-at} J_\nu(bt) t^{\nu+1} dt = \frac{2a(2b)^\nu \Gamma(\nu + \frac{3}{2})}{(a^2 + b^2)^{\nu + \frac{3}{2}} \sqrt{\pi}}, \quad (12)$$

where  $R(\nu) > -1$  and  $\Gamma$  is the Gamma function, we again arrive at the result that  $\xi' = 1.5$ . The only difference between the values of  $\xi$  and  $\xi'$  is due to the difference of respective transmission functions for a continuous spectrum and for a band. In the following discussion  $x = \frac{lu}{2}$  will be used for the band instead of  $x = \frac{Su}{d \sinh \beta}$  in the above discussion.

This change of variable is for the sake of practical convenience in numerical calculation, because transmission functions of a slab are generally expressed as function of  $\frac{lu}{2}$ . Now in formulae which determine  $\xi$  and  $\xi'$ , *i. e.*,

$$\tau_f(x) = 2 \int_1^\infty \tau_I(xt) \frac{dt}{t^3} = \tau_I(\xi x), \quad (13)$$

$$\Gamma_f(x) = 2 \int_1^\infty \Gamma_I(xt) \frac{dt}{t^3} = \Gamma_I(\xi'x), \quad (14)$$

the weight function  $\frac{1}{t^3}$  decreases rapidly with

\*G. N. WATSON, Theory of Bessel Function, 1922, p. 386

increase of  $t$ , and as shown by ELSASSER'S numerical calculation, both  $\tau_T$  and  $\Gamma_T$  are monotone decreasing functions and  $\Gamma_T$  decreases more rapidly with  $x$  than  $\tau_T$ . So that we

can say that  $\xi > \xi'$  for a given small  $x$ . While, as was shown above, mean values of both  $\xi$  and  $\xi'$  are equal, hence it will be said that  $\xi < \xi'$  for large value of  $x$ .

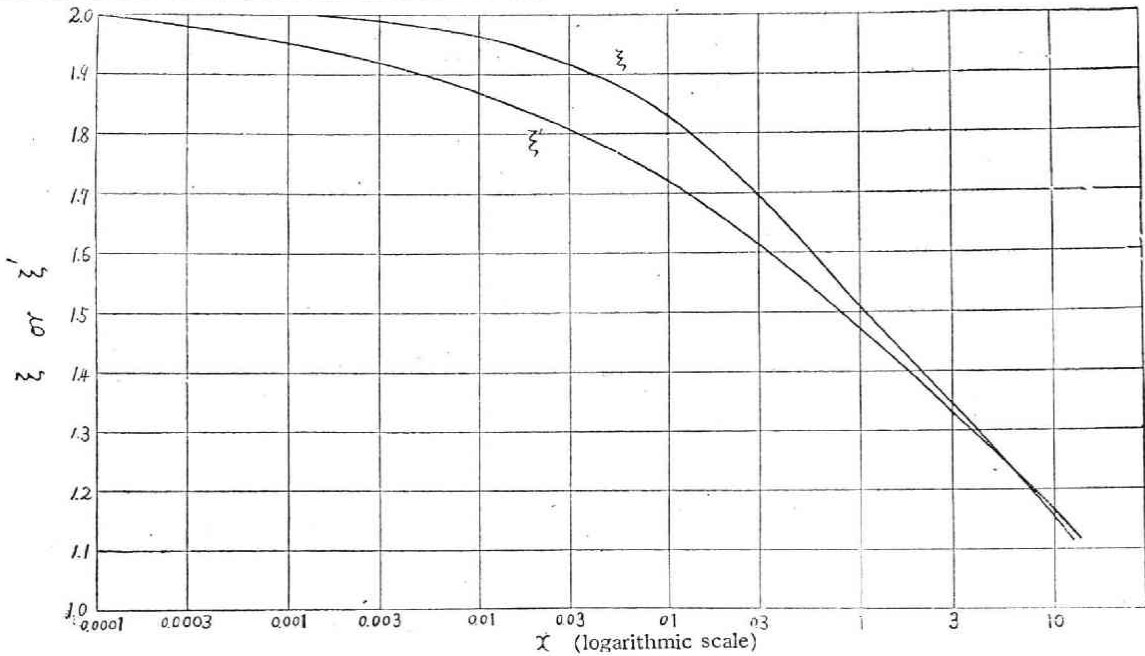


Fig. 1.  $x = ku$  for  $\xi$  curve.  
 $x = \frac{lu}{2}$  for  $\xi'$  curve.

Actual values of  $\xi$  and  $\xi'$  as function of  $x$  are shown in Fig. 1. These curves are obtained by calculating numerically  $\tau_T$ ,  $\tau_f$ ,  $\Gamma_T$  and  $\Gamma_f$  as function of  $x$ . In this case we assumed that  $\beta = 0.2$ , i. e.,  $\alpha = 0$  and  $d = 3$ , which will be appropriate values for the water vapour band at normal pressure. Then we have  $\frac{Su}{d \sinh \beta} = 50 \frac{lu}{2}$ , and for small  $x$ ,  $\Gamma_T$  and  $\Gamma_f$  were calculated from (1) and (4) by numerical integration, and for moderate and large  $x$ , ELSASSER'S approximate formulae,  $\Gamma_T(x) = 1 - \phi(\sqrt{x})$  and (6) were used. It is shown in Fig. 1 that both  $\xi$  and  $\xi'$  decrease rapidly at first with increase of  $x$  and that

$\xi' < \xi$  for small  $x$  as was predicted qualitatively.

Recently COWLING (1) has shown that ELSASSER'S transmission functions for the idealized band are somewhat smaller than actual ones for large value of  $u$ . The result obtained in this paper ought to be modified accordingly. The required modification will have the tendency to decrease  $\xi'$  for small  $x$ . However the necessary modification will probably be very small, because the weight function will be  $\frac{1}{t^3}$  in the case of actual band too, so that the change of the transmission function for large  $xt$  will not influence much effect on  $\xi'$ .

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