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**DETECTION OF HIGH ENERGY PARTICLES STORED  
IN A PENNING TRAP**

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**ABSTRACT**

This article presents the results of our work about the signal induced on the electrodes of a Penning trap by oscillating particles with an amplitude which is comparable with the trap dimensions (that is to say with energy of the order of magnitude of the potential well which permits the confinement in the trap). The detection sensibility is calculated whether for radial motion or for the axial motion as a function of the particle energy and radial position. Quantitative analysis of the results shows a notable non linearity between the detected signals and the oscillation amplitudes.

## 1. Introduction

Penning traps are widely used to measure fundamental properties of the stored particles (such as masses and magnetic momenta) with very high precision [1],[2]. Every measurement of this kind can be reduced to a measure of some frequency of the stored particle motion and frequency resolution of the order of  $10^8$  or better can be obtained by a careful control of every disturbance which can alter the ideal motion inside the trap. In order to minimize the effects coming from mechanical imperfections, electrodes truncation, magnetic field inhomogeneity and so on, the stored particles are usually detected only when they have very small oscillation amplitude compared with the trap dimensions. The detected electric signal, coming from the displacement of the induced charges on the trap electrodes, is then linearly related to the particle velocity as described in [3].

Recently the Penning traps have found a wide application as devices catching beams of particles in flight [4]. The energy of the captured particles is now of the same order of the potential well of the trap and therefore the particles oscillate inside the trap with amplitudes comparable with the trap dimensions. In this situation the induced signal cannot be calculated using the previous small oscillations approximation leading to the results of [3].

In this paper we analyze, in a general way, both the signal coming from the axial and

the radial motion of the particles stored inside the trap and results were obtained which hold for every oscillation amplitude. The detection of particles stored inside the trap with high energy and big radii could be useful in order to obtain information about the mean energy and the mean radial position of the stored bunch and to obtain the pick-up signal for the stochastic cooling process [5], [6]. The requested precision is several orders of magnitude less than that which is necessary to perform the measurements described in [1] and [2].

We first recall some general result about the motion of particles stored in an ideal Penning trap and about the induced currents on a conductor by moving charges. Finally we show the results about the calculated signal for the axial and radial motion of particles stored in Penning traps having different dimensions.

## 2. Penning traps

A Penning trap [1] is a particular trap for charged particles having the electrodes shaped as revolution hyperbola. Fig. 1 shows an axial section of this trap. When a voltage  $V_0$  is applied between the ring and the two cups the electrostatic potential generated inside the trap is

$$V(r, z) = \frac{-V_0}{r_0^2 + 2z_0^2} (r^2 - 2z^2) \quad (1)$$

A particle, whose charge is  $q$ , if  $qV_0 > 0$  feels a harmonic electric field along the  $z$  direction leading to

$$z(t) = A_z \cos(\omega_z t + \phi_z) \quad (2)$$

where

$$\omega_z = \sqrt{\frac{4qV_0}{m(r_0^2 + 2z_0^2)}} \quad (3)$$

and  $m$  is the particle mass. The amplitude  $A_z$  and the phase  $\phi_z$  are related to the initial conditions.

Because the radial electric field is defocusing, to obtain a stable orbit it is necessary to place the trap inside a proper uniform magnetic field  $B$  directed along the  $z$  axis. The radial motion is then completely decoupled from the axial one and can be described by

$$x(t) + iy(t) = r_m \exp i(\omega_m t + \phi_m) + r_c \exp i(\omega_c t + \phi_c) \quad (4)$$

where the cyclotron angular velocity  $\omega_c$  is

$$\omega_c = \frac{1}{2} \left[ \frac{qB}{m} + \sqrt{\left(\frac{qB}{m}\right)^2 - 2\omega_z^2} \right] \quad (5)$$

and the magnetron angular velocity  $\omega_m$  is

$$\omega_m = \frac{1}{2} \left[ \frac{qB}{m} - \sqrt{\left(\frac{qB}{m}\right)^2 - 2\omega_z^2} \right] \quad (6)$$

The cyclotron radius  $r_c$ , the magnetron radius  $r_m$  and the phases  $\phi_m$  and  $\phi_c$  can be calculated knowing the initial position and velocity of the particle.

Normally

$$\omega_m \ll \omega_z \ll \omega_c$$

and so the energy of the stored particle is related principally to the amplitude of the axial motion and of the cyclotron motion. The magnetron radius characterizes the mean radial position of the particle internally within the trap.

### 3. Induced currents on the trap electrodes

The motion of a stored particle inside the trap produces a displacement of induced charges on the trap electrodes that is a current through a circuit connected between any trap electrode  $E$  and ground. The current  $i_E(t)$  is obviously related to the induced charge  $Q_E(t)$  by

$$i_E(t) = \frac{dQ_E(t)}{dt} \quad (7)$$

When the potential of the electrodes are held constant, it is possible to compute the charge  $Q_E(t)$  generated by a particle in the position  $x(t), y(t), z(t)$  using the simple relation

[7]

$$Q_E(t) = -qU_E(x(t), y(t), z(t)) \quad (8)$$

The function  $U_E$  must be calculated solving the Laplace equation

$$\nabla^2 U_E = 0 \quad (9)$$

satisfying the boundary conditions

$$U_E = 1 \text{ on the electrode } E$$

$$U_E = 0 \text{ on the other electrodes} \quad (10)$$

This is a general result coming from the Gauss identity.

From (7) and (8) it follows

$$i_E(t) = -q \vec{v}(t) \cdot \vec{\nabla} U_E((x(t), y(t), z(t))) \quad (11)$$

This last equation clearly shows how the induced current is related to the particle motion - described by the particle velocity  $\vec{v}(t)$  - and to the geometry of the surrounding conductors which determines the function  $U_E$ .

When it is possible to assume that

$$\frac{A_z}{z_0}, \frac{r_m}{r_0}, \frac{r_c}{r_0} \ll 1 \quad (12)$$

the function giving the charge  $Q_{cup}$ , induced on the upper cup of the trap shown in figure 1, may be approximated in the following way

$$Q_{cup}(t) = -q\alpha_z \left( \frac{z}{2z_0} + \frac{1}{2} \right) \quad (13)$$

The constant coefficient  $\alpha_z$  is a number  $< 1$  depending upon the ratio  $r_0/z_0$  as the calculations performed in [3] show.

The induced current is then linearly related to the axial oscillation amplitude

$$i_{cup}(t) = q\alpha_z \frac{A_z}{2z_0} \omega_z \sin(\omega_z t + \phi_z) \quad (14)$$

that is, provided that the amplitude is sufficiently small, for a given trap the "detection sensibility  $\alpha_z$ " is not energy or position dependent. Note that, selecting  $\alpha_z = 1$ , equation (14) holds for every particle position inside a parallel plate capacitor having the plates at distance  $2z_0$ .

When condition (12) is satisfied a similar results holds for the charge  $Q_r$  induced on a ring sector

$$Q_r(t) = -q\alpha_r \left( \frac{x}{2r_0} + \frac{1}{2} \right) \quad (15)$$

The related current allows the radial motion detection

$$i_r(t) = q\alpha_r \omega_c \frac{r_c}{2r_0} \sin(\omega_c t + \phi_c) + q\alpha_r \omega_m \frac{r_m}{2r_0} \sin(\omega_m t + \phi_m) \quad (16)$$

$\alpha_r$  has a meaning equal to  $\alpha_z$  but we cannot find any reliable published data.

In the usual detection network (figure 2a and 2b) the signals (14) and (16) act as input of resonant circuits tuned to the frequencies  $\nu_z = \omega_z/(2\pi)$ ,  $\nu_c = \omega_c/(2\pi)$  or  $\nu_m = \omega_m/(2\pi)$  and connected to one cup for the monitoring of the axial motion and to a ring sector for the monitoring of the radial motion. This method normally allows the complete detection of protons, antiprotons or heavy ions and the detection of the magnetron and axial motion



of electrons. The cyclotron motion of electrons is normally in the microwave range and can be detected using different techniques [1].

#### 4. Calculation of the U functions

As we anticipated in the introduction, we analyzed the signal coming from particles moving inside the trap with big oscillation amplitudes. When one considers particles having large oscillation amplitudes two effects become important:

1) far from the center of a real trap the motion is no longer described by only three frequencies but anharmonicity effects could not be negligible. This generally means that the ideal frequencies could be shifted and that the detected signal could have a large frequency spectrum centered around the new frequencies.

2) The induced charge  $Q_E(t)$  must be calculated in the complete way solving the "equivalent electrostatic problem" described by equations (9) (10) and, even for an ideal trap having infinite electrodes, the problem can only be solved numerically.

In this paper we concentrated on point 2) and we calculated the induced signal from both the radial and the axial motion neglecting the anharmonicity effects in the particle motion.

The "equivalent electrostatic problem" which must be solved to determine  $U_{cup}$  can

be reduced, using cylindrical coordinates, to a two dimensional problem for the variable  $r, z$ . This simplification is not possible for the calculation of the  $U_s$  functions where  $s$  is a ring sector: in this case we must solve a 3D problem.

In both cases the charge distribution calculation was performed numerically using Finite Element Method. The two-dimensional axisymmetric problem was analyzed using *VF/PE2D* electrostatic module solving a Laplace equation. The program uses a Galerkin weighted residual formulation for the finite element discretization of the differential equation and a Delaunay algorithm for the geometrical subdivision of the problem domain.

Instead the analysis of the 3D case was carried out using the *VF/TOSCA* [8] solver for the computation of the three-dimensional field and using the *VF/OPERA* environment to model the geometry. Even in this case the code is based on a standard Galerkin finite element scheme.

In order to allow an approximate evaluation of the accuracy of the calculations it can be mentioned that for the two dimensional cases a mesh of about 2200 nodes has been used (using first order triangular elements) while in the three dimensional analysis, with first order bricks elements, about 42.000 nodes have been employed.

## 5. Results about the axial motion

We studied Penning trap having different values for the ratio  $r_0/z_0$  and we present results concerning traps with  $r_0/z_0 = \sqrt{2}$ ,  $r_0/z_0 = 1$ ,  $r_0/z_0 = 0.6$ . It is interesting to underline that traps with  $z_0 > r_0$  are favorite for catching beam of particles in flight.

Fig. 3 shows the induced current on a cup of a trap having  $r_0/z_0 = 0.6$  by a particle oscillating with  $A_z/z_0 = 0.25$  and  $r_m/r_0 = 0.5$ ,  $r_c/r_0 = 0.1$ . The picture shows that this current is a periodic function, having the same period as the particle axial velocity. It is important to evaluate the Fourier component with frequency  $\nu_z$  because this is the only component of the signal that gives an output in the tuned detection system. To better compare the general signal to the signal coming from particle moving near the center of the trap we define  $\alpha'_z(\frac{A_z}{z_0}, \frac{r_m}{r_0})$  in the following way

$$\alpha'_z = \sqrt{a_z^2 + b_z^2} \quad (17)$$

where

$$a_z = \frac{2}{T} \frac{2z_0}{\omega_z q A_z} \int_0^T i_{cup}(t) \cos \omega_z t dt \quad (18)$$

$$b_z = \frac{2}{T} \frac{2z_0}{\omega_z q A_z} \int_0^T i_{cup}(t) \sin (\omega_z t) dt \quad (19)$$

$T$  is a time interval long enough to get results independent of the  $\phi_z$ ,  $\phi_m$  and  $\phi_c$  values.

Using (17) (18) (19) the current  $i_{cup}(t)$  can be written

$$i_{cup}(t) = q \alpha'_z \left( \frac{A_z}{z_0}, \frac{r_m}{r_0} \right) \frac{A_z}{2z_0} \omega_z \sin(\omega_z t + \phi_z) \quad (20)$$

$\alpha'_z$  is equal to  $\alpha_z$  for  $r_m/r_0, A_z/z_0 \ll 1$  but, generally, is a function of  $r_m/r_0$  and  $A_z/z_0$ .

Looking at this function it is easy to see how signal (20) is different from the linear one described by (14) and how the detection sensibility is changing with the particle axial energy and mean radial position. Fig. 4a), 4b), 4c) show  $\alpha'_z(A_z/z_0, r_m/r_0)$  versus  $A_z/z_0$  keeping  $r_m/r_0$  as parameter for three different Penning traps.

Fig. 4a,b,c indicates that while the amplitude is increasing the signal (20) rises faster than the linear one (14) but, for a given oscillation amplitude, the  $z$  motion is detected with a sensibility which decreases while the radius becomes bigger.

## 6. Results about the radial motion

We calculated the radial current  $i_{ring}$  detected in a circuit connected to one of the electrodes obtained by splitting, in the axial direction, the trap ring into four equal sectors (figure 2b). We are interested in the Fourier component with frequency  $\nu_c$  and  $\nu_m$  and we define  $\alpha'_{c,m}$  using relations similar to (17), (18), (19)

$$\alpha'_{c,m} = \sqrt{a_{c,m}^2 + b_{c,m}^2} \quad (21)$$

where

$$a_{c,m} = \frac{2}{T} \frac{2r_0}{\omega_{c,m} q r_{c,m}} \int_0^T i_{ring}(t) \cos(\omega_{c,m} t) dt \quad (22)$$

$$b_{c,m} = \frac{2}{T} \frac{2r_0}{\omega_{c,m} q r_{c,m}} \int_0^T i_{ring}(t) \sin(\omega_{c,m} t) dt \quad (23)$$

The results about the magnetron motion are simpler than the ones concerning the cyclotron motion because  $\alpha'_m$ , as  $\alpha'_z$ , depends only upon  $r_m/r_0$  and  $A_z/z_0$ .

Fig. 5a, 5b, 5c shows the behaviour of  $\alpha'_m$ .

The cyclotron motion detection sensibility  $\alpha'_c$  is a more complicated function because it depends on  $A_z/z_0, r_m/r_0$  and  $r_c/r_0$  as fig. 6a, 6b, 7a, 7b, 8a, 8b show.

## 7. Observation about the signals with double frequency

For what concerns the axial motion it is very interesting to observe that it is possible to obtain a signal related to the axial oscillation amplitude but not depending on the radial particle position. This result can be achieved linking together the two cups of the trap and connecting them to a detection circuit tuned to  $\nu'_z = 2\nu_z$ . Equations (9) and (10) tell us that in this configuration the induced charge  $Q_{2cups}$  is

$$Q_{2cups} = q \left( \frac{r^2 - 2z^2}{r_0^2 + 2z_0^2} - \frac{2z_0^2}{r_0^2 + 2z_0^2} \right) \quad (24)$$

and taking into account equations (2) and (24) we easily obtain the induced current  $i_{2cups}$

$$i_{2cups} = -q \frac{2A_z^2}{r_0^2 + 2z_0^2} \omega_z \sin 2(\omega_z t + \phi_z) - \frac{2q}{r_0^2 + 2z_0^2} x v_x - \frac{2q}{r_0^2 + 2z_0^2} y v_y \quad (25)$$

This current has a Fourier component with frequency  $2\omega_z$  which takes contribution mainly from the first addendum. Therefore, as we anticipated, the signal detected by the circuit tuned to  $2\nu_z$  is practically independent on the radial particle position and it is proportional to the square of the axial oscillation amplitude.

A result similar to (25) holds for the current  $i_{2sect}$  flowing in a circuit tuned to  $2\nu_c$  (or  $2\nu_m$ ) and connected to two opposite radial ring sectors linked together

$$i_{2sect} = -\gamma q \frac{2r_m^2}{r_0^2 + 2z_0^2} \omega_m \sin 2(\omega_m t + \phi_m) + \dots \quad (26)$$

The  $\gamma$  coefficient has been evaluate numerically: it takes values near to 1 but, unfortunately, it is a function of the axial amplitude and of radial particle position very similar to  $\alpha'_c$  ( $\alpha'_m$ ). Therefore for the radial motion also this new detection configuration do not allow to get a linear relation between the radial motion parameters and the measured signal.

## 7. Comments and conclusions

As expected, the results of our work show that generally in a Penning trap the relation between the particle oscillation amplitude and the electrical signal detected by a tuned circuit connected to the trap electrodes is not linear. Our calculations allow to specify this statement in a quantitative way at least for some typical configuration of the trap electrodes. In any case our results allow to establish some limit about the trap volume that the stored particles can occupy in order to get a signal which differs from the linear one of a given quantity.

Another results of our calculation concerns the informations that can be obtained measuring the induced signal coming from  $N$  particles stored inside the trap. The current  $I_z$  induced on one cup of the trap is obviously obtained summing the currents coming from every particle

$$I_z = \sum_{k=1}^N i_k(t) = q \omega_z \sum_{k=1}^N \alpha'_z \left( \frac{A_{zk}}{z_0}, \frac{r_{mk}}{r_0} \right) \frac{A_{zk}}{2z_0} \sin(\omega_z t + \phi_{zk}) \quad (27)$$

It follows from this relation that the mean value of  $I_z^2$  is directly proportional to the particle number times the quantity

$$\langle (\alpha'_z)^2 A_z^2 \rangle \quad (28)$$

that is

$$\langle I_z^2 \rangle = \frac{q^2 \omega_z^2}{8z_0^2} N \langle (\alpha'_z)^2 A_z^2 \rangle \quad (29)$$

When the particles oscillates near the trap center we can assume that the  $\alpha'_z$  value is constant and in this situation measuring  $\langle I_z^2 \rangle$  we directly obtain the value of the product

$$N \langle A_z^2 \rangle \quad (30)$$

In the general situation discussed in this article - when the oscillation amplitudes of the stored particles are not small compared with the trap dimensions - the value assumed by  $\langle I_z^2 \rangle$  is depending on the distribution of the axial oscillation amplitude and radii of the particles. Generally this distribution is unknown but, in any case, our calculations allow to make estimation of the possible errors about the evaluation of the mean axial oscillation amplitude (that is the mean axial energy) and particle number effettuated using different hypothesis for the distribution. The discussion can be extended in an easy way from the axial motion to the radial one. The axial motion present the advantage of allowing a good extimation of the product  $N \langle A_z^2 \rangle$  using the detection system described in section 6.



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## FIGURES CAPTIONS

### FIGURE 1

Axial section of a Penning trap.

### FIGURE 2a

This figure shows the typical  $z$  motion detection network. The  $L_z$  and  $C_z$  values must

satisfied the relation  $\omega_z = \frac{1}{\sqrt{L_z C_z}}$

### FIGURE 2b

This is a simple scheme to detect the radial motion. The two circuits are connected to two ring sectors; the upper is tuned to the cyclotron frequency and the lower to the magnetron frequency.

### FIGURE 3

This figure shows the behaviour of  $\frac{i_{cup}(t)}{q\omega_z}$  versus time (unif of  $T_z = 2\pi/\omega_z$ ). Here  $i_{cup}$  is the current induced on a cup of a trap having  $r_0/z_0 = 0.6$  by a particle oscillating with  $A_z/z_0 = 0.25$ ,  $r_m/r_0 = 0.5$ ,  $r_c/r_0 = 0.1$  and  $\omega_c/\omega_z = 6.61$ ,  $\omega_m/\omega_z = 0.079$

### FIGURES 4a,4b,4c

These figures show the values of the function  $\alpha'_z(A_z/z_0, r_m/r_0)$  for Penning traps having  $r_0/z_0 = \sqrt{(2)}$   $r_0/z_0 = 1$  and  $r_0/z_0 = 0.6$ . The  $\alpha'_z$  values are plotted versus  $A_z/z_0$ ;  $r_m/r_0$  is the parameter which changes from curve to curve in the same plot. Going from the top curve to the bottom one  $r_m/r_0$  takes the values 0; 1/10; 2/10; ....9/10

### FIGURES 5a,5b,5c

Values of  $\alpha'_m(A_z/z_0, r_m/r_0)$  versus  $r_m/r_0$  plotted using  $A_z/z_0$  as parameter. Going from the top curve to the bottom one  $A_z/z_0$  takes the values 0; 1/10; 2/10; ....9/10.

Reading  $r_c/r_0$  in place of  $r_m/r_0$  these curves give the values of  $\alpha'_c(\frac{A_z}{z_0}, \frac{r_m}{r_0} = 0, \frac{r_c}{r_0})$ .

### FIGURES 6a,6b; 7a, 7b; 8a,8b

Values of  $\alpha'_c(\frac{A_z}{z_0}, \frac{r_m}{r_0}, \frac{r_c}{r_0})$  plotted versus  $\frac{r_c+r_m}{r_0}$  keeping  $r_m/r_0 = 0.2$  and  $r_m/r_0 = 0.5$ .

To better compare these plots with fig. 5a,b,c the horizontal axis also shows the values of  $r_c/r_0$  As usual the parameter describing the different curves is  $A_z/z_0$  which keeps the same values as in fig. 5a,b,c.  $r_0/z_0$  takes the value of  $\sqrt{(2)}$ , 1 and 0.6 going from fig. 6a and 6b to fig. 8a and 8b.

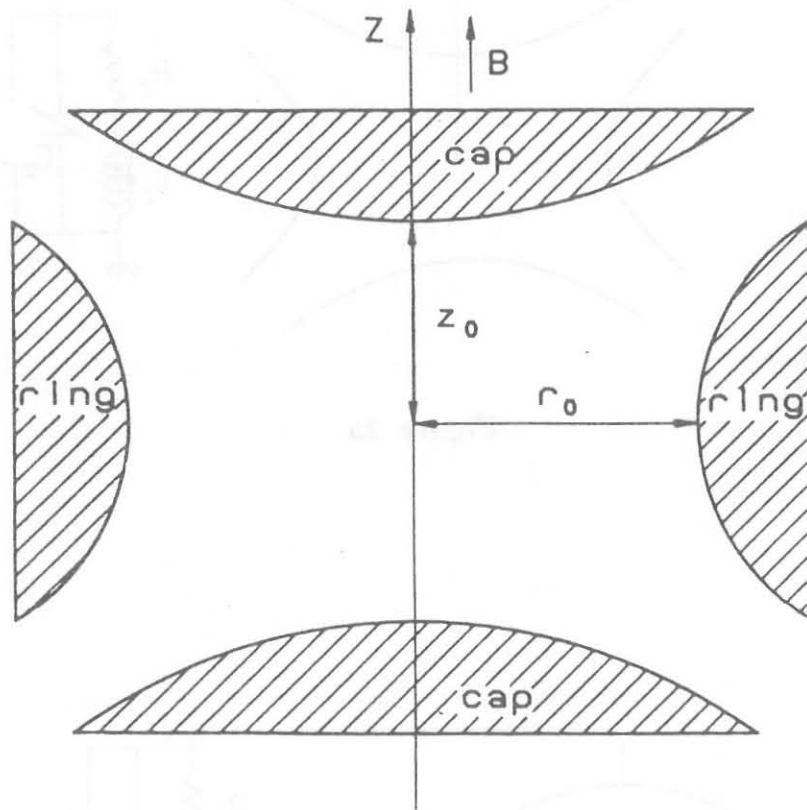


Figure 1

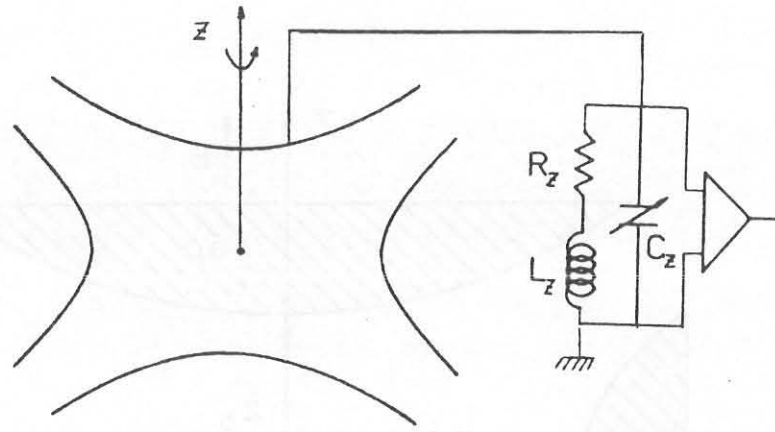


Figure 2a

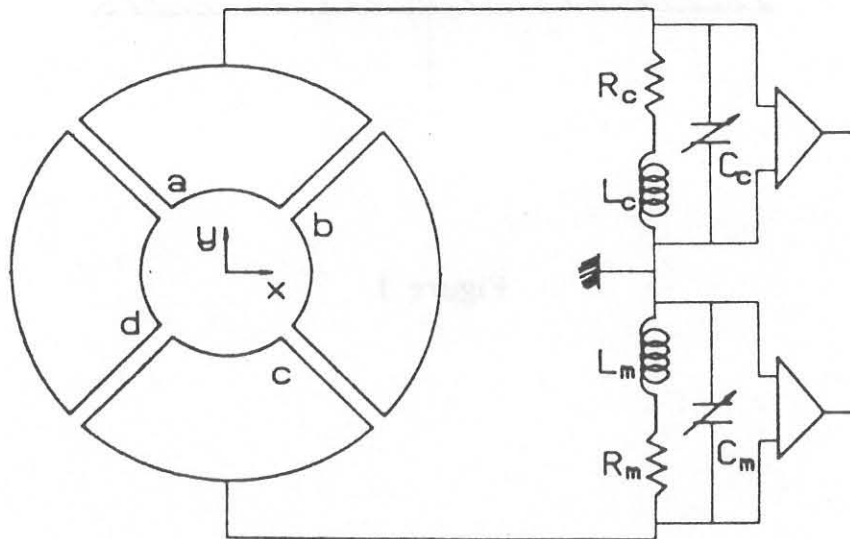


Figure 2b

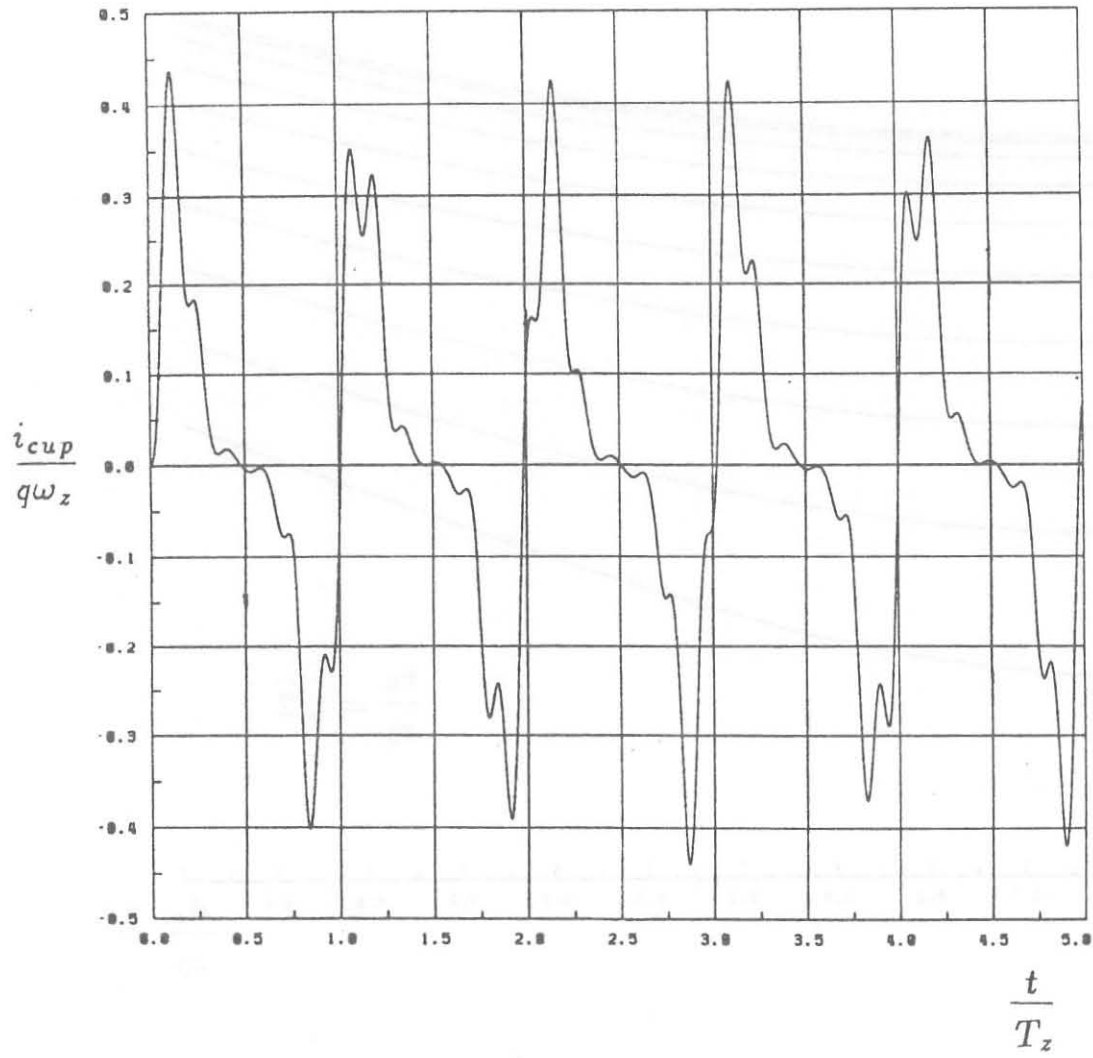


Figure 3

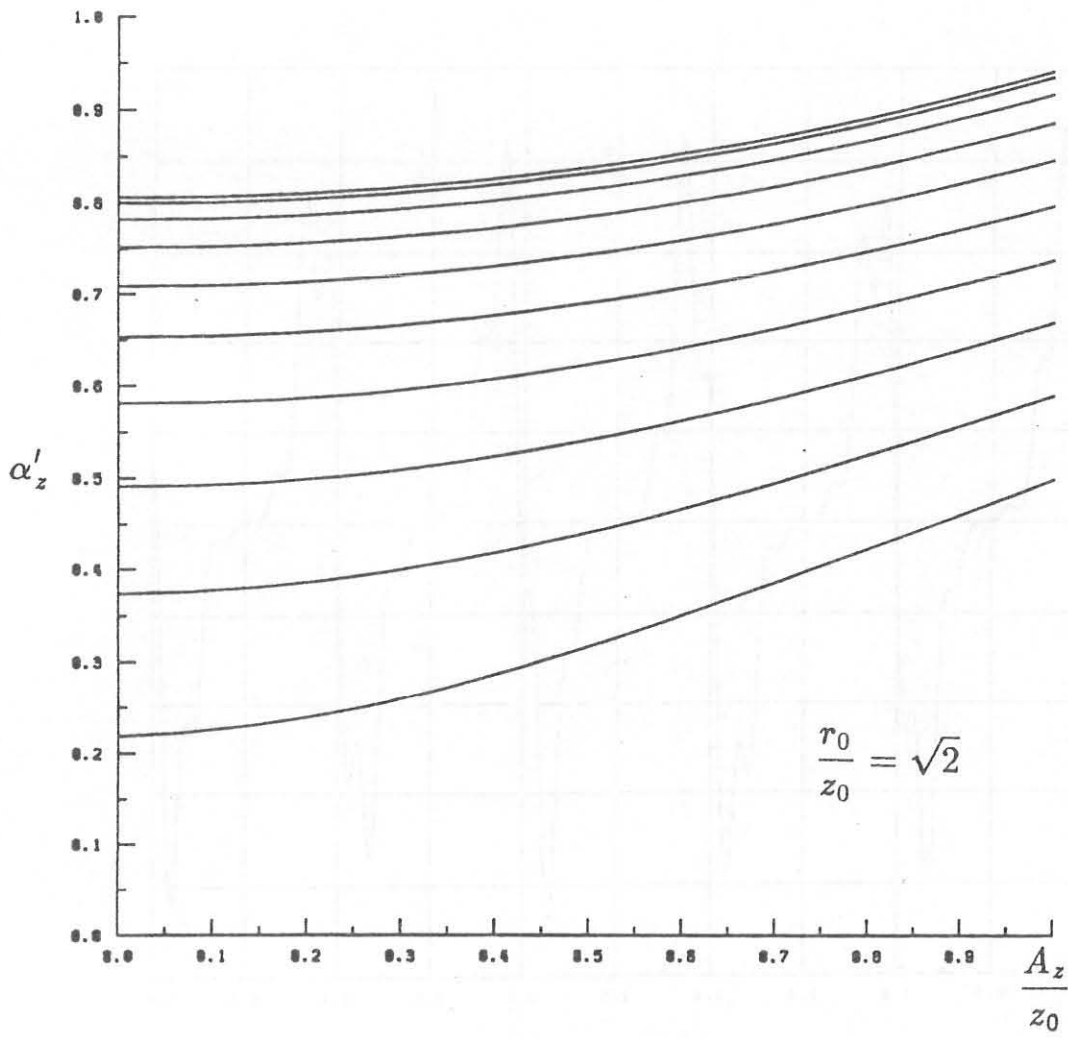


Figure 4a

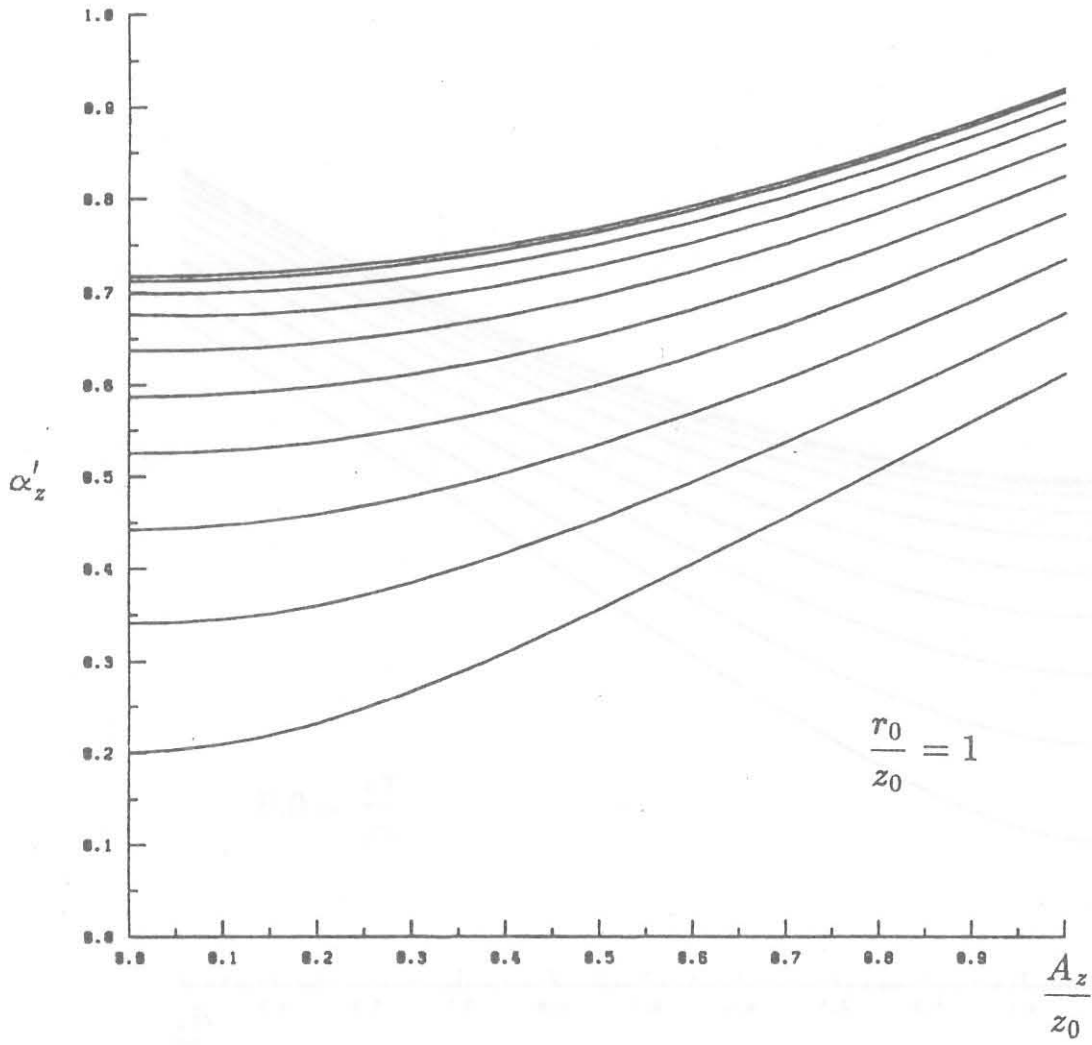


Figure 4b



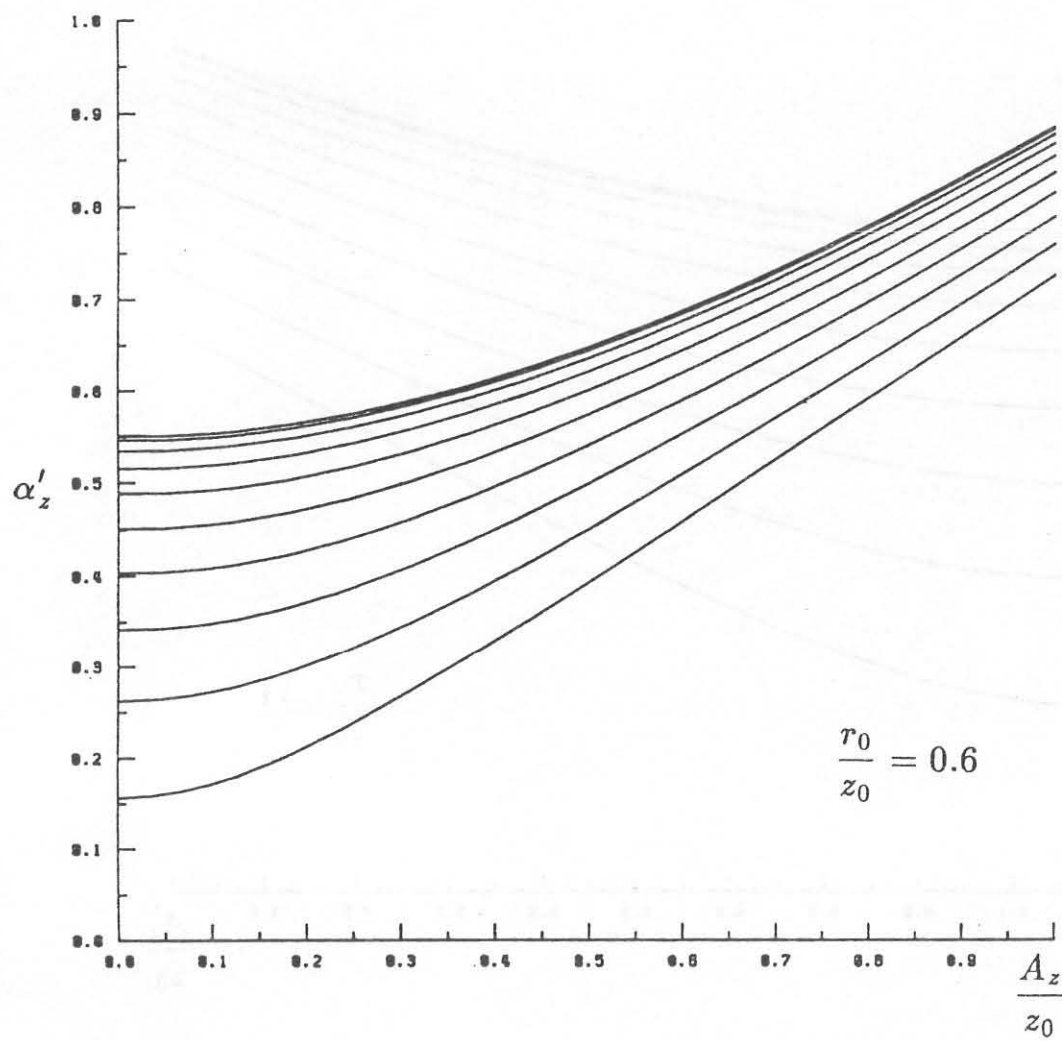


Figure 4c

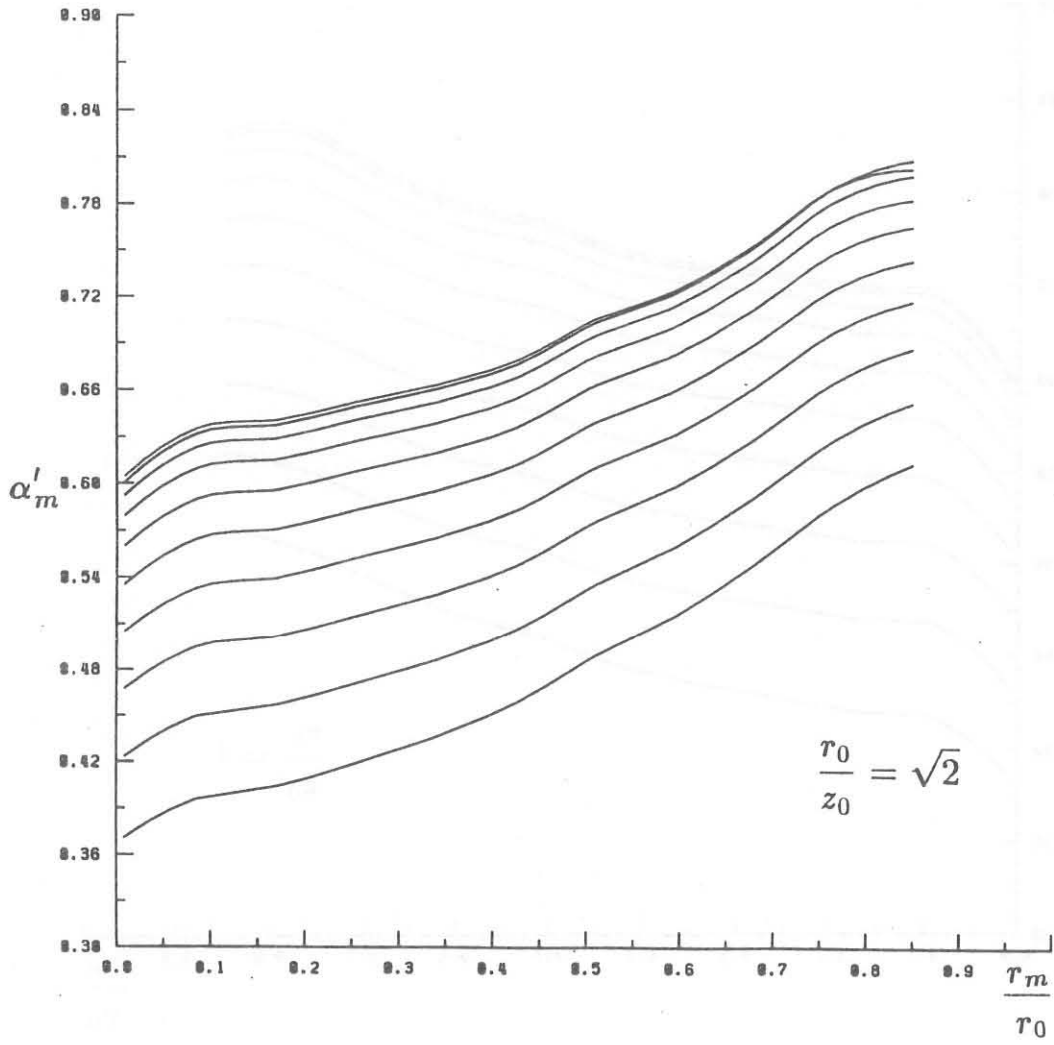


Figure 5a

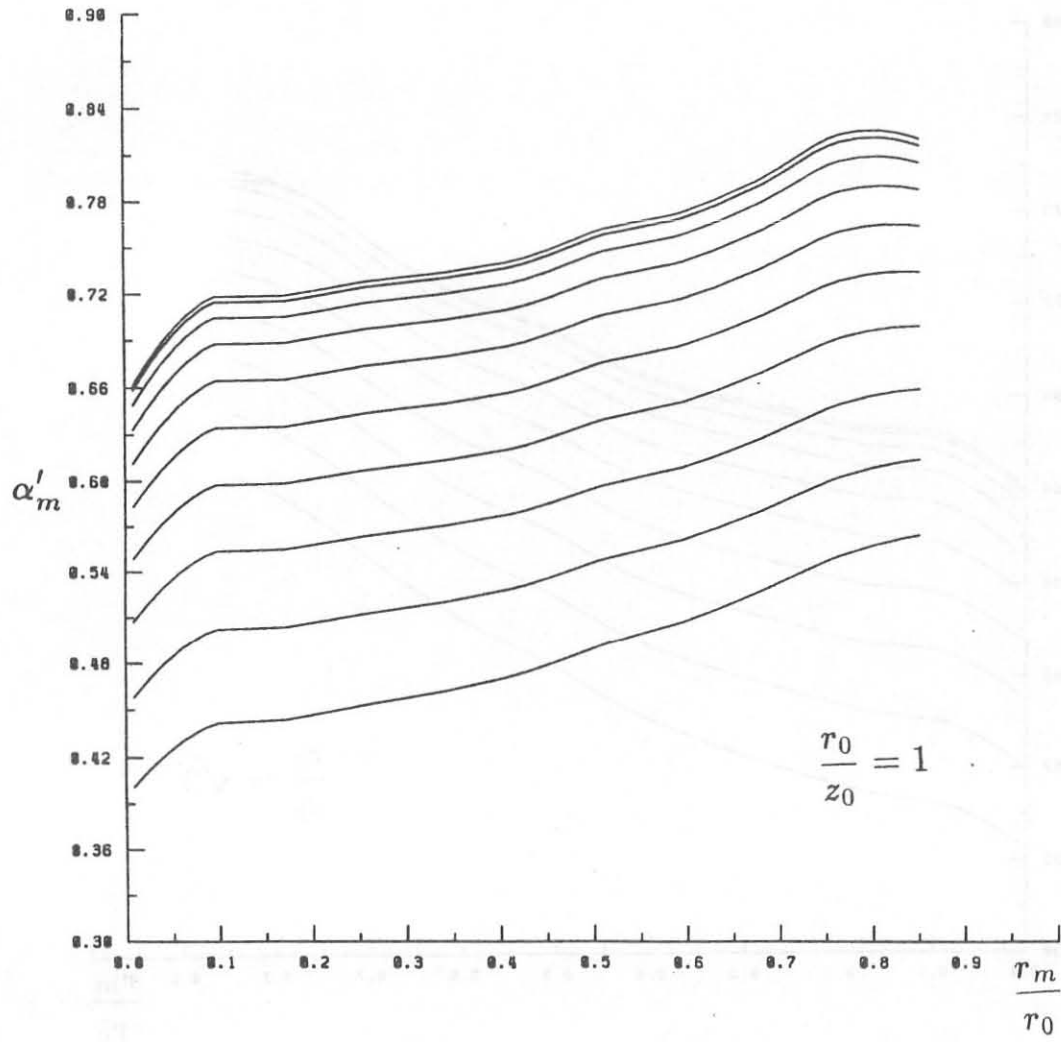


Figure 5b

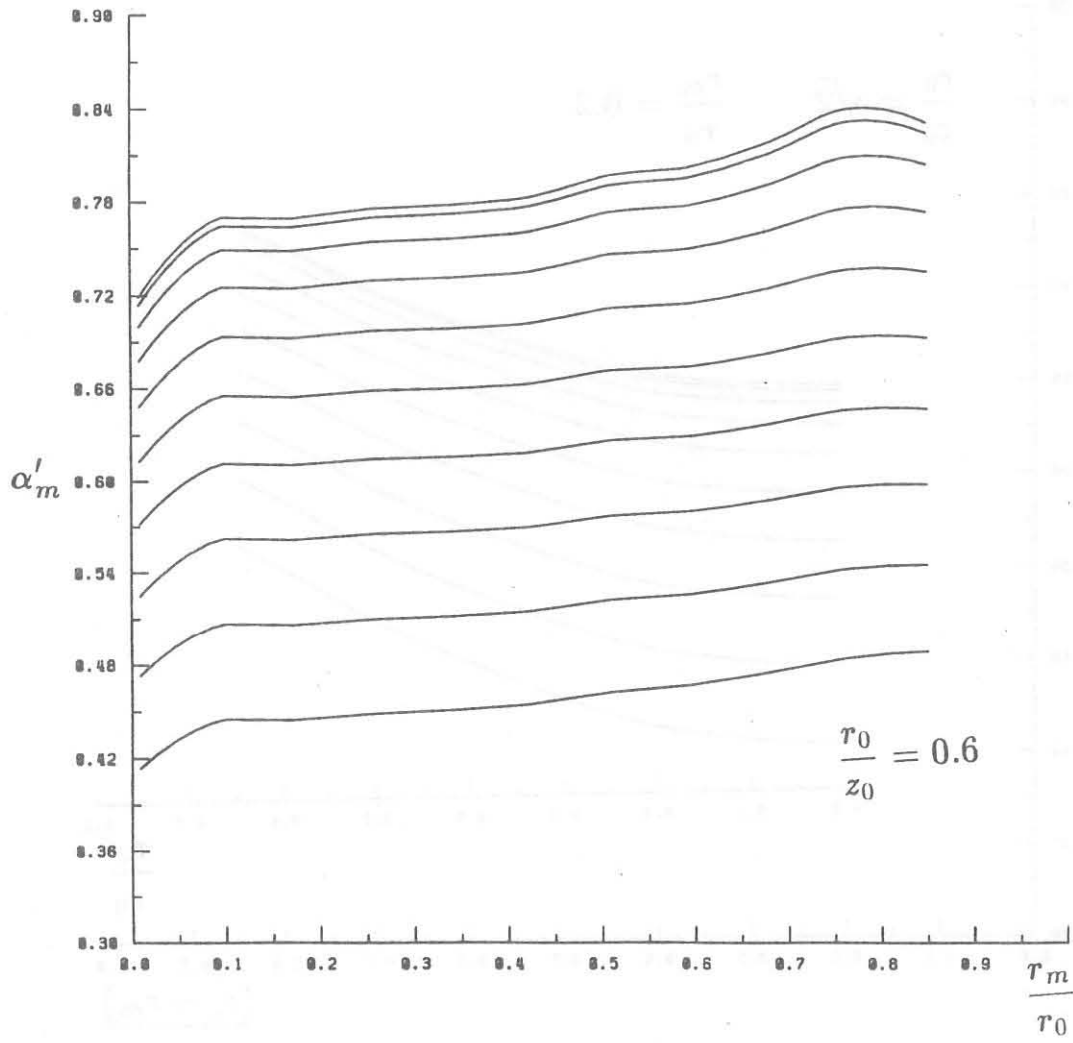


Figure 5c

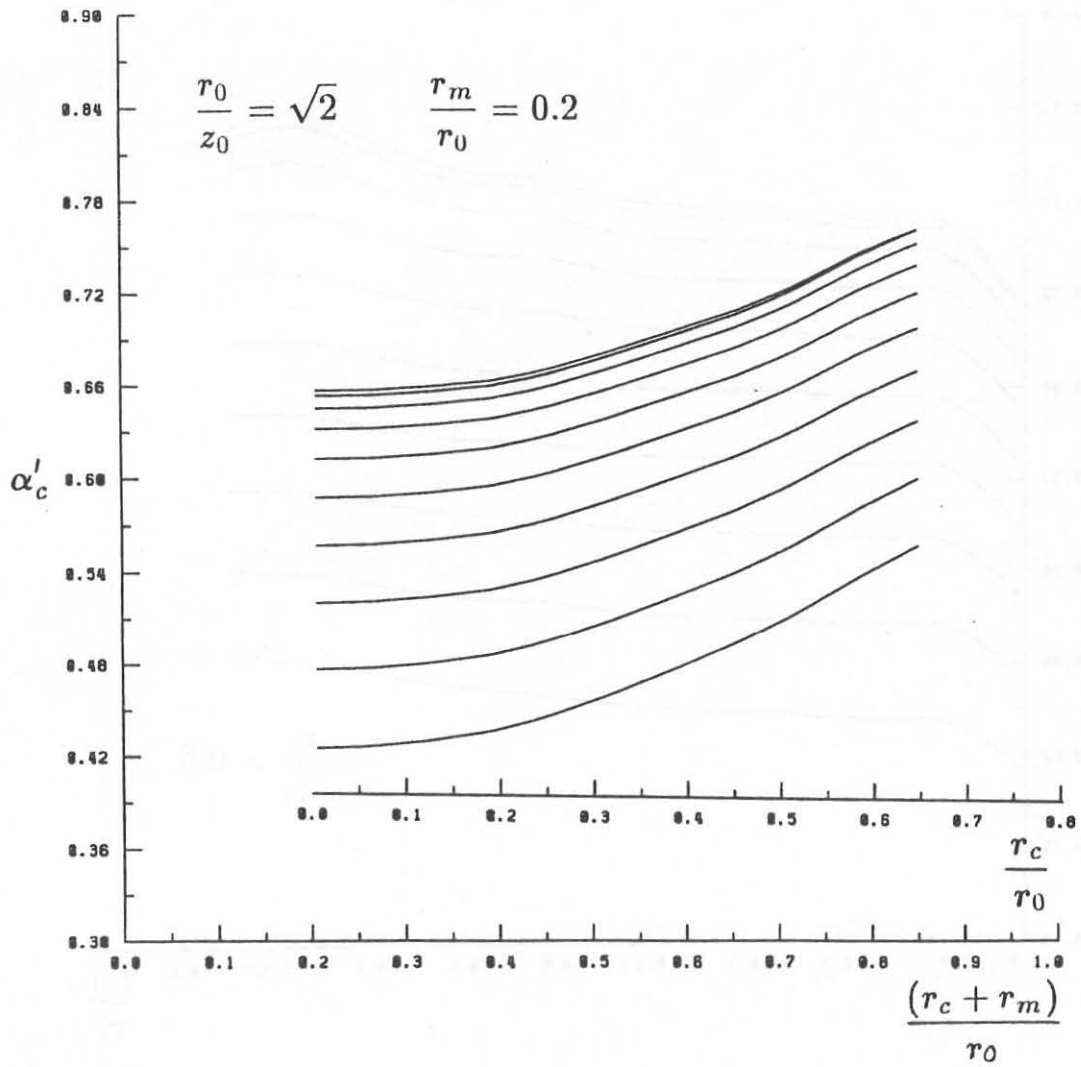


Figure 6a

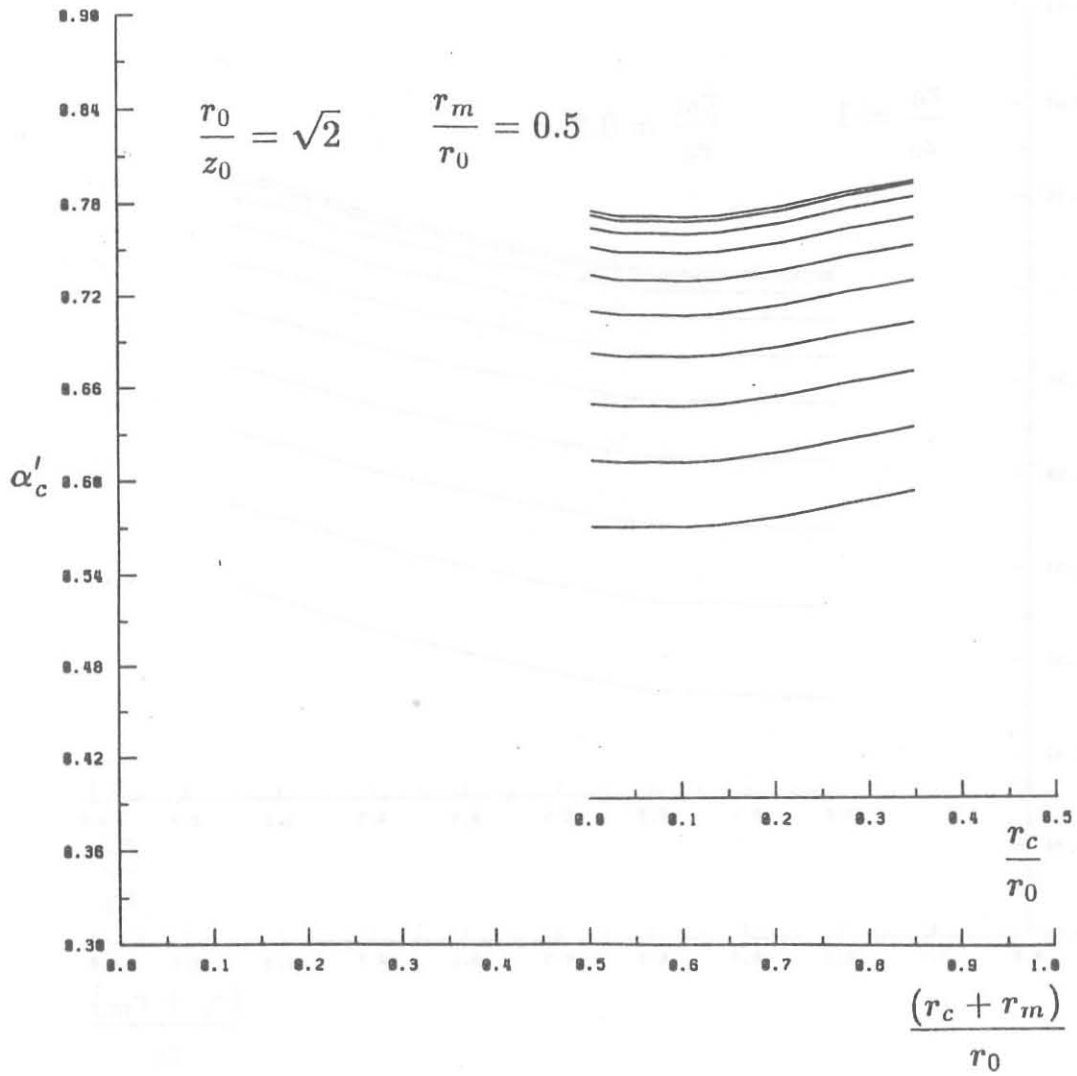


Figure 6b

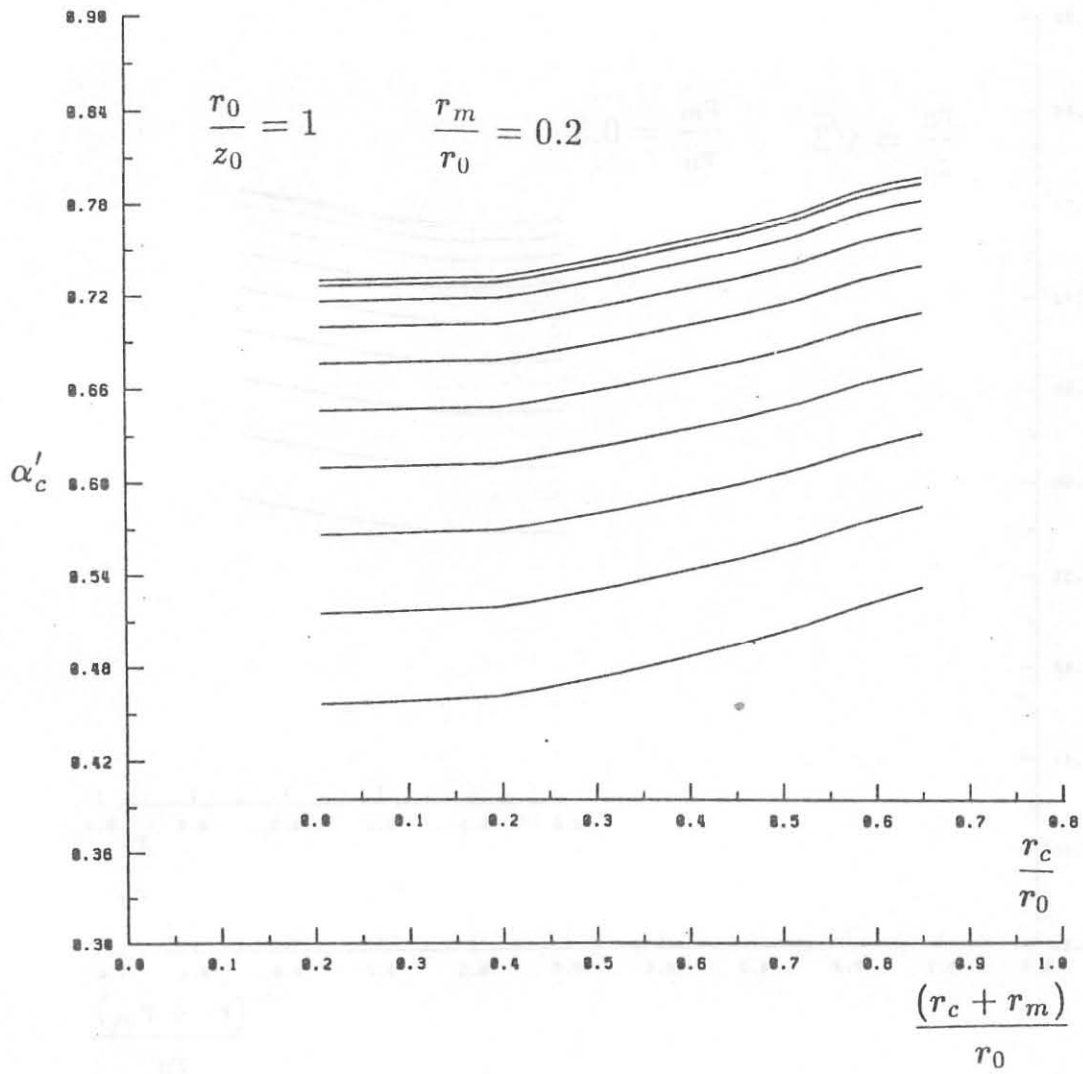


Figure 7a

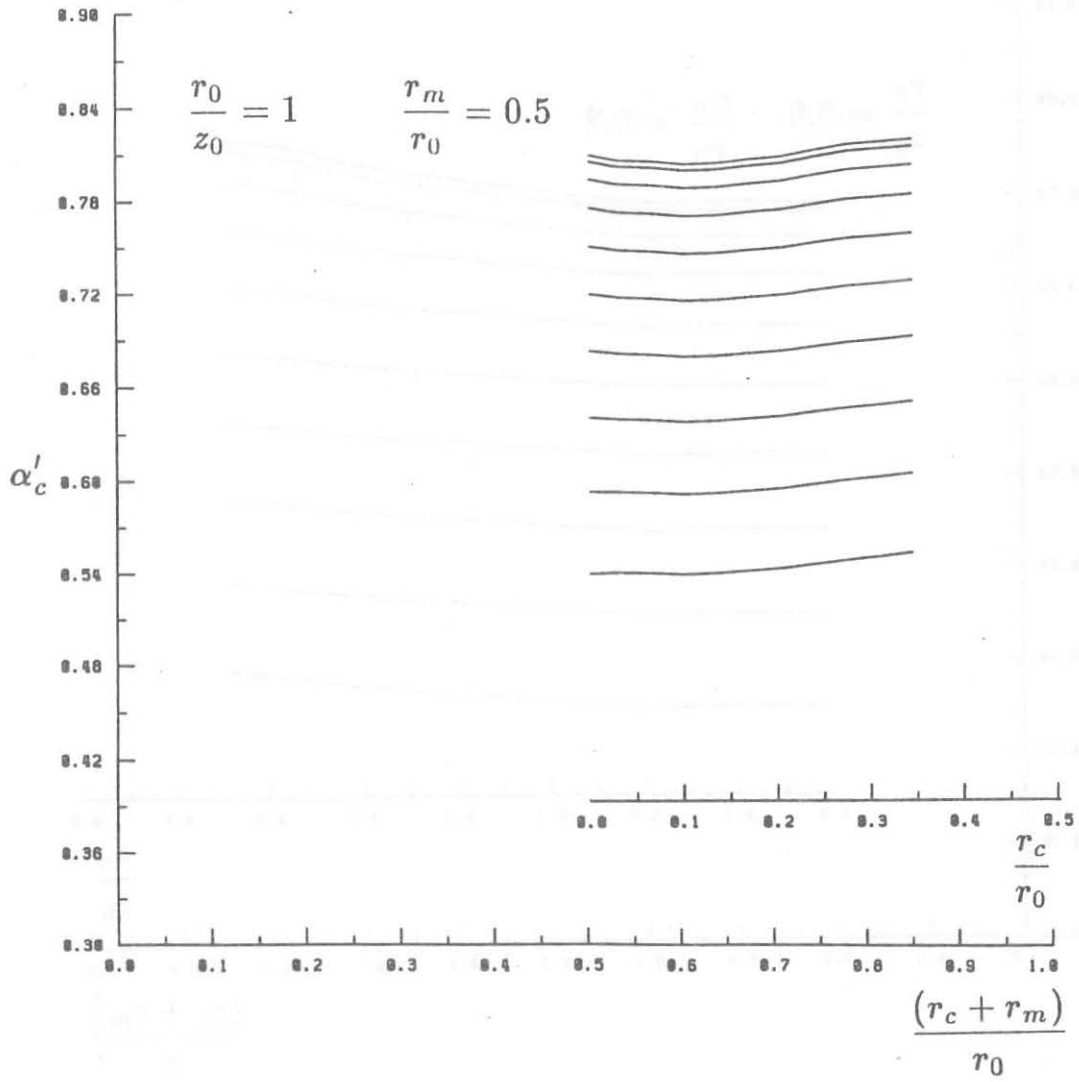


Figure 7b



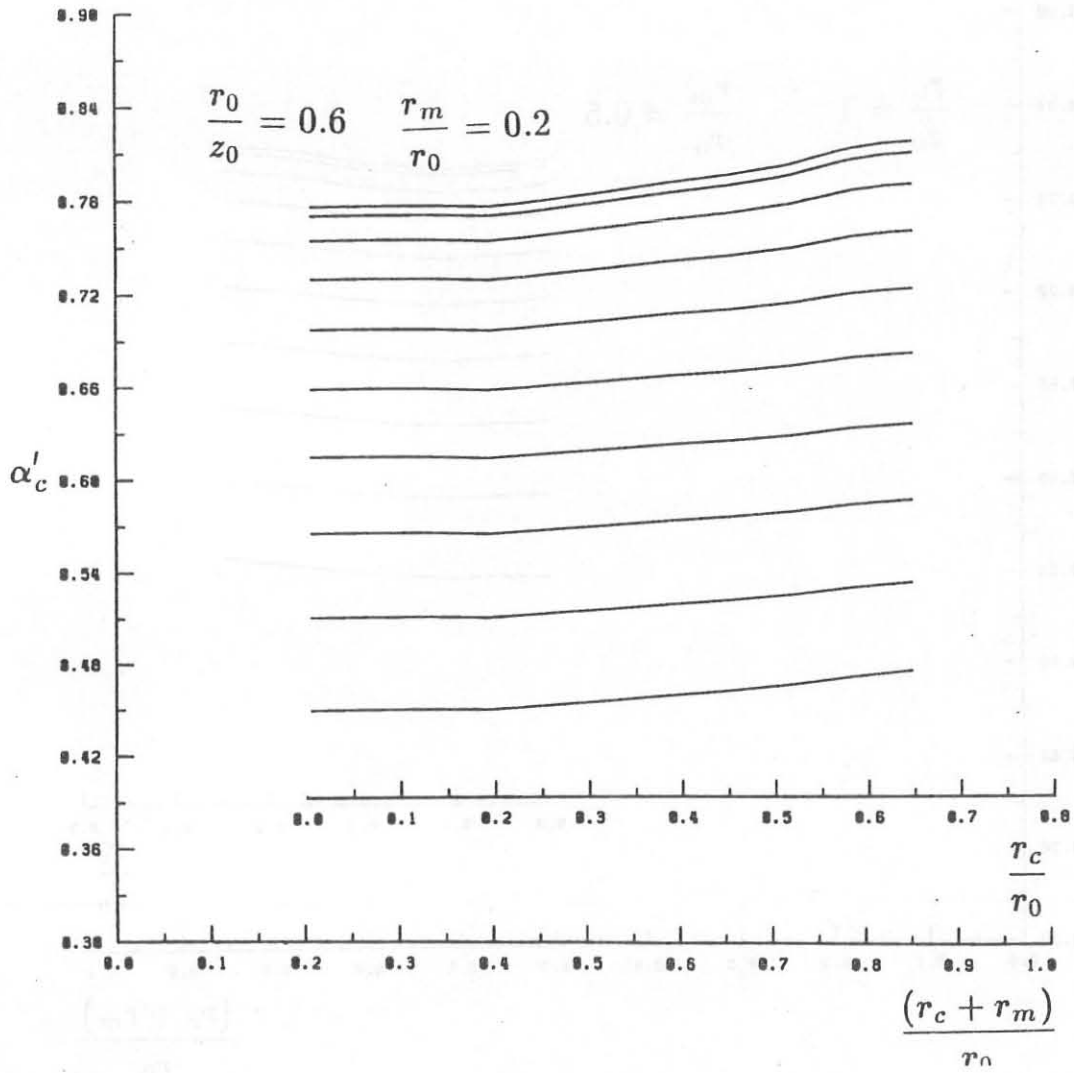


Figure 8a

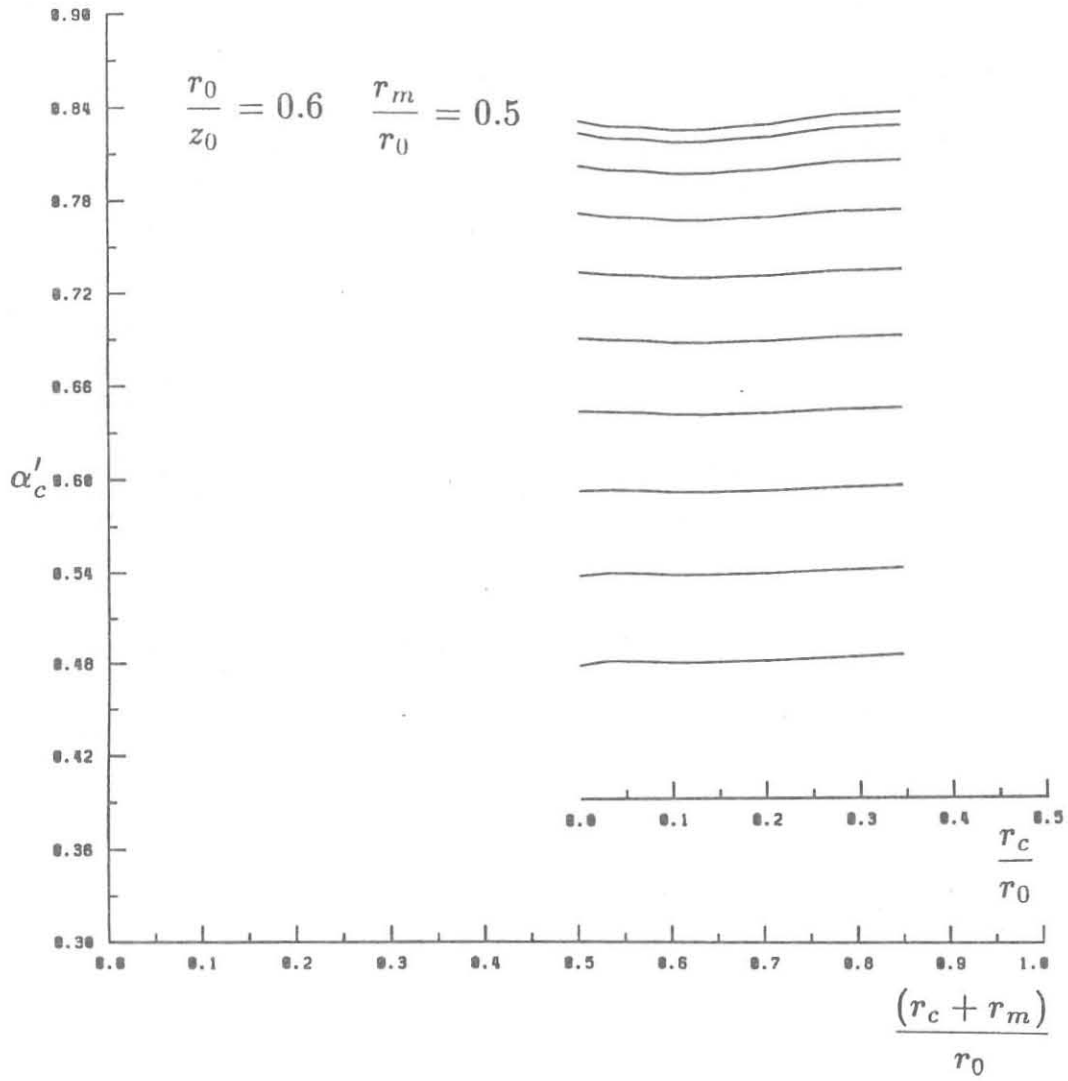


Figure 8b