Electromagnetic wave propagation at classical material/meta-material interfaces

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Motivation

Goal: Solve numerically a time-harmonic problem in electromagnetism, set in a heterogeneous medium like below.



At a given frequency, the metamaterial is modelled as a material with real, strictly negative, electric permittivity ε and magnetic permeability μ .



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Possible practical applications: perfect lens, invisibility cloaking, etc.



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- Questions:
 - Is the problem to be solved well-posed?
 - How to compute a numerical approximation of the solution?



Given $\omega > 0$ and source term $\mathcal{F} \in L^2(\Omega)^3$ ($\mathcal{F} := \imath \omega \mathcal{J}$, div $\mathcal{F} = 0$). Find $\mathcal{E} \in L^2(\Omega)^3$ with $\operatorname{curl} \mathcal{E} \in L^2(\Omega)^3$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{curl} \left(\frac{1}{\mu} \mathbf{curl} \, \mathcal{E} \right) &- \omega^2 \varepsilon \mathcal{E} = \mathcal{F} \quad \text{ in } \Omega ; \\ \mathcal{E} \times \mathbf{n} &= 0 & \text{ on } \partial \Omega. \end{aligned}$$



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When
$$\varepsilon, \mu > 0$$
 ($\varepsilon, \mu, \varepsilon^{-1}, \mu^{-1} \in L^{\infty}(\Omega)$):
which *functional space* to measure the electric field?
which associated *discretization*?

$$\diamond \ \mathcal{H}_0(\operatorname{\mathbf{curl}};\Omega) := \{ \mathcal{F} \in L^2(\Omega)^3 \, | \, \operatorname{\mathbf{curl}} \mathcal{F} \in L^2(\Omega)^3, \ \mathcal{F} \times \mathbf{n}_{|\partial\Omega} = 0 \} \text{ (Edge FE)}.$$



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♦ $L^2(\Omega)^3$ (Discontinuous Galerkin FE). Etc.



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Our choice: $\mathcal{X}_0(\varepsilon; \Omega) := \{ \mathcal{F} \in \mathcal{H}_0(\mathbf{curl}; \Omega) | \operatorname{div} \varepsilon \mathcal{F} \in L^2(\Omega) \}$ (CG FE).

(Assumption: no singular electric fields).



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Equivalent (Augmented) Variational Formulation: Find $\mathcal{E} \in \mathcal{X}_0(\varepsilon; \Omega)$ such that

$$\int_{\Omega} \left(\frac{1}{\mu} \operatorname{\mathbf{curl}} \mathcal{E} \cdot \operatorname{\mathbf{curl}} \bar{\mathcal{E}}' + s \operatorname{div} \varepsilon \mathcal{E} \operatorname{div} \varepsilon \bar{\mathcal{E}}' \right) d\Omega - \omega^2 \int_{\Omega} \varepsilon \mathcal{E} \cdot \bar{\mathcal{E}}' d\Omega = \int_{\Omega} \mathcal{F} \cdot \bar{\mathcal{E}}' d\Omega, \ \forall \mathcal{E}' \in \mathcal{X}_0(\varepsilon; \Omega) .$$



Well-posedness stems from the two properties:

(1) coerciveness over $\mathcal{X}_0(\varepsilon; \Omega)$ of

$$a(\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{E}') := \int_{\Omega} \left(\frac{1}{\mu} \operatorname{\mathbf{curl}} \mathcal{E} \cdot \operatorname{\mathbf{curl}} \bar{\mathcal{E}}' + s \operatorname{div} \varepsilon \mathcal{E} \operatorname{div} \varepsilon \bar{\mathcal{E}}' \right) d\Omega \,.$$



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$$b(\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{E}') := -\omega^2 \int_{\Omega} \varepsilon \mathcal{E} \cdot \bar{\mathcal{E}}' d\Omega$$



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- ♦ These two ingredients fundamentally rely on: $ε > ε_* > 0$ and $μ > μ_* > 0$ a.e. in Ω.
- \diamond Numerical convergence then follows, for sufficiently small meshsize h...



Solution Assume that the problem is independent of z. The third component $e := \mathcal{E}_z(x, y)$ is governed by find $e \in H^1(\Omega)$ such that

$$\begin{cases} \operatorname{curl}\left(\frac{1}{\mu}\operatorname{curl} e\right) - \omega^2 \varepsilon e = f & \text{ in } \Omega; \\ e = 0 & \text{ on } \partial \Omega. \end{cases}$$



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To fix ideas: ε and μ constant over Ω_i , i = 1, 2($\varepsilon_i := \varepsilon_{|\Omega_i}, \mu_i := \mu_{|\Omega_i}$)





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Define the (negative) contrasts:
$$\kappa_{\varepsilon} := \frac{\varepsilon_1}{\varepsilon_2}$$
, $\kappa_{\mu} := \frac{\mu_1}{\mu_2}$.

Jump of the trace of the normal derivative across the interface (with $\kappa_{\mu} < 0$)





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- State of the art: [Costabel-Stephan'85], [Bonnet-Dauge-Ramdani'99], [Ramdani'99].
 - If $\kappa_{\mu} = -1$, the problem is always ill-posed.
 - If the interface Σ is smooth, then the problem is well-posed (except for resonance frequencies) as soon as $\kappa_{\mu} \neq -1$.
 - If Σ is piecewise smooth (ie. in the presence of corners), then the problem is well-posed (except for resonance frequencies) as soon as

$$\kappa_{\mu} \not\in]\kappa_{\mu}^{\mathrm{inf}}, \kappa_{\mu}^{\mathrm{sup}}[\,, \text{ with } -1 \in]\kappa_{\mu}^{\mathrm{inf}}, \kappa_{\mu}^{\mathrm{sup}}[\,,$$



Discretization (1): the two-field formulation

Introduce the new – magnetic-like – "unknown" $\underline{\mathbf{h}}_2 := \left(\frac{1}{|\mu_2|} \mathbf{curl} e\right)_{|\Omega_2}$.

Define a new formulation, with unknowns e over Ω and $\underline{\mathbf{h}}_2$ over Ω_2 :

$$\begin{cases} e \in H_0^1(\Omega) \\ \underline{\mathbf{h}}_2 \in \{ \mathbf{p} \in H(\operatorname{curl}; \Omega_2) \, | \, \operatorname{div} | \mu_2 | \mathbf{p} \in L^2(\Omega_2), \ |\mu_2| \mathbf{p} \cdot \mathbf{n}_{|\partial\Omega_2 \setminus \Sigma} = 0 \} \end{cases}$$



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[Bonnet-Jr-Zwölf'07].

Well-posedness can be recovered, provided $|\kappa_{\mu}|$ is "large enough".

(The new formulation fits into the *coercive+compact framework*).

Numerical convergence then follows.

Added cost (related to $\underline{\mathbf{h}}_{2}^{h}$) reasonable if Ω_{2} is "small" wrt Ω_{1} .

Numerical experiments can be found in [Zwölf'07].



Discretize directly the "standard" variational formulation. Find $e \in H_0^1(\Omega)$ such that

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Everything goes well numerically, provided $|\kappa_{\mu}|$ is "large enough" (cf. [Zwölf'07]). *Why?*



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$$=: a_{scal}(e, e').$$

[Bonnet-Jr-Zwölf'09].

Replace the coercivity of the bilinear form $a_{scal}(\cdot, \cdot)$ by the more general \mathbb{T} -coercivity, where \mathbb{T} is a bijective, continuous linear operator of $H_0^1(\Omega)$ ($\alpha > 0$):

$$a_{scal}(e, \mathbb{T}e) \ge \alpha \|e\|_{H_0^1(\Omega)}^2, \ \forall e \in H_0^1(\Omega) \quad \iff \quad \mathbb{T}v = \begin{cases} v_1 \text{ in } \Omega_1 \\ -v_2 + 2\mathcal{R}(v|_{\Sigma}) \text{ in } \Omega_2 \end{cases}$$

Then, the *coercive+compact framework* is recovered (for $|\kappa_{\mu}|$ "large enough").



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For all h, let V^h be the discrete subspace of $H_0^1(\Omega)$.

Define $\mathbb{T}^h \in \mathcal{L}(V^h)$ such that:

- the form $a_{scal}(\cdot, \cdot)$ is \mathbb{T}^h -coercive, with a coercivity constant independent of h;
- the $(\mathbb{T}^h)_h$ are uniformly continuous.

The error estimate is recovered (via a uniform stability estimate for a_{scal} over $(V^h)_h$):

$$\exists \mathcal{C} > 0, \exists h_0 > 0, \forall h \in]0, h_0] \quad \|u - u^h\|_{H_0^1(\Omega)} \le \mathcal{C} \inf_{v^h \in V^h} \|u - v^h\|_{H_0^1(\Omega)}$$



Back to the Maxwell problem

In addition to a compact embedding result, establish either

- (1) \mathbb{T} and uniform \mathbb{T}^h coercivity, or
- (2) a well-posed two-field formulation.



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[Bonnet-Jr-Zwölf'08] on approach (2):

- The embedding of $\mathcal{X}_0(\varepsilon; \Omega)$ into $L^2(\Omega)^3$ is compact.
- The two-field formulation, with $\underline{\mathcal{H}}_2 := \left(\frac{1}{|\mu_2|} \mathbf{curl} \, \mathcal{E}\right)_{|\Omega_2}$:

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Assumptions:

- Compact embedding: smooth interface and $|\kappa_{\varepsilon}|$ "large enough".
- **•** Two-field formulation: $|\kappa_{\mu}|$ "large enough".



- In the unit cube, split in two halves (with $\Sigma := \{\frac{1}{2}\} \times]0, 1[\times]0, 1[$).
- An exact piecewise smooth solution is available.
- Discretization of the natural formulation (with $s_{|\Omega_i} = 1/(\mu_i \varepsilon_i^2)$): Find $\mathcal{E} \in \mathcal{X}_0(\varepsilon; \Omega)$ such that

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"Usual" case: $\omega = 4$, $(\varepsilon_1, \mu_1) = (+1, +1)$, $(\varepsilon_2, \mu_2) = (+1, +1)$, with P_2 Lagrange FE.





- In the unit cube, split in two halves (with $\Sigma := \{\frac{1}{2}\} \times]0, 1[\times]0, 1[$).
- An exact piecewise smooth solution is available.
- Discretization of the natural formulation (with $s_{|\Omega_i} = 1/(\mu_i \varepsilon_i^2)$): Find $\mathcal{E} \in \mathcal{X}_0(\varepsilon; \Omega)$ such that

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Perspectives

- For the Maxwell problem:
 - remove the regularity assumptions on the interface (allow corners and edges);
 - **•** prove \mathbb{T} and uniform \mathbb{T}^h coercivity;
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- remove the regularity assumptions on the interface (allow corners and edges);
- prove \mathbb{T} and uniform \mathbb{T}^h coercivity;
- enforce the divergence condition (with a Lagrange multiplier).
- For both the scalar and the Maxwell problems, investigate the case when $\kappa_{\mu} \in]\kappa_{\mu}^{\inf}, \kappa_{\mu}^{\sup}[, \kappa_{\varepsilon} \in]\kappa_{\varepsilon}^{\inf}, \kappa_{\varepsilon}^{\sup}[:$
 - (re)define a mathematical framework;
 - are the models derived from physics still relevant?

