

AN ANISOTROPIC PERFECTLY MATCHED LAYER METHOD FOR HELMHOLTZ SCATTERING PROBLEMS WITH DISCONTINUOUS WAVE NUMBER

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ABSTRACT. The anisotropic perfectly matched layer (PML) defines a continuous vector field outside a rectangle domain and performs the complex coordinate stretching along the direction of the vector field. In this paper we propose a new way of constructing the vector field which allows us to prove the exponential decay of the stretched Green function without the constraint on the thickness of the PML layer. We report numerical experiments to illustrate the competitive behavior of the proposed PML method.

1. Introduction. We propose and study an anisotropic perfectly matched layer (PML) method for solving Helmholtz scattering problems with discontinuous wave number

$$\Delta u + k^2(x)u = f \quad \text{in } \Omega = \mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \bar{D}, \quad (1.1)$$

$$u = g \quad \text{on } \Gamma_D, \quad (1.2)$$

$$\sqrt{r} \left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial r} - iku \right) \rightarrow 0 \quad \text{as } r = |x| \rightarrow \infty, \quad (1.3)$$

where $D \subset \mathbb{R}^2$ is a bounded domain with Lipschitz boundary Γ_D , $f \in (H^1(\Omega))'$ has the support inside $B(R_0) = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2 : |x| \leq R_0\}$ with $(H^1(\Omega))'$ being the dual space of $H^1(\Omega)$, and $g \in H^{1/2}(\Gamma_D)$. We assume the wave number $k(x)$ is positive in \mathbb{R}^2 and piecewise constant outside $B(R_0)$ with the interface where the wave number

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jumps being a straight line extending to infinity. We remark that the results in this paper can be extended to the other boundary conditions such as Neumann or impedance boundary conditions on Γ_D .

Since the pioneering work of Bérenger [1] which proposed a PML technique for solving the Maxwell equations, various constructions of PML absorbing layers have been proposed and studied in the literatures (cf. e.g. Turkel and Yefet [20], Teixeira and Chew [18] for the reviews). Of particular importance to the development and the analysis of the PML method is the technique of complex coordinate stretching by Chew and Weedon [10]. Under the assumption that the exterior solution is composed of outgoing waves only, the basic idea of the PML technique is to surround the computational domain by a fictitious layer of finite thickness with specially designed model medium that absorbs all the waves that propagate from inside the computational domain.

The convergence of the PML method has drawn considerable attention in the literature. Lassas and Somersalo [15, 14] and Hohage et al [12] studied the acoustic scattering problems for circular and smooth PML layers. The anisotropic PML method in which the PML layer is placed outside a rectangle or cuboid domain is of considerable interest as opposed to the circular PML method because it provides greater flexibility and efficiency to solve problems involving anisotropic scatterers. The convergence of the uniaxial PML method has been considered recently in Chen and Wu [5], Kim and Pasciak [13], Bramble and Pasciak [2], and Chen and Zheng [7] for the acoustic scattering problems. It is proved in [14, 15, 12, 5, 13, 7, 2] that the PML solution convergences exponentially to the solution of the original scattering problem as the thickness of the PML tends to infinity.

In the practical applications of the PML methods, the adaptive PML method has been proposed and studied in Chen and Wu [3] for the grating problem, Chen and Liu [4] for the acoustic scattering problem, Chen and Chen [6], and Chen, Cui and Zhang [8] for Maxwell scattering problems. The main idea of the adaptive PML method is to use the posteriori error estimate to determine the PML parameters and to use the adaptive finite element methods to solve the PML equations. The adaptive PML method provides a complete numerical strategy to solve the scattering problems in the framework of finite element which produces automatically a coarse mesh size away from the fixed domain and thus makes the total computational costs insensitive to the thickness the absorbing PML layers.

The purpose of this paper is to propose a new construction of anisotropic PML methods and use the adaptive PML method to solve the problem (1.1)-(1.3) with discontinuous wave numbers. We will extend the idea in [8] for electromagnetic scattering problems. The main idea in [8] is to define a continuous vector field outside the computational domain and perform the complex coordinate stretching along the direction of the vector field. The construction of the PML method by performing the complex coordinate stretching along a continuous vector field is different from the uniaxial PML method and seems to be more suitable for scattering problems with discontinuous wave numbers, see e.g. Oskooi et al [17]. The convergence of the anisotropic PML method in [8] is proved for a special construction of the vector field outside the cuboid domain which requires the thickness of the PML layer satisfying a uniform lower bound. This constraint is removed in the new construction of the vector field in this paper which is especially desirable for elongated PML layers. We also refer to Zschiedrich et al [21] and Trenev [19] for related ideas in designing anisotropic PML method. We will extend the anisotropic

PML method developed in this paper to solve elastic wave scattering problems for which the standard uniaxial PML method has difficulties [16].

The layout of the paper is as follows. In section 2 we introduce our new anisotropic PML method for (1.1)-(1.3) using the example of constant wave number. In section 3 we consider the guideline in constructing PML complex coordinate stretching transform in order to show the convergence of the PML method. In section 4 we introduce the finite element method for solving the PML problem. In section 5 we report two numerical examples with discontinuous wave number to show the competitive behavior of our new adaptive anisotropic PML method.

2. The anisotropic PML method. In this section we introduce the new anisotropic PML method for Helmholtz scattering problems. Let D be contained in the interior of the rectangle $B_1 = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2 : |x_1| < L_1/2, |x_2| < L_2/2\}$ and $\Omega_1 = B_1 \setminus \bar{D}$. Let $\Gamma_1 = \partial B_1$ and \mathbf{n}_1 be the unit outer normal to Γ_1 . The derivation of the PML equation depends crucially on the idea of complex coordinates stretching transform $\tilde{x} = F(x)$ outside B_1 (see e.g. Chew and Weedon [10]), where $F : \mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \bar{B}_1 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^2$ is a complex valued function. We set in this following $F(x) = x$ in B_1 .

Once the transform is constructed, for the solution u of the scattering problem (1.1)-(1.3), we let $\tilde{u}(x) = u(\tilde{x})$. It is clear that \tilde{u} satisfies

$$\tilde{\Delta}\tilde{u} + k(x)^2\tilde{u} = 0 \quad \text{in } \mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \bar{B}_1, \quad (2.4)$$

where $\tilde{\Delta} = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \tilde{x}_1^2} + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \tilde{x}_2^2}$ is the Laplace operator with respect to the stretched coordinates. The desired PML equation can be obtained by the chain rule

$$\nabla \cdot (A(x)\nabla\tilde{u}) + J(x)k(x)^2\tilde{u} = f(x) \quad \text{in } \mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \bar{B}_1, \quad (2.5)$$

where $A(x) = J(x)DF^{-1}(x)DF^{-T}(x)$, $J(x) = \det(DF(x))$, and $DF(x)$ is the Jacobi matrix. The equation (2.5) should be understood in the weak sense.

Let $B_2 = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2 : |x_1| < L_1/2 + d_1, |x_2| < L_2/2 + d_2\}$ be the rectangle which contains B_1 . The PML solution \hat{u} in $\Omega_2 = B_2 \setminus \bar{D}$ is defined as the solution of the following system

$$\nabla \cdot (A(x)\nabla\hat{u}) + J(x)k(x)^2\hat{u} = f(x) \quad \text{in } \Omega_2, \quad (2.6)$$

$$\hat{u} = g \quad \text{on } \Gamma_D, \quad \hat{u} = 0 \quad \text{on } \Gamma_2. \quad (2.7)$$

The convergence of the PML solution \hat{u} to the solution u of the original scattering problem depends on the properties of the transform $F(x)$ to be studied in the next section.

Now we introduce a new construction of the anisotropic PML complex coordinate stretching transform $\tilde{x} = F(x)$ when the wave number $k(x)$ is a constant $k > 0$. This construction can be easily extended to the general case of piecewise constant wave numbers as shown in section 5. Let $\theta = \arctan(d_1/d_2)$. Let the domain $\Omega_{\text{PML}} = B_2 \setminus \bar{B}_1$ be divided into four trapezoids U_i^\pm , $i = 1, 2$, where

$$U_1^\pm = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2 : \frac{L_1}{2} \leq \pm x_1 \leq d_1 + \frac{L_1}{2}, |x_2| \leq \frac{L_2}{2} + (|x_1| - \frac{L_1}{2}) \tan \theta\},$$

$$U_2^\pm = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2 : \frac{L_2}{2} \leq \pm x_2 \leq d_2 + \frac{L_2}{2}, |x_1| \leq \frac{L_1}{2} + (|x_2| - \frac{L_2}{2}) \cot \theta\}.$$

In each domain U_i^\pm , $i = 1, 2$, we write the Cartesian coordinate $x = (x_1, x_2)$ in a new coordinate (r, s) so that the PML coordinate stretching is performed only in one direction outside B_1 . We will only describe the construction in U_1^+ and U_2^+ . The other domains can be considered similarly.

By using (2.8)-(2.9) we know that, for $x \in U_1^+$,

$$\tilde{x}_1 = \frac{L_1}{2} + \beta(r(x))(x_1 - \frac{L_1}{2}), \quad (2.12)$$

$$\tilde{x}_2 = \begin{cases} \operatorname{sgn}(x_2)\frac{L_2}{2} + \beta(r(x))(x_2 - \operatorname{sgn}(x_2)\frac{L_2}{2}) & L_2/2 \leq |x_2| \leq L_2/2 + d_2 \\ x_2 & |x_2| \leq L_2/2, \end{cases} \quad (2.13)$$

where $\beta(r(x)) = \hat{\eta}(r(x)) + \mathbf{i}\hat{\sigma}(r(x))$, $\hat{\eta}(r(x)) = 1 + \zeta\hat{\sigma}(r(x))$, and $\hat{\sigma}(t) = \frac{1}{t} \int_0^t \sigma(s) ds$. (2.12)-(2.13) defines the desired complex coordinate stretching transform $F(x)$ in U_1^+ .

To conclude this section, for the sake of later reference, we write down the explicit formula for the matrix A in the domain U_1^+ . The formulas in other domains are similar. For $x \in U_1^+$, it is easy to check that when $|x_2| > L_2/2$,

$$DF = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & 0 \\ (\alpha - \beta)\tan\theta \cdot s & \beta \end{pmatrix}, \quad A = \begin{pmatrix} \frac{\beta}{\alpha} & -\frac{\alpha - \beta}{\alpha} \tan\theta \cdot s \\ -\frac{\alpha - \beta}{\alpha} \tan\theta \cdot s & \frac{(\alpha - \beta)^2}{\alpha\beta} \tan^2\theta \cdot s^2 + \frac{\alpha}{\beta} \end{pmatrix},$$

and when $|x_2| \leq L_2/2$,

$$DF = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \quad A = \begin{pmatrix} \alpha^{-1} & 0 \\ 0 & \alpha \end{pmatrix}.$$

Here $\alpha = \alpha(r(x))$ and $\beta = \beta(r(x))$.

3. The complex coordinates stretching transform. In this section we consider the guideline in constructing the PML complex coordinate stretching transform $\tilde{x} = F(x)$ in order to obtain the convergence of the PML method by extending the analysis in [8] for Maxwell scattering problems with constant wave number. In this section we assume the wave number $k(x)$ is constant k . The results can also be extended to the case of layered medium using the method developed in [7] where the uniaxial PML method is studied.

3.1. Ellipticity of $A(x)$. The first important property is the ellipticity of the PML coefficient matrix A . We start with the following lemma which can be proved by the same method as in [8, Lemma 7].

Lemma 3.1. *Let $C = (c_{ij}) \in \mathbb{R}^{2 \times 2}$ be a symmetric matrix such that $c_{11} + c_{22} > 0$ and $c_{11}c_{22} - c_{12}^2 \geq 0$. Then the eigenvalues of C is bounded below by $\frac{c_{11}c_{22} - c_{12}^2}{c_{11} + c_{22}}$.*

We need the following assumption on the medium property

(H1) $\zeta \geq \max_{i,j=1,2} \frac{d_i}{d_j}$ and $\sigma = \hat{\sigma} = \sigma_0$ for $t \geq r_0 > 0$, where σ_0 is a constant.

Lemma 3.2. *Let (H1) be satisfied. Then*

$$\operatorname{Re}(A(x)\xi \cdot \bar{\xi}) \geq \frac{1}{(1 + \zeta^2)(1 + |\alpha|)|\alpha|^2|\beta|^2} \xi \cdot \bar{\xi}.$$

Proof. We only prove the lemma for $x \in U_1^+$. The other cases are similar. By the formula at the end of last section, write $A(x) = (a_{ij}(x))$, we know that for any $x \in U_1^+$,

$$\operatorname{Re}(A(x)\xi \cdot \bar{\xi}) = \sum_{i,j=1}^2 \operatorname{Re}(a_{ij}(x))\xi_i\bar{\xi}_j \geq \left[\min_{j=1,2} \lambda_j(x) \right] (\xi \cdot \bar{\xi}),$$

where $\lambda_j(x), j = 1, 2$, are the eigenvalues of the symmetric matrix $\operatorname{Re}A(x)$.

Lemma 3.2 is obvious for $|x_2| \leq L_2/2$. For $|x_2| \geq L_2/2$, it is easy to check that

$$\operatorname{Re} \frac{(\alpha - \beta)^2}{\alpha\beta} = \frac{(\sigma - \hat{\sigma})^2}{|\alpha|^2|\beta|^2} [(\zeta^2 - 1)(\eta\hat{\eta} - \sigma\hat{\sigma}) + 2\zeta(\sigma\hat{\eta} + \hat{\sigma}\eta)] \geq 0,$$

where we have used the fact that $\zeta \geq 1$ by (H1). Thus

$$\operatorname{Re}(a_{11}) + \operatorname{Re}(a_{22}) = \operatorname{Re} \frac{\beta}{\alpha} + \operatorname{Re} \frac{\alpha}{\beta} + \operatorname{Re} \frac{(\alpha - \beta)^2}{\alpha\beta} \tan^2 \theta \cdot s^2 > 0.$$

On the other hand, since $\operatorname{Re} \frac{(\alpha - \beta)^2}{\alpha\beta} = \operatorname{Re} \frac{\beta}{\alpha} + \operatorname{Re} \frac{\alpha}{\beta} - 2$ and $\operatorname{Re} \frac{\alpha - \beta}{\alpha} = 1 - \operatorname{Re} \frac{\beta}{\alpha}$, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{Re}(a_{11})\operatorname{Re}(a_{22}) - \operatorname{Re}(a_{12})^2 &= \operatorname{Re} \frac{\beta}{\alpha} \cdot \operatorname{Re} \frac{\alpha}{\beta} + \left(\operatorname{Re} \frac{\beta}{\alpha} \cdot \operatorname{Re} \frac{\alpha}{\beta} - 1 \right) \tan^2 \theta \cdot s^2 \\ &= \frac{1}{|\alpha|^2|\beta|^2} [(\eta\hat{\eta} + \sigma\hat{\sigma})^2 - (\hat{\sigma}\eta - \sigma\hat{\eta})^2 \tan^2 \theta \cdot s^2]. \end{aligned}$$

Since $(\hat{\sigma}\eta - \sigma\hat{\eta})^2 = (\sigma - \hat{\sigma})^2 \leq \sigma^2$ and $\eta\hat{\eta} + \sigma\hat{\sigma} \geq 1 + \zeta\sigma$, we know that

$$\operatorname{Re}(a_{11})\operatorname{Re}(a_{22}) - \operatorname{Re}(a_{12})^2 \geq \frac{1}{|\alpha|^2|\beta|^2} \left[(1 + \zeta\sigma)^2 - \frac{d_2^2}{d_1^2} \sigma^2 \right] \geq \frac{1}{|\alpha|^2|\beta|^2},$$

where we have used $s^2 \in [0, 1]$ and (H1). This completes the proof by using Lemma 3.2 and the fact that $\operatorname{Re}(a_{11}) + \operatorname{Re}(a_{22}) \leq (1 + |\alpha|)(1 + d_2^2/d_1^2) \leq (1 + |\alpha|)(1 + \zeta^2)$. \square

3.2. Exponential decay of the stretched Green function. It is clear that any solution of the exterior Dirichlet problem (1.1)-(1.3) satisfies

$$u(x) = -\Psi_{\text{SL}}\left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial \mathbf{n}_1}\right)(x) + \Psi_{\text{DL}}(u)(x) \quad \text{in } \Omega \setminus \bar{B}_1,$$

where $\Psi_{\text{SL}}(\lambda)(x), \Psi_{\text{DL}}(\xi)(x)$ are, respectively, the single and double layer potentials

$$\begin{aligned} \Psi_{\text{SL}}(\lambda)(x) &= \int_{\Gamma_1} G(x, y)\lambda(y) \, ds(y), \quad \forall \lambda \in H^{-1/2}(\Gamma_1), \\ \Psi_{\text{DL}}(\xi)(x) &= \int_{\Gamma_1} \frac{\partial G(x, y)}{\partial \mathbf{n}_1} \xi(y) \, ds(y), \quad \forall \xi \in H^{-1/2}(\Gamma_1). \end{aligned}$$

Here $G(x, y) = \frac{1}{4}H_0^{(1)}(k|x - y|)$ is the fundamental solution of the Helmholtz equation (1.1)-(1.2) satisfying the Sommerfeld radiation condition (1.3).

For any $z \in \mathbb{C}$, $z^{1/2}$ is taken as the analytic branch of \sqrt{z} such that $\operatorname{Re}(z^{1/2}) > 0$ for any $z \in \mathbb{C} \setminus (-\infty, 0]$. Denote $\rho(\tilde{x}, y) = [(\tilde{x}_1 - y_1)^2 + (\tilde{x}_2 - y_2)^2]^{1/2}$ the complex stretched distance. Let $\tilde{G}(x, y) = G(\tilde{x}, y) = \frac{1}{4}H_0^{(1)}(k\rho(\tilde{x}, y))$ be the stretched Green function. Then we know that

$$\tilde{u} = -\tilde{\Psi}_{\text{SL}}\left(\frac{\partial u}{\partial \mathbf{n}_1}\right)(x) + \tilde{\Psi}_{\text{DL}}(u)(x) \quad \text{for } x \in \mathbb{R}^2 \setminus \bar{B}_1, \quad (3.14)$$

where $\tilde{\Psi}_{\text{SL}}(\lambda)(x), \tilde{\Psi}_{\text{DL}}(\xi)(x)$ are the modified single and double layer potentials

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\Psi}_{\text{SL}}(\lambda)(x) &= \int_{\Gamma_1} \tilde{G}(x, y)\lambda(y) \, ds(y), \quad \forall \lambda \in H^{-1/2}(\Gamma_1), \\ \tilde{\Psi}_{\text{DL}}(\xi)(x) &= \int_{\Gamma_1} \frac{\partial \tilde{G}(x, y)}{\partial \mathbf{n}_1} \xi(y) \, ds(y), \quad \forall \xi \in H^{-1/2}(\Gamma_1). \end{aligned}$$

The following lemma proved in [4, Lemma 2.2] indicates that the first Hankel function decays exponentially away from the upper half complex plane.

Lemma 3.3. For any $\nu \in \mathbb{R}$, $z \in \mathbb{C}_{++} = \{z \in \mathbb{C} : \operatorname{Re}(z) \geq 0, \operatorname{Im}(z) \geq 0\}$, and $\Theta \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $0 < \Theta \leq |z|$, we have

$$|H_\nu^{(1)}(z)| \leq e^{-\operatorname{Im}(z)\left(1 - \frac{\Theta^2}{|z|^2}\right)^{1/2}} |H_\nu^{(1)}(\Theta)|.$$

From Lemma 3.3 and (3.14) we know that to ensure the exponential decay of the stretched Green solution $\tilde{G}(x, y)$, we need a uniform lower bound of $\operatorname{Im}\rho(\tilde{x}, y)$ which tends to infinity when the thickness of the PML layer or the PML medium property tends to infinity. We first recall the following lemma from [5].

Lemma 3.4. For any $z_1 = a_1 + \mathbf{i}b_1$, $z_2 = a_2 + \mathbf{i}b_2$ with $a_1, b_1, a_2, b_2 \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $a_1b_1 + a_2b_2 > 0$, we have

$$\operatorname{Im}(z_1^2 + z_2^2)^{1/2} \geq \frac{a_1b_1 + a_2b_2}{\sqrt{a_1^2 + a_2^2}}.$$

Lemma 3.5. Let $z_j = \tilde{x}_j - y_j$, $j = 1, 2$. For any $x \in \Gamma_2$, $y \in \bar{B}_1$, we have

$$\operatorname{Im}\rho(\tilde{x}, y) \geq \frac{\sigma_0 \min(d_1^2, d_2^2)}{\sqrt{(L_1 + d_1)^2 + (L_2 + d_2)^2}} = \gamma_0.$$

Proof. We only prove the case when $x \in \Gamma_2 \cap \bar{U}_1^+$ in which case $x_1 = L_1/2 + d_1$. If $|x_2| \geq L_2/2$, we have from (2.12)-(2.13) that

$$\begin{aligned} z_1 &= \tilde{x}_1 - y_1 = x_1 - y_1 + \zeta\sigma_0 \left(x_1 - \frac{L_1}{2}\right) + \mathbf{i}\sigma_0 \left(x_1 - \frac{L_1}{2}\right), \\ z_2 &= \tilde{x}_2 - y_2 = x_2 - y_2 + \zeta\sigma_0 \left(x_2 - \operatorname{sgn}(x_2)\frac{L_2}{2}\right) + \mathbf{i}\sigma_0 \left(x_2 - \operatorname{sgn}(x_2)\frac{L_2}{2}\right). \end{aligned}$$

It is easy to know that for $y \in \bar{B}_1$,

$$(x_1 - y_1) \left(x_1 - \frac{L_1}{2}\right) > 0, \quad (x_2 - y_2) \left(x_2 - \operatorname{sgn}(x_2)\frac{L_2}{2}\right) \geq 0.$$

Thus by Lemma 3.4 we have

$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{Im}\rho(\tilde{x}, y) &\geq \frac{\sigma_0|x_1 - y_1||x_1 - \frac{L_1}{2}| + \zeta\sigma_0^2|x_1 - \frac{L_1}{2}|^2}{(1 + \zeta\sigma_0)|x - y|} \\ &\geq \frac{\sigma_0 d_1^2}{\sqrt{(L_1 + d_1)^2 + (L_2 + d_2)^2}}. \end{aligned} \quad (3.15)$$

The case when $|x_2| \leq L_2/2$ is simpler since $\tilde{x}_2 = x_2$. This completes the proof. \square

We remark that in this lemma we do not require the thickness of the PML layer d_1, d_2 should have a uniform lower bound as required in [8, Lemma 3]. This is the main advantage of our new complex stretching formulation in this paper.

Based on Lemma 3.1 and Lemma 3.5, the convergence of PML solution \hat{u} to the solution of (1.1)-(1.3) can be proved by the method in [8]. Here we omit the details.

4. Finite element approximation. In this section we introduce the finite element approximations (2.6)-(2.7). Let $b : H^1(\Omega_2) \times H^1(\Omega_2) \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ be the sesquilinear form given by

$$b(\varphi, \psi) = \int_{\Omega_2} (A(x)\nabla\varphi \cdot \nabla\bar{\psi} - J(x)k(x)^2\varphi\bar{\psi}) dx. \quad (4.16)$$

The weak formulation of (2.6)-(2.7) is: Given $g \in H^{1/2}(\Gamma_D)$, find $\hat{u} \in H^1(\Omega_2)$ such that $u = g$ on Γ_D , $u = 0$ on Γ_2 , and

$$b(\hat{u}, \psi) = 0, \quad \forall \psi \in H_0^1(\Omega_2). \quad (4.17)$$

Let Γ_D^h be a piecewise linear approximation of the boundary Γ_D and Ω_2^h be the domain bounded by Γ_2 and Γ_D^h . Let \mathcal{M}_h be a regular triangulation of the domain Ω_2^h such that the wave number $k(x)$ is constant on each element $K \in \mathcal{M}_h$. Let $V_h \subset H^1(\Omega_2^h)$ be the conforming linear finite element space over Ω_2^h and $\mathring{V}_h = \{v_h \in V_h : v_h = 0 \text{ on } \Gamma_D^h \cup \Gamma_2\}$. The finite element approximation to the PML problem (2.6)-(2.7) reads as follows: Find $u_h \in V_h$ such that $u_h = g_h$ on Γ_D^h , $u_h = 0$ on Γ_2 , and

$$b(u_h, \psi_h) = 0, \quad \forall \psi_h \in \mathring{V}_h. \quad (4.18)$$

Here g_h is some piecewise linear approximation of g .

We will use adaptive finite element method based on a posteriori error estimate to solve the discrete problem (4.18). We now introduce the a posteriori error estimator used in our numerical experiments in the next section. For any $K \in \mathcal{M}_h$, we denote h_K its diameter. Let \mathcal{B}_h denote the set of all sides that do not lie on Γ_D^h and Γ_2 . For any $e \in \mathcal{B}_h$, h_e stands for its length. For any $K \in \mathcal{M}_h$, we define the residual

$$R_h := \nabla \cdot (A \nabla u_h|_K) + Jk(x)^2 u_h|_K. \quad (4.19)$$

For any interior side $e \in \mathcal{B}_h$ which is common side of K_1 and $K_2 \in \mathcal{M}_h$, we define the jump residual across e :

$$J_e := (A \nabla u_h|_{K_1} - A \nabla u_h|_{K_2}) \cdot \nu_e, \quad (4.20)$$

using the convention that the unit normal ν_e to e points from K_2 to K_1 . For any $K \in \mathcal{M}_h$, the local error estimator η_K is then defined as

$$\eta_K = \left(\|h_K R_h\|_{L^2(K)}^2 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{e \subset \partial K} h_e \|J_e\|_{L^2(e)}^2 \right)^{1/2}. \quad (4.21)$$

5. Implementation and numerical examples. In this section we report two numerical examples to illustrate the performance of the new anisotropic PML method in this paper. The computations are carried out in MATLAB on Dell Precision T5500 with Intel(R) Xeon(R) CPU 2.67GHz. The PML parameters are determined as follows. First we choose L_1, L_2 such that $D \subset B_1$. We choose the thickness of the PML layer $d_1, d_2 > 0$. We take $\zeta = \max_{i,j=1,2} d_i/d_j$ in $\eta = 1 + \zeta\sigma$ and choose the medium property $\sigma(t) = (t\hat{\sigma}(t))'$ with

$$\hat{\sigma}(t) = \sigma_0 \left(\int_0^t s^2 (r_0 - s)^2 ds \right) \left(\int_0^{r_0} s^2 (r_0 - s)^2 ds \right)^{-1}, \quad \forall t \in (0, r_0).$$

Let $k_{\min} = \min\{k(x) : x \in \mathbb{R}^2\}$. The constant σ_0 is so chosen that the exponentially decaying factor

$$\omega = e^{-\gamma_0 k_{\min}} = e^{-\frac{\sigma_0 \min(d_1^2, d_2^2)}{\sqrt{(L_1+d_1)^2 + (L_2+d_2)^2}} k_{\min}} \leq 10^{-8}, \quad (5.22)$$

which makes the PML error negligible compared with the finite element discretization error.

Once the PML region and the medium property are fixed, we use the standard finite element adaptive strategy to modify the mesh according to the posteriori error

estimate with the local error estimator η_K in (4.21). We define the global posteriori error estimate

$$\mathcal{E} = \left(\sum_{K \in \mathcal{M}_h} \eta_K^2 \right)^{1/2}.$$

Now we introduce the adaptive anisotropic PML algorithm used in this paper.

Algorithm 5.1. Given tolerance $\text{TOL} > 0$ and the initial mesh \mathcal{M}_0 . Set $\mathcal{M}_h = \mathcal{M}_0$.

(1) Solve the discrete problem (4.18) on \mathcal{M}_0 .

(2) Compute the local error estimator η_K on each $K \in \mathcal{M}_0$ and the global a posteriori error estimate \mathcal{E} .

(4) While $\mathcal{E} > \text{TOL}$ do

- Refine elements in $\hat{\mathcal{M}}_h \subset \mathcal{M}_h$, where $\hat{\mathcal{M}}_h$ is the minimum subset of \mathcal{M}_h such that

$$\left(\sum_{K \in \hat{\mathcal{M}}_h} \eta_K \right)^{1/2} \geq \frac{1}{2} \mathcal{E}.$$

- Solve the discrete problem (4.18) on \mathcal{M}_h .

- Computer the local error estimators η_K on each $K \in \mathcal{M}_h$ and the global a posteriori error estimate \mathcal{E} .

end while

Example 5.1. We consider the Helmholtz problem (1.1)-(1.3) in a two layered medium where $k(x)$ is defined by

$$k(x) = \begin{cases} k_1 & \text{if } x_2 \geq x_1, \\ k_2 & \text{if } x_2 < x_1. \end{cases} \quad (5.23)$$

We note that in this example the interface where the wave number is discontinuous does not align with the coordinate axes. The fundamental solution of Helmholtz equation with this wave number can be constructed by using the method in [7] to which we refer for further details. First we introduce some notation. Let h be a bounded analytical function in $\mathbb{C} \setminus ((-\infty, -k_1] \cup [k_1, \infty))$, $k_1 \leq k_2$. For any $a \in \mathbb{R}, b > 0$, we denote

$$I(h; a, b) = \frac{\mathbf{i}}{2\pi} \int_{\text{SIP}} \frac{h(\xi)}{\mu_1 + \mu_2} e^{i\xi a + i\mu_1 b} d\xi, \quad (5.24)$$

where SIP is the Sommerfeld integral path ([9], [7]). By [7, Lemma 2.1], $I(h; a, b)$ can be computed by the following identity

$$I(h; a, b) = \frac{\mathbf{i}}{2\pi} \int_1^\infty \frac{1}{\sqrt{t^2 - 1}} \left[\left(\frac{\mu_1}{\mu_1 + \mu_2} h \right) (\xi) + \left(\frac{\mu_1}{\mu_1 + \mu_2} h \right) (\bar{\xi}) \right] e^{i k_1 \rho t} dt, \quad (5.25)$$

where $\rho = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}$, $\xi = \frac{k_1 |a| t}{\rho} + \mathbf{i} \frac{k_1 b \sqrt{t^2 - 1}}{\rho}$, and $\mu_j = (k_j^2 - \xi^2)^{1/2}$, $j = 1, 2$. Suppose the dirac source $\delta_y(x)$ is located at $y \in \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x_2 \geq x_1\}$, then the fundamental solution function $G(x, y)$ is

$$G(x, y) = \begin{cases} \Phi(k_1, \bar{x}, \bar{y}) - \Phi(k_1, \bar{x}, \bar{y}') + I(1; \bar{x}_1 - \bar{y}_1, \bar{x}_2 + \bar{y}_2) & \text{if } x_2 - x_1 \geq 0, \\ I(e^{i(\mu_1 - \mu_2)\bar{x}_2}; \bar{x}_1 - \bar{y}_1, -\bar{x}_2 + \bar{y}_2) & \text{if } x_2 - x_1 < 0, \end{cases}$$

where $\bar{x} = (\frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}(x_1 + x_2), \frac{\sqrt{2}}{2}(x_2 - x_1))$ and $\bar{y}' = (\bar{y}_1, -\bar{y}_2)$ is the image of \bar{y} . Here $\Phi(k, x, y) = \frac{1}{4} H_0^{(1)}(k|x - y|)$ and $H_0^{(1)}(z)$ is the first Hankel function of order zero.

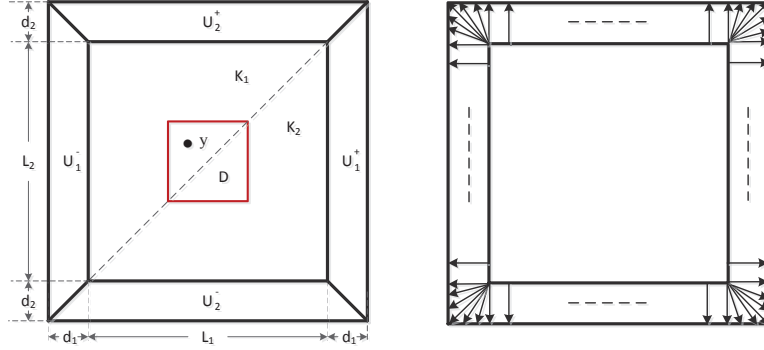


FIGURE 5.2. The domain setting and the direction of the vector field along which the PML complex coordinate stretching is performed in Example 1.

Based on the fundamental function $G(x, y)$, we can construct an analytic solution of the problem (1.1)-(1.3) with the scatterer $D = (-1, 1) \times (-1, 1)$. Suppose $y = (-0.5, 0.5)$. We set the source $f = 0$ and boundary condition $g = G(x, y)$ in (1.1)-(1.3). Then the exact solution of (1.1)-(1.3) is $G(x, y)$ as we defined above. We take $L_1 = L_2 = 6$, the thickness of PML layer $d_1 = d_2 = 1$, and the wave numbers $k_1 = 3\pi$, $k_2 = 5\pi$. Figure 5.2 shows the setting of domain and the direction of the vector field along which the PML coordinate stretching is performed. We choose the PML parameters $\sigma_0 = 11.86$ and $r_0 = 0.5$ to ensure (5.22).

It is clear that the direction of the vector field is continuous across the discontinuous interface. We use the complex coordinate stretching transform in section 2 to define the anisotropic PML problem. Figure 5.3 shows the $\log N_k$ - $\log \|u - u_k\|_{H^1(\Omega_1)}$ and $\log N_k$ - $\log \mathcal{E}_k$ curves, where N_k is the number of nodes of the mesh \mathcal{M}_k and u_k is the finite element solution over the mesh \mathcal{M}_k . It indicates clearly that the meshes and the associated numerical complexity are quasi-optimal: $\|u - u_k\|_{H^1(\Omega_1)} \approx CN_k^{-1/2}$ and $\mathcal{E}_k \approx CN_k^{-1/2}$ are valid asymptotically. As a comparison, we also show the $\log N_k$ - $\log \|u - u_k\|_{H^1(\Omega_1)}$ and $\log N_k$ - $\log \mathcal{E}_k$ curves by using adaptive uniaxial PML method. We observe that two methods perform comparably.

Figure 5.4 shows the adaptive mesh. We observe that the mesh in the domain with larger wave number is more refined. This is reasonable since it needs more DOFs to resolve the wave in the domain with larger wave number. We also show the real part of numerical and exact solutions in Figure 5.5 from two different observation directions.

Example 5.2. In this example, we show that our new PML method can be used to solve the scattering problems with several discontinuous interfaces. The wave number $k(x)$ is defined by

$$k(x) = \begin{cases} k_1 & \text{if } x \in D_1, \\ k_2 & \text{if } x \in D_2, \\ k_3 & \text{if } x \in D_3, \end{cases} \quad (5.26)$$

where $D_1 = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2 : -x_1 - 2 \leq x_2 \leq 0.6(x_1 + 2)\}$, $D_2 = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x_2 \leq 0, x_2 \leq -x_1 - 2\}$, and $D_3 = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x_2 > 0, x_2 \geq 0.6(x_1 + 2)\}$. We take $k_1 = 4\pi$,

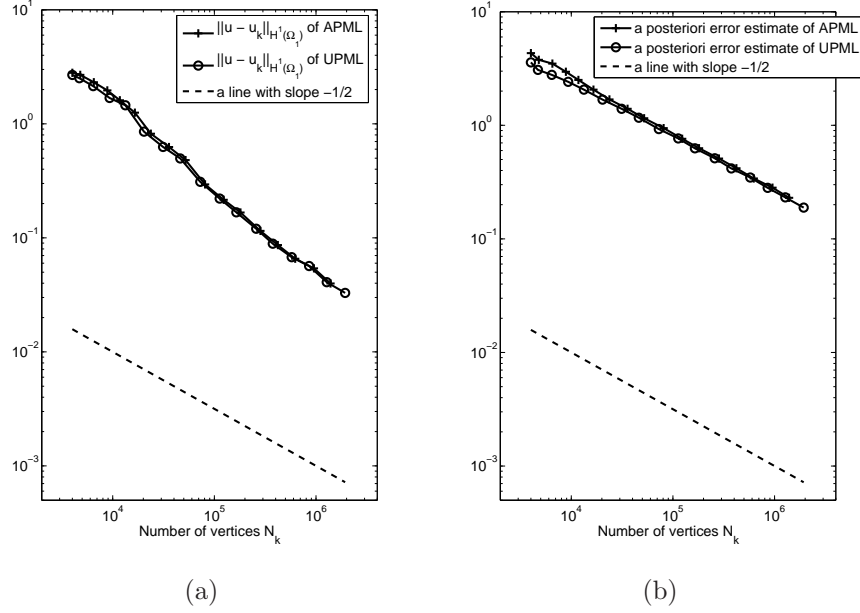


FIGURE 5.3. (a) The quasi-optimality of the adaptive mesh refinements of the error $\|u - u_k\|_{H^1(\Omega_1)}$ for Example 1; (b) The quasi-optimality of the adaptive mesh refinements of the a posteriori error estimate for Example 1.

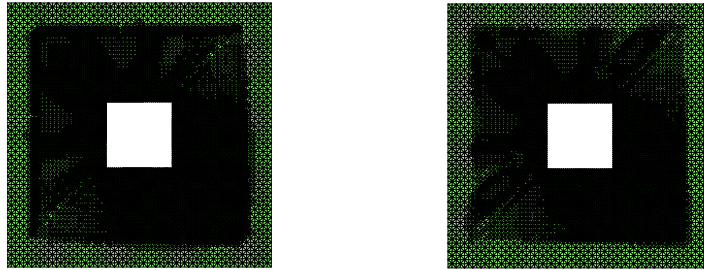


FIGURE 5.4. The adaptive mesh with 16,509 nodes for the anisotropic PML method (left) and the adaptive mesh with 20,314 nodes for the uniaxial PML method (right) of Example 1. The condition number of the finite element stiffness matrix on the corresponding mesh is $5.6770e+04$ for the anisotropic PML method and $1.1306e+06$ for the uniaxial PML method.

$k_2 = 8\pi$, $k_3 = 2\pi$. We also choose $L_1 = L_2 = 6$ and the thickness of PML layer $d_1 = d_2 = 1$. Figure 5.6 shows the setting of domain and the direction of the vector field along which the PML coordinate stretching is performed. We choose the PML parameters $\sigma_0 = 17.81$ and $r_0 = 0.5$ to ensure (5.22).

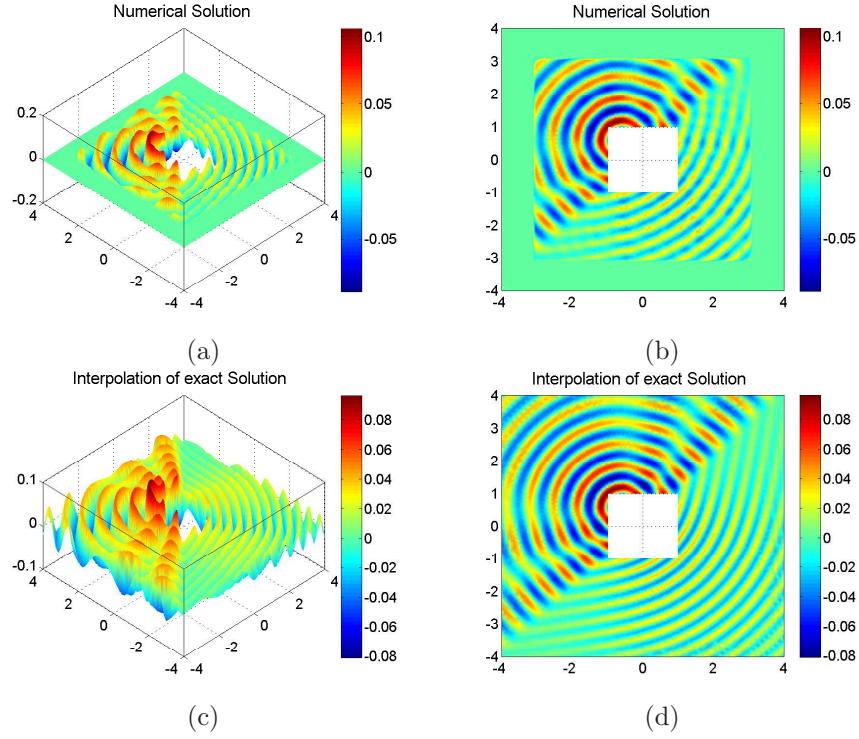


FIGURE 5.5. Solutions of Example 1. (a) The numerical solution observed from the direction $[-1,-1,2]$; (b) The numerical solution observed from the direction $[0,0,1]$; (c) The exact solution observed from the direction $[-1,-1,2]$; (d) The exact solution observed from the direction $[0,0,1]$.

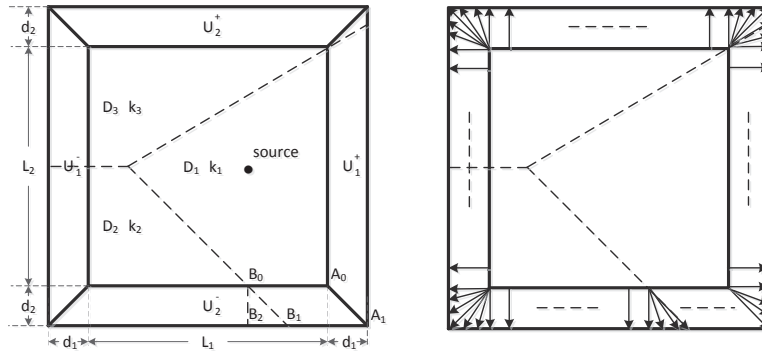


FIGURE 5.6. The domain setting and the direction of the vector field along which the PML complex coordinate stretching is performed in Example 2.

Now we describe the PML complex coordinate stretching transform $\tilde{x} = F(x)$ used in this example. Let $A_0 = (3, -3), A_1 = (4, -4), B_0 = (1, -3), B_1 = (2, -4)$,

and $B_2 = (1, -4)$ (see Fig. 5.6). The transform $F(x)$ is the same as the transform for the constant wave number in section 2 when $x \in \Omega_{\text{PML}} \setminus \bar{\Omega}_{A_0A_1B_2B_0}$, where $\Omega_{A_0A_1B_2B_0}$ denotes the quadrilateral with vertices A_0, A_1, B_2, B_0 . To define the transform in $\Omega_{A_0A_1B_2B_0}$, we first notice that the distance between A_0, B_0 and the distance between A_1, B_1 satisfy $d_{A_0B_0} = d_{A_1B_1} = 2$. For $x \in \Omega_{A_0A_1B_2B_0}$, we define $r \in (0, \sqrt{d_1^2 + d_2^2}), s \in (0, 1)$ such that

$$\begin{aligned} x_1 &= \begin{cases} (\frac{L_1}{2} - s \cdot d_{A_0B_0}) + r \cos \theta & \text{if } x \in \Omega_{A_0A_1B_1B_0}, \\ (\frac{L_1}{2} - d_{A_0B_0}) + r \cos \theta \cdot s & \text{if } x \in \Omega_{B_0B_1B_2}, \end{cases} \\ x_2 &= -\frac{L_2}{2} - r \sin \theta. \end{aligned}$$

Here $\Omega_{A_0A_1B_1B_0}$ is the quadrilateral with vertices A_0, A_1, B_1, B_0 and $\Omega_{B_0B_1B_2}$ is the triangle with vertices B_0, B_1, B_2 . Then the complex coordinate stretching function is

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{x}_1 &= \begin{cases} (\frac{L_1}{2} - s \cdot d_{A_0B_0}) + \beta(r(x)) [x_1 - (\frac{L_1}{2} - s \cdot d_{A_0B_0})] & \text{if } x \in \Omega_{A_0A_1B_1B_0}, \\ (\frac{L_1}{2} - d_{A_0B_0}) + \beta(r(x)) [x_1 - (\frac{L_1}{2} - d_{A_0B_0})] & \text{if } x \in \Omega_{B_0B_1B_2}, \end{cases} \\ \tilde{x}_2 &= -\frac{L_2}{2} + \beta(r(x))(x_2 + \frac{L_2}{2}), \end{aligned}$$

where $r(x) = -\frac{L_2/2+x_2}{\sin \theta}$.

Let the source f be a Gaussian point source at $(r_1, r_2) = (1, 0)$

$$f(x) = e^{-\frac{4k_1}{\pi}((x_1-r_1)^2+(x_2-r_2)^2)}.$$

Figure 5.7 shows the adaptive mesh. We observe that the mesh in the domain with small wave number is coarser. Figure 5.8 shows the real part of numerical solution from two different observation directions. Figure 5.9 shows the $\log N_k$ - $\log \mathcal{E}_k$ curve, where N_k is the number of nodes of the mesh \mathcal{M}_k and \mathcal{E}_k is the associated a posteriori error estimate. It indicates clearly that the meshes and the associated numerical complexity are quasi-optimal: $\mathcal{E}_k \approx CN_k^{-1/2}$ is valid asymptotically.

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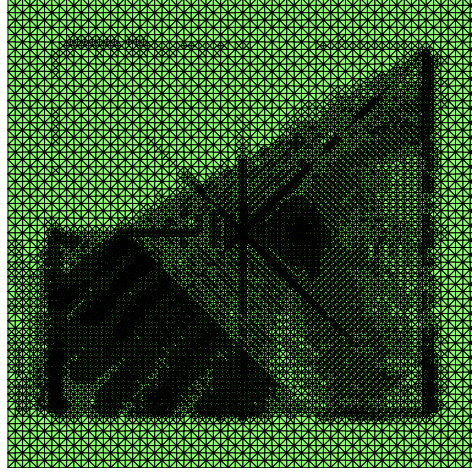


FIGURE 5.7. The adaptive mesh with 16,137 nodes of Example 2.

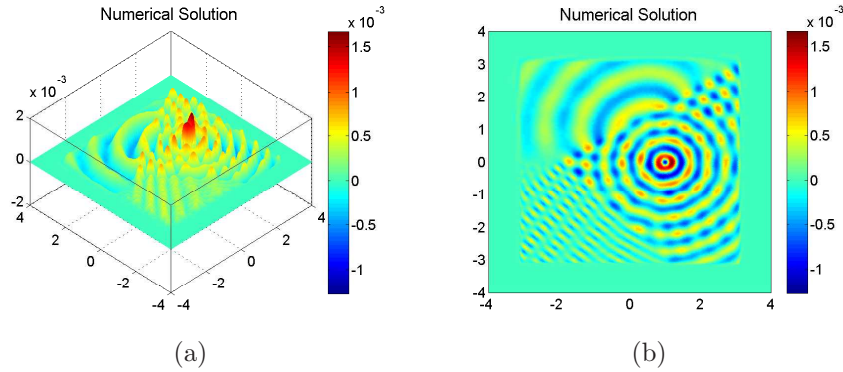


FIGURE 5.8. Solutions of Example 2. (a) The numerical solution observed from the direction $[-1,-1,2]$; (b) The numerical solution observed from the direction $[0,0,1]$.

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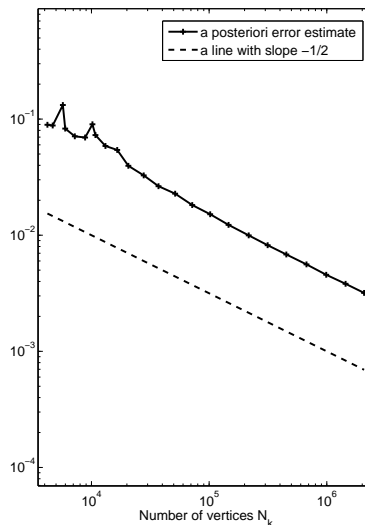


FIGURE 5.9. *The quasi-optimality of the adaptive mesh refinements of the a posteriori error estimate for Example 2.*

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