

# Iterative Helmholtz Solvers

*Accuracy of iterative Helmholtz solutions*  
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# Outline

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# Aim and Impact

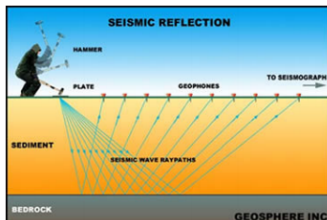
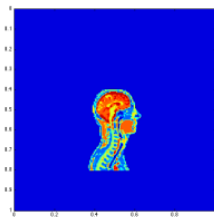
- Alert solver developers to keep **accuracy** of solution in mind
- Research **sharper** error bounds
- Allows **a priori** theoretical error estimation
- Research pollution through **spectral methods**
- Pinpoint pollution in **2D and 3D**

# Introduction - The Helmholtz Equation

- **Homogeneous** Helmholtz equation + BC's

$$(-\nabla^2 - k^2) u(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{0}, \mathbf{x} \in \Omega \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$$

- $k$  is the **wave number**:  $k = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda}$
- Practical applications in **seismic and medical imaging**<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup>Source: <https://earthquake.usgs.gov/image> & <http://math.mit.edu/icg/resources/teaching/18.336-spring2014/>

# Introduction - Analytical Model

- **Analytical** 1D model problem

$$\begin{aligned}-\frac{d^2 u}{dx^2} - k^2 u &= \delta\left(x - \frac{L}{2}\right), \\ u(0) &= 0, \quad u(L) = 0, \\ x \in \Omega &= [0, L] \subseteq \mathbb{R},\end{aligned}$$

- Sturm-Liouville + Green's function  $\Rightarrow$  **exact solution**

$$G(x, L/2) = \frac{2}{L} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{\sin(j\pi L/2)}{j^2\pi^2 - k^2/L^2} \sin(j\pi x/L)$$

$$\lambda_j = j^2\pi^2 - k^2$$

$$k \neq \frac{j\pi}{L}$$

$$j = 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

# Introduction - Numerical Model

- Discretization on  $\Omega = [0, 1]$
- Most used **second-order** finite difference with  $h = \frac{1}{n}$
- $k \approx \lfloor 2\pi / \# \text{gpw} \rfloor \Rightarrow kh$  is the **grid resolution**
- Rule of thumb  $kh = 0.625$
- We obtain a **linear system**  $A\hat{u} = f$

$$A = \frac{1}{h^2} \text{tridiag}[-1 \quad 2 - (kh)^2 \quad -1],$$

$$\hat{\lambda}_j = \frac{1}{h^2} [2 - 2 \cos(j\pi h) - k^2 h^2],$$

$$j = 1, 2, 3, \dots, n - 1,$$

$$A \in \mathbb{R}^{(n-1) \times (n-1)}.$$

- $A$  is **real, symmetric, normal, indefinite, tridiagonal and sparse**

# Introduction - Spectral Properties

- Near-null eigenvalues near intersection with origin
- The index where this happens for the analytical case is

$$\begin{aligned}\lambda_{j_{\min}} = 0 &\Rightarrow j^2 \pi^2 \approx k^2 \pi^2, \\ &\Rightarrow j_{\min} = \lfloor \frac{k}{\pi} \rfloor \text{ or } \lceil \frac{k}{\pi} \rceil.\end{aligned}$$

- The index where this happens for the numerical case is

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\lambda}_{j_{\min}} = 0 &\Rightarrow \frac{1}{h^2} [2 - 2 \cos(j\pi h)] \approx k^2 \\ &\Rightarrow \hat{j}_{\min} = \text{round}\left[\frac{\arccos(1 - \kappa^2)}{\pi h}\right]\end{aligned}$$

- Near-null eigenvalues  $\Rightarrow$  convergence issues  $\Rightarrow$  Deflation
- Near-null eigenvalues  $\Rightarrow$  accuracy issues  $\Rightarrow$  Pollution
- Our aim: study both cause and effect simultaneously

# Pollution - Introduction

- Numerical dispersion due to different numerical wave number
- Pollution error accumulates
- Non-accurate error estimates
- Total error is (Babuska, I., et al., 1997)  
$$\frac{\|u - \hat{u}\|}{\|u\|} \leq C_1 kh + C_2 k^3 h^2, kh < 1$$
- Phase error is  $|\tilde{k} - k| = \mathcal{O}(k^2 h^2)$
- Error grows with  $k$
- Set  $k^3 h^2 < 1$  or use higher-order discretization



## Pollution - Error Bound - I

- Take  $k = \frac{2\pi}{\lambda}$ ,  $\lambda = \frac{2\pi}{\omega n} \Rightarrow k = \omega n$
- **Second order** FD scheme for (Runborg, O., 2012)

$$\underbrace{\frac{-u_{j+1} + 2u_j - u_{j-1}}{h^2}}_A - \underbrace{\frac{\omega^2 n^2 h^2 u_j}{h^2}}_B = 0$$

- Solution for **exact**  $\omega n$ :  $u(x) = e^{i\omega n x_j}$  (1)
- Solution for **numerical**  $\omega \tilde{n}$ :  $u_j = e^{i\omega \tilde{n} x_j}$  (2)
- Substitute (1) into A & (2) into B

$$-u_{j+1} + 2u_j - u_{j-1} = e^{i\omega \tilde{n} x_j} 2[1 - \cos(\omega \tilde{n} h)] \quad (3)$$

- If  $\tilde{n}$  solves (3) then

$$\frac{2(1 - \cos(\omega \tilde{n} h))}{h^2} - \omega^2 n^2 h^2 = 0 \quad (4)$$

## Pollution - Error Bound - II

- Expand cosine, substitute in (4) and divide by  $\omega^2$

$$\tilde{n}^2 - n^2 + \mathcal{O}(\omega^2 h^2) = 0$$

- Error due to **different wave speed  $\tilde{n}$**  is

$$|\tilde{n} - n| = \mathcal{O}(\omega^2 h^2), \text{ for } \tilde{n} \approx n$$

- Error due to **dispersion**

$$|e^{i\omega n x_j} - e^{i\omega \tilde{n} x_j}| = |1 - e^{i(\tilde{n}-n)x_j}| \leq C\omega |\tilde{n} - n| \leq C\omega^3 h^2$$

- **Total error** for the model problem

$$\text{Rel. err.} = \frac{\|u - \hat{u}\|}{\|u\|} \leq C_1 kh + C_2 k^3 h^2, \quad kh < 1$$

## Pollution - Error

Relative error between exact and numerical solution for  $kh = 0.625$

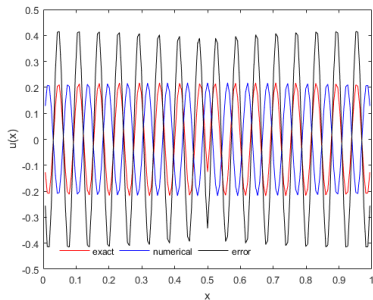
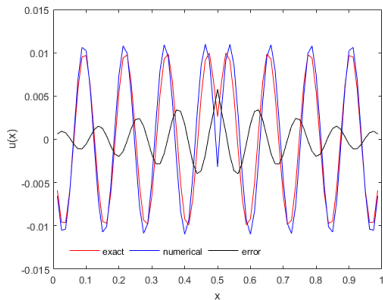
$k$	$n$	Rel. error	$k^3 h^2$
100	160	0.5770	39
200	320	1.9347	78
300	480	4.2584	117
400	640	1.1925	156
500	800	0.9783	195

$k$	$n$	Rel. error	$k^3 h^2$
102	164	62.0447	39
139	224	3.8516	53
212	332	1.1111	80
312	500	38.5703	121
485	776	172.9903	189

- Large and unregular error
- $k^3 h^2$  bound is not sharp

# Pollution - 1D

Exact and numerical solution for  $k = 100$  (L) and  $k = 102$  (R)



# Pollution - Dispersion Correction

- Accuracy comes with **uneconomical** linear systems
- Recall phase error is  $\left| \tilde{k} - k \right| = \mathcal{O}(k^2 h^2)$
- **Dispersion correction** by setting (Babuska, I., et al., 1997)

$$\tilde{k} = \sqrt{\frac{2(1 - \cos(kh))}{h^2}}$$

- Construct matrix  $A$  using  $\tilde{k}$  instead of  $k$
- Correction with  $\tilde{k}$  possible in **1D**
- In higher dimensions **infinite directions**

## Pollution - Error

Relative error and index  $j_{\min}, \hat{j}_{\min}$  of the smallest analytical and numerical eigenvalue for  $kh = 0.625$  using  $k$  (L) and  $\tilde{k}$  (R)

$k$	$j_{\min}$	$\hat{j}_{\min}$	Rel. error
100	32	32	0.5770
200	64	65	1.9347
300	95	97	4.2584
400	127	129	1.1925
500	159	162	0.9783

$\tilde{k}$	$j_{\min}$	$\hat{j}_{\min}$	Rel. error
98	32	32	0.0685
197	64	64	0.0681
295	95	95	0.0680
394	127	127	0.0678
492	159	159	0.0680

- Pollution if kernel **misaligned**
- **Spectral effect** of  $\tilde{k}$  on kernel
- **Sign** of smallest eigenvalue also matters

# Our Approach - Introduction

- Primary literature focus on differences  $k$  and  $\tilde{k}$
- Not much literature on role of **eigenvalues**
- Our aim: shed light on role of **near nullspace eigenvalue(s)**
- **Main hypothesis: the accuracy of the near nullspace numerical eigenvalues are related to the pollution**
- We propose an error bound incorporating the eigenvalues

# Our Approach - Spectral Properties

- We use eigenvalues to obtain theoretical **sharper bound**
- **Total error** now becomes

$$\frac{\|u - \hat{u}\|}{\|u\|} \leq \frac{\sqrt{\left( \frac{2\pi^2}{3} \frac{1}{\hat{\lambda}_{j_{\min}}^2} + \frac{\pi^2}{2\lambda_{j_{\min}}^2} \right)}}{\|u\|}$$

- Error grows with discrepancy between  $\lambda_{j_{\min}}$  and  $\hat{\lambda}_{j_{\min}}$ .
- As  $k$  increases  $\Rightarrow j_{\min} \neq \hat{j}_{\min}$



# Our Approach - New Upper Bound

Construction of upper bound:

- 1 Orthonormalize basis and evaluate at discrete points
- 2 Rewrite error as

$$\begin{aligned}\|u - \hat{u}\| &= \left\| 2 \sum_{j=1}^n \sin(j\pi x') \left( \frac{1}{\lambda_j} - \frac{1}{\hat{\lambda}_j} \right) \right\|, \\ &= \sqrt{4 \sum_{j=1}^n \sin(j\pi x')^2 \left( \frac{1}{\lambda_j} - \frac{1}{\hat{\lambda}_j} \right)^2}\end{aligned}$$

- 3 Compute  $\lambda_{j_{\min}}$  and  $\hat{\lambda}_{j_{\min}}$
- 4 Find recursive relation for ratio's between eigenvalues
- 5 Express and bound sum in terms of ratio

$$\|u - \hat{u}\| \leq \sqrt{\left( \frac{2\pi^2}{3} \frac{1}{\hat{\lambda}_{j_{\min}}^2} + \frac{\pi^2}{2\lambda_{j_{\min}}^2} \right)}$$

## Our Approach - Preliminary Results

Relative error and new bound (E) for  $kh = 0.625$

$k$	$n$	Rel. error	E	$k$	$n$	Rel. error	E
100	160	0.5770	5.0369	102	164	62.0447	67.9444
200	320	1.9347	3.2117	139	224	3.8516	4.6088
300	480	4.2584	4.7559	212	332	1.1111	1.7703
400	640	1.1925	1.4373	312	500	38.5703	43.0448
500	800	0.9783	1.7980	485	776	172.9903	191.9262

- New bound (E) **sharper**
- Allows detailed study of error in terms of **spectrum**
- Connect results to **convergence**

# Our Approach - Alternate Correction

- Use information from **eigenvalues** instead of  $\tilde{k}$
- Solve system

$$A_c u = f, \text{ where } A_c = A + cI,$$
$$c = -\lambda_{\mathbf{j}_{\min}} + \hat{\lambda}_{\mathbf{j}_{\min}},$$

- Note this correction also possible in **higher dimensions**

## Our Approach - Error

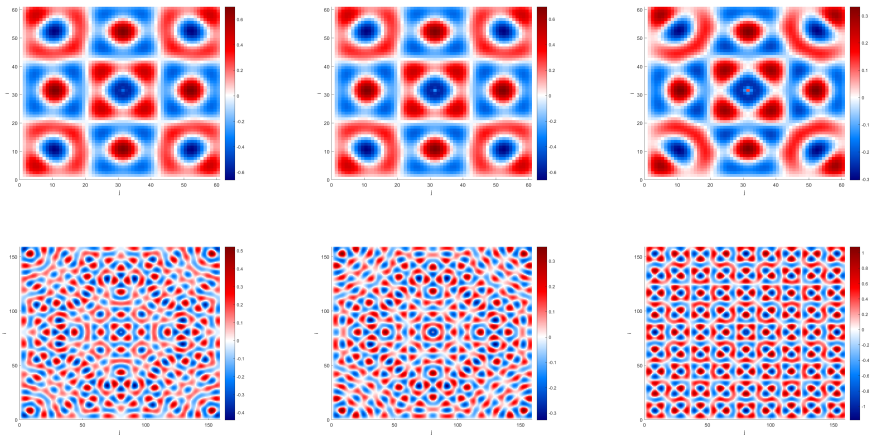
Relative error and index  $j_{\min}, \hat{j}_{\min}$  of the smallest analytical and numerical eigenvalue for  $kh = 0.625$  using eigenvalue correction

$k$	$j_{\min}$	$\hat{j}_{\min}$	Rel. error
100	32	32	0.0747
200	64	64	0.0946
300	95	95	0.0344
400	127	127	0.0213
500	159	159	0.0100

- No pollution if kernel **aligned**
- **Drawback**: requires smallest analytical and numerical eigenvalue
- Use to study sharper **pollution progression** in 2D & 3D

# Our Approach - Dispersion Correction (2D)

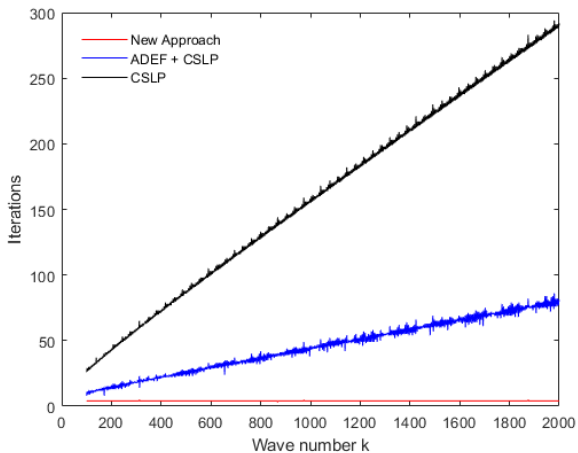
Exact (L), Adjusted Numerical (C) and Unadjusted Numerical (R)  
Solution for  $k = 30$  (Top) and  $k = 100$  (Bottom)



# Conclusion

- **Fast** solvers may lead to **inaccurate** solutions
- **Phase differences** 'pollute' the numerical solution
- Bound error using **smallest eigenvalues**
- **For the first time**: dispersion correction in 2D without increasing problem size and/or switching to higher-order schemes.
- Relate error to **convergence** properties

# Next Up - Accelerated Convergence



# References

- Upcoming articles

[http://ta.twi.tudelft.nl/nw/users/vuik/pub\\_it\\_helmholtz.html](http://ta.twi.tudelft.nl/nw/users/vuik/pub_it_helmholtz.html)

- Further reading



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