# Mixed Spectral Elements for the Helmholtz Equation

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# Introduction

• First use of these elements for the transient wave equation

 $\Rightarrow$  G. COHEN, S. FAUQUEUX, Mixed finite elements with mass-lumping for the transient wave equation, J. Comp. Acous. 8 (1), pp. 171-188, 2000.

- Advantages of these elements for the Helmholtz equation
  - $\Rightarrow$  Low storage of the matrix coming from the discretization
  - $\Rightarrow$  Gain of time for the product matrix vector
- Contents of this presentation
  - $\Rightarrow$  Short presentation of these elements
  - $\Rightarrow$  Comparison with "classical elements" for direct and iterative solvers

#### **Model Problem**

$$-\omega^2 \rho \, \boldsymbol{u}(\mathbf{x}) - \nabla \cdot (\mu \, \nabla \boldsymbol{u}(\mathbf{x})) = f(\mathbf{x}) \quad \text{in } \Omega \tag{1}$$

We transform 1 to the following first-order system:

$$\begin{cases} -\omega^2 \rho(\vec{x}) \boldsymbol{u}(\vec{x}) = div(-i\omega \vec{v}(\vec{x})) + f(\vec{x}) \\ -i\omega \vec{v}(\vec{x}) = \mu(\vec{x}) \nabla \boldsymbol{u}(\vec{x}) \end{cases}$$
(2)

To this system we add the first-order absorbing boundary condition:

$$\frac{\partial u}{\partial n} = i \sqrt{\frac{\rho}{\mu}} \omega u \quad \text{on } \partial \Omega \tag{3}$$

# **Approximation**

Quadrilateral mesh : 
$$\mathcal{M}_h = \bigcup_{j=1}^{N_e} K_j$$
,  $\widehat{K} = [0,1]^2$ ,  $K_j$  : a quadrilateral  $j$ 



 $DF_i$  is the Jacobian matrix of  $\vec{F}_i$ ,  $J_i = \det DF_i$ .  $Q_r$  is the space of polynomials in  $\vec{x} \in \hat{K}$  of order less or equal to r in each variable.

# **Approximate Variational Formulation**

$$U_{h}^{r} = \left\{ \varphi \in H^{1}(\Omega) \text{ so that } \varphi_{|K_{i}} \circ F_{i} \in Q_{r}(\hat{K}) \right\}$$
(4)

$$V_{h}^{r} = \left\{ \vec{\Psi} \in \left[ L^{2}(\Omega) \right]^{2} \text{ so that } |J_{i}| DF_{i}^{-1} \vec{\Psi}|_{K_{i}} \circ F_{i} \in \left[ Q_{r}(\hat{K}) \right]^{2} \right\}$$
(5)

$$-\omega^{2} \int_{\Omega} \rho \, \boldsymbol{u}_{h} \, \boldsymbol{\varphi}_{h} \, d\vec{x} - \mathbf{i} \, \omega \int_{\partial \Omega} \sqrt{\frac{\rho}{\mu}} \, \boldsymbol{u}_{h} \, \boldsymbol{\varphi}_{h} \, d\sigma = -\int_{\Omega} (-\mathbf{i} \, \omega \, \vec{v}_{h}) \cdot \nabla \boldsymbol{\varphi}_{h} \, d\vec{x} + \int_{\Omega} f \, \boldsymbol{\varphi}_{h} \, d\vec{x}$$

$$\int_{\Omega} \frac{1}{\mu} (-\mathbf{i} \, \omega \, \vec{v}_{h}) \, \vec{\psi}_{h} \, d\vec{x} = \int_{\Omega} \nabla \boldsymbol{u}_{h} \, \vec{\psi}_{h} \, d\vec{x}$$

$$(6)$$

$$\begin{cases} -\omega^2 D_h \vec{U} - i \omega \widetilde{D}_h \vec{\tilde{U}} = -R_h \vec{V} + \vec{F}_h \\ B_h \vec{V} = R_h^* \vec{U} \end{cases}$$
(7)

 $\vec{U}$  and  $\vec{F}_h$  are the vectors of the components of u and f respectively on the basis of  $U_h^r$  $\vec{\tilde{U}}$  the restriction of  $\vec{U}$  to the boundary of  $\Omega$ 

 $\vec{V}$  the vector of the components of  $-i\omega\vec{v}$  on the basis of  $V_h^r$ 

## **Degrees of Freedom**



Degrees of freedom for u (circles) and  $\vec{v}$  (arrows)

 $\xi_k, k = 1..(r+1)$  are the Gauss-Lobatto quadrature points , r the order of approximation

 $\Rightarrow$  Scalar Lagrange basis functions  $\phi_{\ell,m} \circ F_i = \hat{\phi}_{\ell,m}$ 

$$\hat{\varphi}_{\ell,m}(\hat{x},\hat{y}) = \prod_{i=1}^{r+1} \frac{\hat{x} - \xi_{\ell}}{\xi_i - \xi_{\ell}} \prod_{j=1}^{r+1} \frac{\hat{y} - \xi_m}{\xi_j - \xi_m}$$

(8)

## **Properties of mass matrices**

$$\begin{cases} -\omega^2 D_h \vec{U} - i\omega \widetilde{D}_h \vec{\tilde{U}} = -R_h \vec{V} + \vec{F}_h \\ B_h \vec{V} = R_h^* \vec{U} \end{cases}$$
(9)

• Use of Gauss-Lobatto quadrature formulas to compute all the integrals  $\Rightarrow D_h$  and  $\widetilde{D}_h$  are diagonal,  $B_h$  block-diagonal (2x2 in dimension 2)

## **Properties of Stiffness Matrices**

$$\int_{K_i} \Psi \cdot \nabla \varphi \, dx = \int_{\hat{K}} J_i \, \frac{1}{J_i} DF_i \, \hat{\Psi} \quad DF_i^{*-1} \, \nabla \hat{\varphi} \, dx = \int_{\hat{K}} \hat{\Psi} \, \nabla \hat{\varphi} \, dx \tag{10}$$

- Stiffness matrices independent of the element  $K_i$ 
  - $\Rightarrow$  No storage needed for these matrices
- Elementary stiffness matrices are sparse :
  - $\Rightarrow$  Gain of time expected



Many interactions in elementary stiffness matrices are null, particularly in 3D.



Transformation of Gordon-Hall from  $\hat{K} = [0\,1]^2$  to  $K_i$ 

 $\widetilde{F}_{i}(\hat{x},\hat{y}) = \hat{y}f_{3}(\hat{x}) + (1-\hat{y})f_{1}(\hat{x}) + \hat{x}(f_{2}(\hat{y}) - \hat{y}A_{3} - (1-\hat{y})A_{2}) + (1-\hat{x})(f_{4}(\hat{y}) - \hat{y}A_{4} - (1-\hat{y})A_{1})$ (11)



- $P_{l,m}$  Projection of Gauss-Lobatto points from  $\hat{K}$  to  $K_i$  by the Gordon-Hall transformation  $\tilde{F}_i$
- $F_i$  is a Lagrangian interpolation

$$F_{i}(\hat{x},\hat{y}) = \sum_{l,m=1}^{r+1} \hat{\varphi}_{\ell,m}(\hat{x},\hat{y}) \quad P_{l,m}$$

# **Test-problem studied**



Scattering of an incident plane wave by a dielectric disk of diameter  $4\lambda$ 

# **Numerical Solution of the problem**



The real part of the diffracted field on the left, and the total field on the right for the dielectric disk of diameter  $4\lambda$ 

## **Comparison of different iterative solvers**



Evolution of the logarithm of the criterion versus the number of iterations for the different solvers

 $\Rightarrow$  Conjugate Gradient is the most efficient, despite its fluctuating convergence.

## **Different kind of Meshes**



Left : a quasi-regular mesh of quadrilaterals

Right : a triangular mesh splitted in quadrilaterals

#### **Comparison of numbers of degrees of freedom**



Comparison of numbers of points by wavelength between mixed spectral elements for two kinds of meshes and "classical" elements, for L2-error less or equal to 5%

## Time for a direct solver



Comparison of time for a direct solver between mixed spectral elements for two kinds of meshes and "classical" elements, for an 5% L2-error

## **Time for an iterative solver - CG**



Comparison of time for a conjugate gradient solver between mixed spectral elements in two kinds of meshes and "classical" elements, for a L2-error less or equal than 5 %

## Gain of storage for mixed spectral elements



Comparison of the storage of the matrices and four vectors between mixed spectral elements for two kinds of meshes and "classical" elements, for a L2-error less or equal than 5 %

• Conjugate Gradient uses only four vectors to compute the solution

# **Concludings remarks on numerical results**

- Non-regular meshes coming from splitting of triangular meshes give poor results
- Numbers of degrees of freedom decreases when order increases
- Q5 is an optimal order for this problem
- For an error less than 5 %, high order is more accurate

# Conclusion

- Efficient method and low-storage accurate method
- More efficient in the 3D case
- A preconditioning method for an iterative solver is necessary
- Extensions to time-harmonic maxwell equations are studied