



Multiscale method for the nonlinear Helmholtz equation

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Motivation

- nonlinear constitutive laws required for, e.g., high intensities
- simplest case: Kerr-type media

$$\varepsilon(E) = \varepsilon_0 + \varepsilon_2 |E|^2$$

new effects such as "crossing of beams", optical bistability, ...





Model problem

- Ω bounded, star-shaped domain, sufficiently regular
- $f \in L^2(\Omega), g \in H^{1/2}(\partial \Omega)$
- wavenumber k possibly large
- $\varepsilon \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$
- $D \subset \subset \Omega$ non-empty, Lipschitz

Nonlinear Helmholtz equation

Find $u \in H^1(\Omega)$ such that

$$\mathcal{B}(u; v) := (\nabla u, \nabla v) - k^2((1 + \varepsilon \chi_D |u|^2)u, v) + ik(u, v)_{\partial\Omega} = (f, v)_{\Omega} + (g, v)_{\partial\Omega}$$

for all $v \in H^1(\Omega)$.



Existing approaches

- constant coefficients + pseudospectral method [Yuan, Lu, 2017]
- layered media + finite volumes [Baruch, Fibich, Tsynkov, 2009]
- layered media + steady state of Schrödinger equation [Xu, Bao, 2010]
- constant coefficients + finite element method (p = 1) [Wu, Zou 2018]
- Inear heterogeneous Helmholtz + finite element method [Graham, Sauter 2020], [Lafontaine, Spence, Wunsch], ...
- Inear heterogeneous Helmholtz + localized orthogonal decomposition [Gallistl, Peterseim 2015], [Peterseim 2017],...



Today's talk

1. Introduction

2. Constant-coefficient case: Finite element method

3. Heterogeneous coefficients: Multiscale method

Constant-coefficient case: Finite element method

H. Wu, J. Zou. Finite element method and its analysis for a nonlinear Helmholtz equation with high wave numbers, *SIAM J. Numer. Anal.* 56(3): 1338–1359, 2018.

B. Verfürth. Higher-order finite element methods for the nonlinear Helmholtz equation. *in preparation*, 2022.

(Fixed-point) iteration schemes



• frozen nonlinearity approach: find $u^{(l)}$ via

$$\begin{split} \mathcal{B}_{\mathrm{lin}}(u^{(l-1)}; u^{(l)}, v) &= (f, v) + (g, v)_{\Gamma} \quad \text{ for all } v \in H^{1}(\Omega), \\ \text{where } \quad \mathcal{B}_{\mathrm{lin}}(\Phi; v, w) &:= (\nabla v, \nabla w) - (k^{2}(1 + \chi_{D} \varepsilon |\Phi|^{2})v, w) + i(kv, w)_{\Gamma}. \end{split}$$

(Fixed-point) iteration schemes



• frozen nonlinearity approach: find $u^{(1)}$ via

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• approach of [Yua, Lu 2017]: find $u^{(l)}$ via

 $\mathcal{A}(u^{(l-1)}; u^{(l)}, v) = -k^2 \varepsilon (|u^{(l-1)}|^2 u^{(l-1)}, v)_D + (f, v) + (g, v)_{\Gamma} \quad \text{for all} \quad v \in H^1(\Omega),$ where $\mathcal{A}(\Phi; v, w) := (\nabla v, \nabla w) - (k^2 (1 + 2\chi_D \varepsilon |\Phi|^2) v, w) + i(kv, w)_{\Gamma}.$

Convergence of iteration schemes



Theorem

If $k^{d-2}\varepsilon(\|f\|^2 + \|g\|^2)$ is sufficiently small, $u^{(l)} \to u$ in $H^1(\Omega)$.

• linearized Helmholtz equation as auxiliary problem: find $w \in H^1(\Omega)$ such that

$$\mathcal{B}_{\mathrm{lin}}(\Phi; w, v) := (\nabla w, \nabla v) - k^2((1 + \chi_D \varepsilon |\Phi|^2)w, v) + ik(w, v)_{\Gamma} = (f, v) + (g, v)_{\Gamma}.$$

• if $k \varepsilon \|\Phi\|_{L^{\infty}(D)}^2$ sufficiently small, show a priori estimates for $\|w\|_{1,k}, \|w\|_2, \|w\|_{L^{\infty}(D)}$

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- if $k \in ||\Phi||_{L^{\infty}(D)}^2$ sufficiently small, show a priori estimates for $||w||_{1,k}$, $||w||_2$, $||w||_{L^{\infty}(D)}$
- deduce a priori estimates for $u^{(1)}$
- show contraction property for $u^{(l+1)} u^{(l)}$
- convergence, existence and uniqueness via Banach fixed-point theorem

Finite element method



standard finite element space V_{h,p} with continuous, piece-wise polynomials of degree p
combination with iteration schemes: obtain sequences {u^(l)_{h,p}} to approximate FE solution u_{h,p} of nonlinear problem

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Theorem

If
$$k(kh)^{2p}$$
 and $|\ln h|^{2r}k^{d-2}\varepsilon(||f||^2 + ||g||^2)$ are sufficiently small, $u_{h,p}^{(l)} \to u_{h,p}$ and
 $||u - u_{h,p}||_{1,k} \lesssim (kh + k(kh)^{2p})(||f|| + ||g||).$



Error analysis

Theorem

If
$$k(kh)^{2p}$$
 and $|\ln h|^{2r}k^{d-2}\varepsilon(||f|| + ||g||)$ are sufficiently small, $u_{h,p}^{(l)} o u_{h,p}$ and

$$\|u-u_{h,p}\|_{1,k} \lesssim (kh+k(kh)^{2p})(\|f\|+\|g\|).$$

Ideas of proof:

- convergence: transfer from the continuous case (show discrete stability estimates)
- prove an error estimate for $u^{(I)} u^{(I)}_{h,p}$ and let $I \to \infty$
- write u^(l) u^(l)_{h,p} = u ũ^(l)_h + ũ^(l)_h u^(l)_{h,p}, where ũ^(l)_h is the discrete solution of the linearized problem using u^(l-1)

Numerical experiment: *h*-convergence





Figure: From left to right: p = 1, 2, 3

Numerical experiment: iteration convergence





Heterogeneous coefficients: Multiscale method

joint work with R. Maier (now Jena University)

R. Maier and B. Verfürth. Multiscale scattering in nonlinear Kerr-type media. *Math. Comp.* (online first), 2022, DOI 10.1090/mcom/3722.



Model problem

Kerr-type Helmholtz problem

Find $u \in H^1(\Omega)$ such that

$$\mathcal{B}(u; \mathbf{v}) := (\mathbf{a} \nabla u, \nabla \mathbf{v}) - k^2 ((\mathbf{n} + \varepsilon \chi_D |u|^2) u, \mathbf{v}) + i k (u, \mathbf{v})_{\partial \Omega} = (f, \mathbf{v})_{\Omega}$$

for all $v \in H^1(\Omega)$.

a, n, ε multiscale coefficients, k wave number (possibly large)



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a, n, ε multiscale coefficients, k wave number (possibly large)

semilinear term becomes dominant for large k

LOD for linear Helmholtz: [Peterseim 2017], [Gallistl, Peterseim 2015] correction operators solve local Helmholtz problems

Localized Orthogonal Decomposition in a nutshell I



Elliptic multiscale problem: Find $u \in V \subseteq H_0^1$ such that

$$\mathcal{B}(u, v) := (A \nabla u, \nabla v) = (f, v) \quad \forall v \in V,$$

where $A \in L^{\infty}$ entails multiscale features and $f \in L^2$.

Orthogonal Decomposition

$$V = V_H^{ms} \oplus W$$

• $W = \ker I_H$ for $I_H : V \rightarrow V_H$ stable interpolation operator

•
$$V_H^{ms} = \{ v \in V | \mathcal{B}(v, w) = 0 \text{ for all } w \in W \}$$

• $V_H^{ms} = (id - Q)V_H$, where $Q : V \to W$ is the B-orthogonal projection

Localized Orthogonal Decomposition in a nutshell II



• $U_m(T)$ *m*-layer patch around *T*, $W(U_m(T)) := \{v \in W | v = 0 \text{ outside } U_m(T)\}$

• localized correction operator $Q_m = \sum_{T \in T_H} Q_{m,T}$, where $Q_{m,T} : V \to W(U_m(T))$ defined via

$$(A\nabla(\mathcal{Q}_{m,T}v), \nabla w)_{U_m(T)} = (A\nabla v, \nabla w)_T \quad \forall w \in W(U_m(T))$$

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Galerkin LOD

Find $u_{H,m} \in (id - Q_m) V_H$ such that

$$\mathcal{B}(u_{H,m}, v) = (f, v) \qquad \forall v \in (\mathrm{id} - \mathcal{Q}_m) V_H.$$

Iterative multiscale method



(Fixed-point) iteration + multiscale space in each step:

Sequence of multiscale solutions $u_{H,m}^{j} \in (id - \mathcal{Q}_{m}^{j-1})V_{H}$ such that

 $\mathcal{B}_{\mathrm{lin}}(u_{H,m}^{j-1}; u_{H,m}^{j}, v_{H}) = (f, v_{H})_{\Omega} \qquad \forall v_{H} \in (\mathrm{id} - \mathcal{Q}_{m}^{*,j-1}) V_{H}$

with $\mathcal{Q}_m^{j-1} = \mathcal{Q}_m[u_{H,m}^{j-1}]$

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with $Q_m^{j-1} = Q_m[u_{H,m}^{j-1}]$ Here, $Q_m[\Phi] = \sum_{T \in T_H} Q_{T,m}[\Phi]$ and

$$\mathcal{B}_{\mathrm{lin},\mathsf{N}^{m}(T)}(\Phi;\mathcal{Q}_{T,m}[\Phi]v_{H},w) = \mathcal{B}_{\mathrm{lin},T}(\Phi;v_{H},w)$$

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Problem: recomputation of Q_m is expensive

Solution: only update correctors where nonlinearity changes significantly

Adaptive iterative multiscale method



(Fixed-point) iteration + multiscale space in each step + adaptive updates:

Sequence of multiscale solutions $\tilde{u}_{H,m}^{j} \in (\operatorname{id} - \tilde{\mathcal{Q}}_{m}^{j-1}) V_{H}$ such that

$$\mathcal{B}_{\mathrm{lin}}(\tilde{u}_{H,m}^{j-1};\tilde{u}_{H,m}^{j},v_{H})=(f,v_{H})_{\Omega} \qquad \forall v_{H}\in (\mathrm{id}-\tilde{\mathcal{Q}}_{m}^{*,j-1})V_{H},$$

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with $\tilde{\mathcal{Q}}_{m}^{j-1} = \sum_{T \in \mathcal{T}_{H}} \tilde{\mathcal{Q}}_{T,m}^{j-1}$ and $\tilde{\mathcal{Q}}_{T,m}^{j-1} := \begin{cases} \mathcal{Q}_{T,m}[\tilde{u}_{H,m}^{j-1}] & (\text{update}) \\ \tilde{\mathcal{Q}}_{T,m}^{j-2} & (\text{no update}) \end{cases}$ based on error indicator and tolerance tol

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Theorem ([Maier, V. 2022])

If $kH \lesssim 1$, $m \gtrsim \log k$, tol $\lesssim k^{-1}$ and $k^d n \varepsilon \|f\|^2 \lesssim \vartheta < 1$, it holds

$$\|\tilde{u}_{H,m}^{j}-u\|_{1,k}\lesssim \frac{1}{1-\vartheta}(\vartheta^{j}+H+\beta^{m}+C_{\mathrm{stab}}(k)\mathrm{tol})\|f\|.$$



Numerical experiment

- *f* (approximate) point source at (0.5, 0.5); nonlinearity in [0.55, 0.75] × [0.25, 0.45]
- variations on scale $\delta = 2^{-7}$, wave number k = 17





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Summary and Outlook



- numerical methods for the nonlinear Helmholtz equation
- finite element methods: error analysis for higher order methods
- multiscale method: linearized and localized generation of a problem-adapted basis

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- theoretical explanation for "'robustness"' of different iteration schemes
- hp-error analysis
- (adaptive) iterative multiscale methods for quasilinear problems

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Thank you for your attention!

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