

TIME HARMONIC WAVE PROPAGATION IN A NONHOMOGENEOUS MEDIUM

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1. Introduction

Colton and Wendland [1] have considered acoustic wave propagations in a spherically symmetric medium. They used constructive method for solving the exterior Neumann problem. Jones [2] has derived an integral equation for the exterior acoustic problem. Jones has also discussed analytical and numerical solution of the acoustic problem.

We now consider a time harmonic acoustic wave of frequency w passing through a packet of rarefied or condensed air B_i . Let S be a closed piecewise Lyapunov surface in IR^3 and ν is the unit normal vector on S . Let B_e and B_i be the exterior and interior domains of S respectively where the origin is assumed to be in B_i . Suppose that the local speed of sound is given $c(x)$ where $c \in C^1(IR^3)$. $\rho(x)$ denotes the density and let $\rho \in C^1(\bar{B}_i)$ and for $x \in \bar{B}_i$, $\rho(x) > 0$. We set

$$\rho_1(x) = \frac{\nabla \rho(x)}{\rho(x)}$$

Assume that for $x \in B_e$, $c(x) = c_0$ and $\rho(x) = \rho_0$ where c_0 and ρ_0 are positive constants. The velocity potential $U(x, t)$ satisfies the wave equation.

$$(1.1) \quad \nabla^2 U(x, t) - \rho_1(x) \nabla U(x, t) = \frac{1}{c^2(x)} \frac{\partial^2 U(x, t)}{\partial t^2}, x \in IR^3$$

Since the wave propagation is time harmonic, we have

$$(1.2) \quad U(x, t) = u(x) e^{-iwt}.$$

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The function $u(x)$ thus satisfies the reduced wave equation,

$$(1.3) \quad \nabla^2 u(x) + k^2[1 - m(x)]u(x) = \rho_1(x)\nabla u(x)$$

Where

$$k^2 = \frac{w^2}{c_0^2}$$

and

$$m(x) = 1 - \frac{c_0^2}{c^2(x)}$$

Assume that $m(x)$ has compact support in \bar{B}_i . We now decompose $U(x, t)$ into the sum of two quantities the insident wave $U^i(x, t)$ and scattered wave

$$U^s(x, t) = U(x, t) - U^i(x, t).$$

If there is no pocket of rarefied or condensed air, then $U(x, t) = U^i(x, t)$, so $U^s(x, t) = 0$. We shall assume that $U^i(x, t)$ is the plane wave

$$U^i(x, t) = e^{i(k\alpha \cdot x - wt)}$$

moving in the direction α where $|\alpha| = 1$. Assume that for large distances away from the air pocket, $U^s(x, t)$ behaves like an outgoing time harmonic spherical wave. $U^s(x, t)$ is a solution of the wave equation.

$$\nabla^2 U^s(x, t) = \frac{1}{c_0^2} \frac{\partial^2 U^s(x, t)}{\partial t^2}.$$

$U^S(x, t)$ satisfies the Sommerfeld radiation condition

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} r \left(\frac{\partial U^s}{\partial r} - ikU^s \right) = 0$$

where $r = |x|$.

2. Scattering problem

These consideration lead us to the scattering problem of finding a function $u \in C^2(\mathbb{R}^3)$ such that

$$(2.1) \quad \nabla^2 u(x) + k^2[1 - m(x)]u(x) = \rho_1(x)\nabla u(x) \quad \text{in } \mathbb{R}^3$$

$$(2.2) \quad u(x) = \exp[ik\alpha \cdot x] + u^s(x)$$

$$(2.3) \quad \frac{\partial u}{\partial \nu} = 0 \quad \text{on } S$$

$$(2.4) \quad \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} r \left(\frac{\partial u^s}{\partial r} - ik u^s \right) = 0 \quad \text{uniformly in all directions.}$$

Let Ω_δ be a ball of radius δ centered at x and contained in \bar{B}_i and consider the integral

$$(2.5) \quad I(x) = \int_{\bar{B}_i} \frac{e^{ik|x-y|}}{|x-y|} \left[m(y)u(y) + \frac{1}{k^2}\rho_1(y)\nabla u(y) \right] dy, \quad x \in \bar{B}_i.$$

We first rewrite $I(x)$ as the sum of two integrals,

$$\begin{aligned} I(x) &= \int_{\Omega_\delta} \frac{e^{ik|x-y|}}{|x-y|} \left[m(y)u(y) + \frac{1}{k^2}\rho_1(y)\nabla u(y) \right] dy \\ &\quad + \int_{\bar{B}_i \setminus \Omega_\delta} \frac{e^{ik|x-y|}}{|x-y|} \left[m(y)u(y) + \frac{1}{k^2}\rho_1(y)\nabla u(y) \right] dy \\ (2.6) \quad &= I^{(1)}(x) + I^{(2)}(x) \end{aligned}$$

For $x \neq y$,

$$(2.7) \quad \frac{e^{ik|x-y|}}{|x-y|}$$

is a solution of

$$(2.8) \quad \nabla^2 u + k^2 u = 0.$$

Therefore,

$$(2.9) \quad \begin{aligned} \nabla^2 I + k^2 I &= \nabla^2 I^{(1)} + k^2 I^{(1)} \\ &= \int_{\Omega_\delta} (\nabla^2 + k^2) \left[\left(\frac{e^{ik|x-y|} - 1}{|x-y|} \right) m(y)u(y) + \frac{1}{k^2} \rho_1(y) \nabla u(y) \right] dy \\ &\quad + \nabla^2 \int_{\Omega_\delta} \frac{1}{|x-y|} [m(y)u(y) + \frac{1}{k^2} \rho_1(y) \nabla u(y)] dy \\ &\quad + k^2 \int_{\Omega_\delta} \frac{1}{|x-y|} [m(y)u(y) + \frac{1}{k^2} \rho_1(y) \nabla u(y)] dy \end{aligned}$$

Aid of the divergens theorem we have,

$$(2.10) \quad \begin{aligned} &\nabla^2 \int_{\Omega_\delta} \frac{1}{|x-y|} [m(y)u(y) + \frac{1}{k^2} \rho_1(y) \nabla u(y)] dy \\ &= -4\pi [m(x)u(x) + \frac{1}{k^2} \rho_1(x) \nabla u(x)] \end{aligned}$$

Hence, letting $\delta \rightarrow 0$ we obtain

$$(2.11) \quad \nabla^2 + k^2 I = -4\pi [m(x)u(x) + \frac{1}{k^2} \rho_1(x) \nabla u(x)].$$

Consider the function

$$(2.12) \quad u^s(x) = -\frac{k^2}{4\pi} I(x)$$

satisfies the equation (2.1)

$$\nabla^2 u^s + k^2 u^s = -\frac{k^2}{4\pi} \nabla^2 I - \frac{k^4}{4\pi} I = k^2 m u + \rho_1 \nabla u$$

Since $\exp[ik\alpha x]$ is a solution of (2.8) we see now that if $u(x)$ is a solution of the integral equation,

(2.13)

$$u(x) = \exp[ik\alpha x] - \frac{k^2}{4\pi} \int_{\bar{B}_i} \frac{e^{ik|x-y|}}{|x-y|} [m(y)u(y) + \frac{1}{k^2}\rho_1(y)\nabla u(y)] dy$$

then for $x \in \bar{B}_i$, $u(x)$ is a solution of (2.1). In deriving (2.13) we have assumed that $x \in \bar{B}_i$. However if $x \in B_e$ then since $m(x) = 0$ and $\rho_1(x) = 0$ and (2.7) has no singularity in \bar{B}_i , $u(x)$ is a solution of (2.1). Hence if $u(x)$ is a solution of the integral equation (2.13) for $x \in \bar{B}_i$ then (2.13) defines a solution $u(x)$ of (2.1) for $x \in IR^3$.

Let d is the diameter of \bar{B}_i . For $r > d$

$$r \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial r} - ik \right) \frac{\exp[ik|x-y|]}{|x-y|} = 0 \left(\frac{1}{r} \right).$$

Hence if u is a solution of (2.13) then (2.2) and (2.4) are satisfied with u^s defined by (2.12)

3. Solution of the integral equation

We define the linear operator

$$T : C(\bar{B}_i) \rightarrow C(\bar{B}_i)$$

by

$$(3.1) \quad (Tu)(x) := -\frac{k^2}{4\pi} \int_{\bar{B}_i} \frac{e^{ik|x-y|}}{|x-y|} [m(y)u(y) + \frac{1}{k^2}\rho_1(y)\nabla u(y)] dy$$

where $C(\bar{B}_i)$ is the space of complex valued continuous functions on \bar{B}_i . Then the integral equation (2.13) can be written as,

$$(3.2) \quad u(x) = \exp[ik\alpha x] + (Tu)(x)$$

We define the sequence of successive approximations by

$$(3.3) \quad u_{n+1}(x) = \exp[ik\alpha x] + (Tu_n)(x), \quad x \in \bar{B}_i, \quad n \geq 0$$

$$u_0(x) = 0$$

The sequence $\{u_n(x)\}$ is convergent if and only if the series

$$(3.4) \quad u(x) = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} [u_{n+1}(x) - u_n(x)]$$

is convergent. This series will be uniformly convergent for $x \in \bar{B}_i$ if,

$$(3.5) \quad \|u_{n+1} - u_n\| \leq M\gamma^n$$

where M and γ are positive constants such that $0 < \gamma < 1$ and

$$(3.6) \quad \|u\| = \max_{x \in \bar{B}_i} |u(x)|$$

(3.5) is valid if T is a contraction mapping:

$$(3.7) \quad \|Tu\| \leq \gamma\|u\|$$

for $u \in C(\bar{B}_i)$.

We define the operators T_1 ve T_2 as follows:

$$T_1, T_2 : C(\bar{B}_i) \rightarrow C(\bar{B}_i)$$

$$(3.8) \quad (T_1 u)(x) := -\frac{k^2}{4\pi} \int_{B_i} \frac{e^{ik|x-y|}}{|x-y|} m(y)u(y)dy$$

$$(3.9) \quad (T_2 u)(x) := -\frac{1}{4\pi} \int_{\bar{B}_i} \frac{e^{ik|x-y|}}{|x-y|} \rho_1(y)\nabla u(y)dy.$$

We first note that for $u \in C(\bar{B}_i)$,

$$(3.10) \quad \|T_1 u\| \leq \frac{k^2 \mu \|u\|}{4\pi} \left\| \int_{\bar{B}_i} \frac{1}{|x-y|} dy \right\|$$

where

$$\mu = \max_{x \in \bar{B}_i} |m(x)|.$$

We also have

$$(3.11) \quad \int_{\bar{B}_i} \frac{1}{|x-y|} dy \leq \int_{\Omega_d} \frac{1}{|x-y|} dy \leq 2\pi d^2$$

where

$$\Omega_d = \{y : |y-x| \leq d\}.$$

Hence we obtain

$$(3.12) \quad \|T_1 u\| \leq \frac{k^2 \mu d^2}{2} \|u\|.$$

We now discuss the operator T_2 ;

$$(3.13) \quad \|T_2\| \leq \frac{\sigma}{4\pi} \left\| \int_{\bar{B}_i} \frac{1}{|x-y|} \nabla u(y) dy \right\|$$

Where

$$\sigma = \max_{x \in \bar{B}_i} |\rho_1(x)|.$$

We can write the integral in equation (3.13) of the form:

$$(3.14) \quad \begin{aligned} \int_{\bar{B}_i} \frac{1}{|x-y|} \nabla u(y) dy &= \int_{\bar{B}_i} \nabla \left[\frac{1}{|x-y|} u(y) \right] dy - \int_{\bar{B}_i} u(y) \nabla \frac{1}{|x-y|} dy \\ &= I^{(3)}(x) - I^{(4)}(x). \end{aligned}$$

Using the divergens theorem we can compute $I^{(3)}(x)$,

$$(3.15) \quad \begin{aligned} I^{(3)}(x) &= \lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0} \int_{\bar{B}_i \setminus \Omega_\delta} \nabla \left[\frac{1}{|x-y|} u(y) \right] dy \\ &= \int_S \frac{1}{|x-y|} u(y) \nu ds(y) - \lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0} \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^\pi \frac{1}{\delta} u(y) \nu \delta^2 \sin \phi d\phi d\theta \\ &= \int_S \frac{1}{|x-y|} u(y) \nu ds(y) \end{aligned}$$

where $ds(y)$ is the surface element of S . We know in Mikhlin [3] continuity of the single layer potential in the whole of space E_3 we have,

$$\max_{x \in \bar{B}_i} \left| \int_S \frac{1}{|x-y|} ds(y) \right| = A$$

and then

$$(3.16) \quad \left| \int_S \frac{1}{|x-y|} u(y) \nu ds(y) \right| \leq A \|u\|$$

The other hand,

$$I^{(4)}(x) = \int_{\bar{B}_i} u(y) \nabla \frac{1}{|x-y|} dy = \int_{B_i} u(y) \frac{x-y}{|x-y|^3} dy$$

so

$$(3.17) \quad |I^{(4)}(x)| \leq 4\pi d \|u\|.$$

Hence

$$(3.18) \quad \left\| \int_{\bar{B}_i} \frac{1}{|x-y|} \nabla u(y) dy \right\| \leq (4\pi d + A) \|u\|.$$

Substitute (3.18) into (3.13) we have

$$(3.19) \quad \|T_2 u\| \leq \frac{\sigma}{4\pi} (4\pi d + A) \|u\|.$$

Therefore we conclude that,

$$(3.20) \quad \|Tu\| \leq \left[\frac{k^2 \mu d^2}{2} + \frac{\sigma}{4\pi} (4\pi d + A) \right] \|u\|.$$

If

$$(3.21) \quad k^2 < \frac{4\pi - \sigma(4\pi d + A)}{2\pi \mu d^2}.$$

then we can solve the integral equation (2.13) by successive approximations. From (3.4) we have the solution.

$$(3.22) \quad u(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} [T^n \exp(ik\alpha.y)](x)$$

The solution of the integral equation (2.13) is unique if k satisfies (3.21). To show this, assume two solutions $u_1(x), u_2(x)$, of (2.13). Then $v(x) = u_1(x) - u_2(x)$ satisfies $v = Tv$ and $v = T^n v$ for every integer n . This implies that

$$\|v\| = \|T^n v\| = \left[\frac{4\pi - \sigma(4\pi d + A)}{2\pi\mu d^2} \right]^n \|u\|.$$

For $n \rightarrow \infty$ we have $v(x) \equiv 0$.

4. Uniqueness

We now show that the scattering problem (2.1)-(2.4) have unique solution.

THEOREM 4.1. *If k satisfies the inequality (3.21) and if $w \in C^2(\mathbb{R}^3)$ satisfies*

$$(4.1) \quad \nabla^2 w + k^2[1 - m(x)]w = \rho_1(x)\nabla w \quad \text{in } \mathbb{R}^3,$$

$$(4.2) \quad \frac{\partial w}{\partial \nu} = 0 \quad \text{on } S$$

$$(4.3) \quad \lim_{r \rightarrow \infty} r \left(\frac{\partial w}{\partial r} - ikw \right) = 0 \quad \text{uniformly in all directions}$$

then $w \equiv 0$.

Proof. Let

$$\sum_R = \{x : |x| = R, R > d\}$$

and

$$B_{e,R} = \{x : |x| < R\} \setminus \bar{B}_i.$$

We have from Green's second identity that,

$$(4.4) \quad \int_{B_{e,R}} (w \nabla^2 \bar{w} - \bar{w} \nabla^2 w) dy = \int_{\Sigma_R} \left(w \frac{\partial \bar{w}}{\partial r} - \bar{w} \frac{\partial w}{\partial r} \right) ds(y) - \int_S \left(w \frac{\partial \bar{w}}{\partial \nu} - \bar{w} \frac{\partial w}{\partial \nu} \right) ds(y)$$

where \bar{w} is the complex conjugate of w . Then we obtain from (4.4)

$$(4.5) \quad \int_S \left(w \frac{\partial \bar{w}}{\partial \nu} - \bar{w} \frac{\partial w}{\partial \nu} \right) ds(y) = \int_{\Sigma_R} \left(w \frac{\partial \bar{w}}{\partial r} - \bar{w} \frac{\partial w}{\partial r} \right) ds(y) = 0$$

The radiation condition (4.3) implies that,

$$(4.6) \quad \lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} \int_{\Sigma_R} \left| \frac{\partial w}{\partial r} - ikw \right|^2 ds(y) = 0.$$

So,

$$(4.7) \quad \begin{aligned} 0 &= \lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} \int_{\Sigma_R} \left[\left| \frac{\partial w}{\partial r} \right|^2 + k^2 |w|^2 + ik \left(\bar{w} \frac{\partial w}{\partial r} - w \frac{\partial \bar{w}}{\partial r} \right) \right] ds(y) \\ &= \lim_{R \rightarrow \infty} \int_{\Sigma_R} \left(\left| \frac{\partial w}{\partial r} \right|^2 + k^2 |w|^2 \right) ds(y). \end{aligned}$$

Rellich Lemma [4] will imply $w \equiv 0$.

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