A fast adaptive algorithm for two-dimensional scattering from a radially-symmetric potential

Jeremy Hoskins $^\diamond, Vladimir Rokhlin<math display="inline">^\diamond$

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1 Introduction

The scattering of waves from potentials is ubiquitous in applied mathematics and physics, arising *inter alia* in geophysics, medical imaging, non-destructive industrial testing, optics, etc. Typically in such applications it is highly desirable to be able to simulate the scattering from a given medium quickly and accurately. This is especially important for solving the inverse problem; namely, to recover properties of the material from measurements of the scattered field outside the object. Inversion algorithms often require solving the forward problem (ie. determining the scattered field for a given medium) hundreds or thousands of times.

In this paper we describe a fast, adapative, simple, and accurate method for computing the scattering from a radially-symmetric body in two dimensions. The applications are two-fold. Firstly, radially-symmetric geometries are frequently encountered in applications. Secondly, the speed and accuracy of the proposed method allow one easily to validate new algorithms for solving the two-dimensional forward and inverse problems for the Helmholtz equation (or wave equation). See [6, 2, 9] and the references therein for a discussion of fast algorithms for general two-dimensional scattering problems.

The remainder of this paper is organized as follows. In Section 2 we describe the model and introduce the necessary mathematical tools. In Section 3 we describe the algorithm for two-dimensional scattering from radially-symmetric potentials. Numerical illustrations of the algorithm both for fixed frequencies and in the time domain are given in Section 4. Finally, Section 5 discusses future work.

2 Mathematical Preliminaries

In the frequency domain the displacement in an inhomogeneous fluid satisfies the Helmholtz equation

$$\Delta u(\mathbf{r}) + k^2 (1 + Q(\mathbf{r})) u(\mathbf{r}) = 0.$$
⁽¹⁾

In this paper we restrict our attention to two-dimensional problems for which the potential Q is radially symmetric and compactly supported. The classical approach is to decompose the total field u into the sum of an incident field u_i and a scattered field u_s . In typical problems the incident field u_i is known and satisfies the Helmholtz equation with $Q \equiv 0$. The scattered field u_s satisfies

$$\Delta u_s(\mathbf{r}) + k^2 (1+q(\mathbf{r})) u_s(\mathbf{r}) = -k^2 q(\mathbf{r}) u_i(\mathbf{r}), \qquad (2)$$

together with the Sommerfeld radiation condition

$$\lim_{r \to \infty} \sqrt{r} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial r} u_s(\mathbf{r}) - ik u_s(\mathbf{r}) \right] = 0.$$
(3)

We observe that since the potential Q is radially-symmetric there exists a compactlysupported function $q : [0, \infty)$ such that $Q(\mathbf{r}) = q(||\mathbf{r}||)$ for all $\mathbf{r} \in \mathbb{R}^2$, where $|| \cdot ||$ denotes the standard Euclidean norm. With some abuse of notation we will also refer to the function q as the potential.

2.1 Reduction to the radial problem

In this section we describe the reduction of the radially-symmetric acoustic scattering problem to a set of decoupled one-dimensional scattering problems. To that end, we let $u_m : [0, \infty) \to \mathbb{C}$ denote the Fourier coefficient of the scattered field u_s with respect to the angle θ ,

$$u_m(r) = \int_0^{2\pi} e^{-im\theta} u_s(r\cos\theta, r\sin\theta) \,\mathrm{d}\theta.$$
(4)

It is easily shown that u_m satisfies the following ordinary differential equation

$$u_m''(r) + \frac{1}{r}u_m'(r) + k^2[1+q(r)]u_m(r) - \frac{m^2}{r^2}u_m(r) = -k^2q(r)f_m(r), \quad (5)$$

where

$$f_m(r) = \int_0^{2\pi} e^{-im\theta} u_i(r\cos\theta, r\sin\theta) \,\mathrm{d}\theta,\tag{6}$$

is the Fourier coefficient of the incident field u_i .

The following remarks and lemmas summarize results pertaining to the solutions of (5) (see, for example, [1]).

Remark 2.1. On any interval c < x < d on which the source f and the potential q are identically zero the solutions to equation (5) are a linear combination of the Bessel function $J_m(kr)$ and the Hankel function $H_m(kr)$.

Remark 2.2. We observe that if f_m is generated by an external (or internal) source then it will be a scalar multiple of J_m (H_m respectively). In this case there exists a constant c_m depending on u_i and m but not on r such that

$$u_m(r) = c_m u_{-m}(r). \tag{7}$$

This follows from the fact that $J_m(z) = (-1)^m J_{-m}(z)$ and $H_m(z) = (-1)^m H_{-m}(z)$. Hence

$$c_m = \frac{f_m(kb)}{f_{-m}(kb)} (-1)^m.$$
(8)

Thus in such cases it suffices to solve for u_m , $m \ge 0$ and calculate u_{-m} via (7) and (8).

The following lemma characterizes the solution to equation (5) outside the support of q.

Lemma 2.1. Suppose that the potential q is supported on the interval [a, b] and that u_m is the function defined by (4). Then there exists some constant μ such that $u_m(r) = \mu H_m(kr)$ for all $r \ge b$. Similarly, there exist constants A, α such that

$$u_m(r) = AH_m(kr) + \alpha J_m(kr),$$

for all $0 \le r \le a$. Moreover, if $q \equiv 0$ then $\alpha = 0$, $A = \mu$.

The following lemma provides the Green's function for the homogeneous equation (5) obtained by setting the potential q identically to zero.

Lemma 2.2. Let g be a function compactly supported in the interval [a, b]. For all $m \ge 0$ the function u_m defined by the following formula

$$u_m(r) = -\frac{i\pi}{2} \left[\int_0^r J_m(kt) H_m(kr) g(t) t \, \mathrm{d}t + \int_r^\infty J_m(kr) H_m(kt) g(t) t \, \mathrm{d}t \right]$$
(9)

satisfies the following ordinary differential equation

$$u_m''(r) + \frac{1}{r}u_m'(r) + k^2 u_m(r) - \frac{m^2}{r^2}u_m(r) = g(r).$$
(10)

We conclude the section with the following definition.

Definition 2.1. For any integer m we define the corresponding function $K_m : (0, \infty) \times (0, \infty) \to \mathbb{C}$ by

$$K_m(r,t) = \begin{cases} J_m(kt)H_m(kr)t & \text{if } t \le r, \\ J_m(kr)H_m(kt)t & \text{if } t \ge r, \end{cases}$$
(11)

Except when necessary we will suppress the subscript m.

2.2 Integral equations for modes

In this section we derive integral equations for the Fourier components of the scattered field $u_m, m = 0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \ldots$ for variable q. The two-point boundary value problem for u_m can be converted into a second-kind integral equation for a new unknown ρ_m by writing u_m in the form

$$u_m(r) = \int_0^\infty K(r,t)\rho_m(t)\,\mathrm{d}t,\tag{12}$$

Upon substitution of this formula into the equation (5) we obtain

$$\rho_m(r) + k^2 q(r) \int_0^\infty K(r,t) \rho_m(t) \,\mathrm{d}t = -k^2 q(r) f_m(r).$$
(13)

After ρ_m is determined, u_m can be obtained by integration against the kernel K(r,t) defined in (11).

Remark 2.3. From (13) it is clear that the support of ρ_m is contained in the support of q.

2.3 Scattering matrix formulation

In this section we define the scattering matrices, incoming expansion coefficients, and outgoing expansion coefficients. Additionally, we provide expressions relating the expansion coefficients and scattering matrices on two adjacent disjoint intervals to the expansion coefficients and scattering matrices on their union. A similar formalism for more general two-point boundary value problems was developed in [7].

Given an interval A = [a, b] and a function $\rho \in L^2[0, \infty)$ we define the left and right outgoing expansion coefficients $\alpha_{\ell}(A)$ and $\alpha_r(A)$, respectively, by

$$\alpha_{\ell}(A) = \int_{A} J_{m}(kr)\rho_{m}(r)r\mathrm{d}r \tag{14}$$

$$\alpha_r(A) = -i\frac{\pi}{2} \int_A H_m(kr)\rho_m(r)r\mathrm{d}r.$$
(15)

Similarly, we define the left and right incoming expansion coefficients $\phi_{\ell}(A)$ and $\phi_r(A)$, respectively, by

$$\phi_{\ell}(A) = \int_0^a J_m(kr)\rho_m(r)r\mathrm{d}r,\tag{16}$$

$$\phi_r(A) = -i\frac{\pi}{2} \int_b^\infty H_m(kr)\rho_m(r)r\mathrm{d}r.$$
(17)

In addition, we let $F_A: L^2[a,b] \to L^2[a,b]$ denote the operator defined by

$$F_A(\rho)(r) = \rho(r) + k^2 q(r) \int_a^b K(r,t)\rho(t) \,\mathrm{d}t.$$
 (18)

Next, we define the mapping $V_A : [a, b] \to \mathbb{R}$ by

$$V_A(r) = -k^2 F_A^{-1}(qf)(r),$$
(19)

and the coefficients $\chi_J(A)$ and $\chi_H(A)$ by

$$\chi_J(A) = \int_A J_m(kr) V_A(r) \, r \, \mathrm{d}r \tag{20}$$

$$\chi_H(A) = -\frac{i\pi}{2} \int_A H_m(kr) V_A(r) r \,\mathrm{d}r.$$
⁽²¹⁾

Finally, we denote the restriction of $J_m(kr)$ and $-\frac{i\pi}{2}H_m(kr)$ to the interval A by $J|_A$ and $H|_A$, respectively, or simply by J and H, respectively, when there is no ambiguity.

The integral equation for ρ_m on an interval A = [a, b] can be written in terms of $\phi_{\ell}(A)$, $\phi_r(A)$, V_A and F_A , as shown in the following lemma. It also relates these quantities to the outgoing expansion coefficients of A, $\alpha_{\ell,r}(A)$.

Lemma 2.3. Suppose that m is a non-negative integer and that ρ_m satisfies the integral equation (13). For an interval A = [a,b] with $0 \le a < b < \infty$ suppose that $\alpha_\ell(A)$, $\alpha_r(A)$, $\phi_\ell(A)$, $\phi_r(A)$, $\chi_J(A)$ and $\chi_H(A)$ are the quantities defined in (14), (15),(16), (17), (20) and (21), respectively. Further suppose that $F_A : L^2[a,b] \to L^2[a,b]$ is the operator defined by (18) and V_A is the function defined by (19). Then

$$\rho_m(r) = -\phi_\ell(A)F_A^{-1}(H)(r) - \phi_r(A)F_I^{-1}(J)(r) + V_A(r).$$
(22)

Moreover,

$$\begin{pmatrix} \alpha_{\ell}(A) \\ \alpha_{r}(A) \end{pmatrix} = -\begin{pmatrix} \langle J, F_{A}^{-1}H \rangle_{A} & \langle J, F_{A}^{-1}J \rangle_{A} \\ \langle H, F_{A}^{-1}H \rangle_{A} & \langle H, F_{A}^{-1}J \rangle_{A} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \phi_{\ell}(I) \\ \phi_{r}(I) \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} \chi_{J}(A) \\ \chi_{H}(A) \end{pmatrix},$$
(23)

where $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle_I$ denotes the standard L^2 inner product restricted to A.

Definition 2.2. The scattering matrix S_A of the interval A is the mapping from the incoming expansion coefficients to the outgoing expansion coefficients in the absence of a source. Specifically, using (23) one finds that

$$S_{A} = - \begin{pmatrix} \langle J, F_{A}^{-1}H \rangle_{A} & \langle J, F_{A}^{-1}J \rangle_{A} \\ \langle H, F_{A}^{-1}H \rangle_{A} & \langle H, F_{A}^{-1}J \rangle_{A} \end{pmatrix}.$$
(24)

The following lemma relates the expansion coefficients on the union of two intervals to the expansion coefficients on each of the subintervals.

Lemma 2.4. Suppose that A = [a, b] and B = [b, c] for some $0 \le a < b < c < \infty$. Then

$$\alpha_{\ell}(A \cup B) = \alpha_{\ell}(A) + \alpha_{\ell}(B) \tag{25}$$

$$\alpha_r(A \cup B) = \alpha_r(A) + \alpha_r(B) \tag{26}$$

$$\phi_{\ell}(A \cup B) = \phi_{\ell}(A) \tag{27}$$

$$\phi_r(A \cup B) = \phi_r(B). \tag{28}$$

Moreover, if

$$L = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \text{ and } K_{AB} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & (S_A)_{1,1} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & (S_A)_{2,1} \\ (S_B)_{2,1} & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ (S_B)_{2,2} & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix},$$
(29)

then

$$S_{I\cup J} = L^T K_{AB}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} S_A & 0\\ 0 & S_B \end{pmatrix} L, \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{pmatrix} \chi_J(A \cup B)\\ \chi_H(A \cup B) \end{pmatrix} = L^T K_{AB}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} \chi_J(A)\\ \chi_H(A)\\ \chi_J(B)\\ \chi_H(B) \end{pmatrix}$$
(30)

•

Finally, if $\chi_J(A)$, $\chi_H(A)$, $\chi_J(B)$, $\chi_H(B)$, $\phi_{\ell,r}(A \cup B)$, S_A , S_B and $S_{A \cup B}$ are known then $\alpha_{\ell,r}(A)$, $\phi_{\ell,r}(A)$, $\alpha_{\ell,r}(B)$, and $\phi_{\ell,r}(B)$ can be determined via the following formulas

$$\begin{pmatrix} \alpha_{\ell}(A) \\ \alpha_{r}(A) \\ \alpha_{\ell}(B) \\ \alpha_{r}(B) \end{pmatrix} = K_{AB}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} S_{A} & 0 \\ 0 & S_{B} \end{pmatrix} L \begin{pmatrix} \phi_{\ell}(A \cup B) \\ \phi_{r}(A \cup B) \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} \chi_{J}(A) \\ \chi_{H}(A) \\ \chi_{J}(B) \\ \chi_{H}(B) \end{pmatrix}$$
(31)

$$\phi_{\ell}(A) = \phi_{\ell}(A \cup B) \tag{32}$$

$$\phi_r(A) = \phi_r(A \cup B) - \alpha_r(B) \tag{33}$$

$$\phi_{\ell}(B) = \phi_{\ell}(A \cup B) - \alpha_{\ell}(A) \tag{34}$$

$$\phi_r(B) = \phi_r(A \cup B). \tag{35}$$

Proof. From the definitions of $\phi_{\ell,r}$ it is clear that

$$\phi_{\ell}(A) = \phi_{\ell}(A \cup B), \tag{36}$$

$$\phi_{\ell}(B) = \phi_{\ell}(A \cup B) - \alpha_{\ell}(A), \tag{37}$$

$$\phi_r(A) = \phi_r(A \cup B) - \alpha_r(B), \tag{38}$$

$$\phi_r(B) = \phi_r(A \cup B) \tag{39}$$

Moreover, applying equation (23) to the intervals A and B yields

$$\begin{pmatrix} \alpha_{\ell}(A) \\ \alpha_{r}(A) \\ \alpha_{\ell}(B) \\ \alpha_{r}(B) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} S_{A} & 0 \\ 0 & S_{B} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \phi_{\ell}(A) \\ \phi_{r}(A) \\ \phi_{\ell}(B) \\ \phi_{r}(B) \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} \chi_{J}(A) \\ \chi_{H}(A) \\ \chi_{J}(B) \\ \chi_{H}(B) \end{pmatrix}.$$
(40)

Using identities (36)-(39) we obtain

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & (S_A)_{1,1} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & (S_A)_{2,1} \\ (S_B)_{2,1} & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ (S_B)_{2,2} & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \alpha_\ell(A) \\ \alpha_r(A) \\ \alpha_\ell(B) \\ \alpha_r(B) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} S_A & 0 \\ 0 & S_B \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} \phi_\ell(A \cup B) \\ \phi_r(A \cup B) \end{pmatrix} + \begin{pmatrix} \chi_J(A) \\ \chi_H(A) \\ \chi_J(B) \\ \chi_H(B) \end{pmatrix}$$

$$(41)$$

Defining

$$L = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}, \text{ and } K_{AB} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & (S_A)_{1,1} \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & (S_A)_{2,1} \\ (S_B)_{2,1} & 0 & 1 & 0 \\ (S_B)_{2,2} & 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix},$$
(42)

and substituting them into (41), we obtain

$$\begin{pmatrix} \alpha_{\ell}(A \cup B) \\ \alpha_{r}(A \cup B) \end{pmatrix} = L^{T} K_{AB}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} S_{A} & 0 \\ 0 & S_{B} \end{pmatrix} L \begin{pmatrix} \phi_{\ell}(A \cup B) \\ \phi_{r}(A \cup B) \end{pmatrix} + L^{T} K_{AB}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} \chi_{J}(A) \\ \chi_{H}(A) \\ \chi_{J}(B) \\ \chi_{H}(B) \end{pmatrix}$$
(43)

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Comparing with (23) it follows that

$$S_{A\cup B} = L^T K_{AB}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} S_A & 0\\ 0 & S_B \end{pmatrix} L, \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{pmatrix} \chi_J(A \cup B)\\ \chi_H(A \cup B) \end{pmatrix} = L^T K_{AB}^{-1} \begin{pmatrix} \chi_J(A)\\ \chi_H(A)\\ \chi_J(B)\\ \chi_H(B) \end{pmatrix}$$
(44)

3 The algorithm

In this section we describe an algorithm for solving the Helmholtz scattering problem from a radially-symmetric potential in two dimensions

$$\Delta u + k^2 (1 + q(|\mathbf{r}|)u = -k^2 q(||\mathbf{r}||)u_i(\mathbf{r})$$
(45)

where u_i is the incident field, q is supported on the interval [a, b], and the scattered field u satisfies the Sommerfeld radiation condition

$$\lim_{r \to \infty} \sqrt{r} \left[\frac{\partial}{\partial r} u(\mathbf{r}) - iku(\mathbf{r}) \right] = 0.$$
(46)

In the following it is assumed that the incident field satisfies the homogeneous Helmholtz equation

$$\Delta u_i + k^2 u_i = 0, \quad a \le |\mathbf{r}| \le b. \tag{47}$$

3.1 Description of the algorithm

For simplicity we describe the algorithm assuming that a = 0 and q is smooth, though the approach can be easily extended to the case where $a \neq 0$ and q is piecewise smooth. As input the algorithm takes an outer radius b, an accuracy ϵ , a frequency $k \in \mathbb{C}$, and functions which return the values of the incoming field u_i and the potential q. We note that q is required to be radially-symmetric but u_i is not. As output it returns the scattered field u_s to within a specified accuracy ϵ .

Algorithm 1.

Input: b, k, ϵ , q(r) and $u_i(x, y)$. Output: A function $u_s(x, y)$ valid for all $(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2$.

Step 1. Computing the Fourier coefficients of u_i : Sample u_i at 4000 equispaced points on the circle of radius R. Denote these values by \tilde{u}_j , j = 1, ..., 4000. Compute the FFT of \tilde{u}_j and compute the smallest integer M such that $|\tilde{u}_j| < \epsilon/10$ for all $j \in [M, 4000 - M]$. If no such M exists double the number of sampling points.

For each m = 0, ..., M, calculate ρ_m using the following procedure:

Step 2. Set i = 0, $R_0 = b$, $R_{\min} = \inf_{r>0} |J_m(rk)| < \epsilon/10$. While $R_i > R_{\min}$

- (a) Set $r = \max\{R_i \pi/k, R_{\min}\}$.
- (b) Set $J^* = \max_{[r,R_i]} |J_m(kr)|$, $H^* = \max_{[r,R_i]} |H_m(kr)|$, $q^* = \max_{[r,R_i]} |q(r)|$. Compute the first 48 coefficients in the Chebyshev expansions of q(r), $H_m(kr)$, $J_m(kr)$ on the interval R_i -r. Denote them by q_j^i , J_j^i and H_j^i respectively, where $j = 1, \ldots, 48$. Calculate

$$E := (R_i - r) \max_{j=13,\dots,48} \left\{ \frac{q_j^i}{q^*}, \frac{J_j^i}{J^*}, \frac{H_j^i}{H^*} \right\}$$

If $E > \epsilon/10$ then set $r = \frac{1}{2}(R_i + r)$ and repeat.

(c) For scattering from an external field set the *i*th source vector to be $f_j^i = J_m(kr_j)$ where r_j , j = 1, ..., 48 are the 48-point Chebyshev quadrature nodes translated and scaled to the interval $[r, R_i]$.

- (d) Set $I_i = [r, R_i]$ and discretize the operator F_I defined in equations (18) using the quadrature nodes r_1, \ldots, r_{48} .
- (e) Calculate V_{I_i} , S_{I_i} , $\alpha_{\ell}(I_i)$, $\alpha_r(I_i)$, $\chi_J(I_i)$ and $\chi_H(I_i)$ defined in (14),(15),(20), and (21) respectively.
- (f) Set i = i + 1 and $R_i = r$.

Let N denote the total number of intervals required.

- Step 3. Merging the intervals: starting from the outermost interval $[R_1, R_0]$ merge each interval using the results of Lemma 2.4. In particular, for each i = 1, ..., N compute and store the scattering matrices $S_{[R_i,R_0]}$, the expansion coefficients $\alpha_{\ell}([R_i,R_0])$, $\alpha_r([R_i,R_0])$ and the source coefficients $\chi_J([R_i,R_0]), \chi_H([R_i,R_0])$.
- Step 4. Given $\chi_J([R_N, R_0])$, and $\chi_H([R_N, R_0])$ starting from the innermost level compute the incoming expansion coefficients $\phi_\ell([R_i, R_{i-1}])$, $\phi_r([R_i, R_{i-1}])$ using the results of Lemma 2.4. Finally, on each interval $[R_i, R_{i-1}]$ obtain ρ_m via equation (22).
- Step 5. On each interval $I = [R_{i+1}, R_i]$, obtain the solution u_m via equation

$$u_m(r) = \frac{f_m(kb)}{J_m(kb)} [F_I \rho_m(r) - i\frac{\pi}{2}\phi_\ell(I)H_m(kr) + \phi_r(I)J_m(kr)].$$
(48)

Step 6. For m < 0 obtain the solution u_m via the equations (7) and (8).

Remark 3.1. The complexity of the above algorithm is $O(M \log M + \bar{N}M)$ where \bar{N} denotes the average number of discretization points per mode and grows like b/k for large k. For large M a significant amount of time is spent solely in computing values of the Bessel and Hankel functions $J_m(kr)$ and $H_m(kr)$, respectively. This computational cost can be dramatically reduced by using asymptotic formulae for $J_m(kr)$ and $H_m(kr)$ (see, for example, [1]) as well as non-oscillatory phase functions [4].

4 Numerical results

The algorithm described in Algorithm 1 which solves the two-dimensional scattering problem from radially-symmetric potentials was implemented in GFortran and experiments were run on a 2.7 GHz Apple laptop with 8 Gb RAM. Specifically, we consider scattering from a disk of radius 2π with the following potentials:

- 1. A Gaussian bump with potential $q(r) = e^{-r^2}$ (see Figure 2a)
- A random discontinuous media: 20 points are uniformly sampled from the interval [0, 2π]. At each such point the potential switches from 0 to 1 or vice versa (see Figure 3a)
- 3. An Eaton lens ([5]) with potential q satisfying the equation

$$1 + q(r) = \frac{2\pi}{\sqrt{1 + q(r)}r} + \sqrt{\left(\frac{2\pi}{\sqrt{1 + q(r)}r}\right)^2 - 1},$$

(see Figure 4a)

4. A Luneburg lens ([8]) with potential $q(r) = 1 - \frac{r^2}{4\pi^2}$, (see Figure 5a).

The incoming field is chosen to be one of the following two functions

1. An incoming plane wave:

$$f(\mathbf{r}) = \exp(ikx/2 + i\sqrt{3ky/2}),$$

where $\mathbf{r} = (x, y)$.

2. A Gaussian beam:

$$f(\mathbf{r}) = H_0 \left(k \sqrt{(x+16-8i)^2 + y^2} \right) e^{-7.859k},$$

where $\mathbf{r} = (x, y)$.

Potential \boldsymbol{q}	Source	Frequency k	Number of modes	Solve time (s)
Gaussian	plane wave	100	711	36.07
Random	plane wave	30	245	7.551
Eaton	Gaussian beam	30	233	6.684

Table 1: Numerical results for the interior (I) and exterior (E) Dirichlet problems.



Figure 1: Number of radial points versus mode number

In all experiments the accuracy ϵ was set to 10^{-13} . The number of modes needed and the total time per solve are summarized in Table 1. Plots of the magnitude of the field |u| are given in Figure 2b, Figure 3b, and Figure 4b. In order to demonstrate the accuracy of the solution we compute the error function $E : \mathbb{R}^2 \to [0, \infty)$ defined by

$$E(\mathbf{x}) = \left| \frac{1}{k^2} \Delta u(\mathbf{r}) + (1 + Q(\mathbf{r}))u(\mathbf{r}) \right|,\tag{49}$$

log plots of which are shown in Figure 2c, Figure 3c, and Figure 4c. Finally, Figure 1 shows the typical behavior of the number of spatial discretization nodes used as a function of the mode number m.

4.1 Time domain problems

In this section we present numerical illustrations of the application of Algorithm 1 to two-dimensional time-dependent scattering problems. For time-dependent scattering



(c) Error in the solution (\log_{10}) : $\log_{10}(|\Delta u + k^2(1 + q(||\mathbf{r}||))u|/k^2)$

Figure 2: Numerical results for the scattering of a plane wave from a Gaussian potential with a standard deviation of 1 at frequency k = 100.



uous medium.



(c) Error in the solution (\log_{10}) : $\log_{10}(|\Delta u + k^2(1+q(\mathbf{r}))u|/k^2)$ generated in extended precision

Figure 3: Numerical results for the scattering of a plane wave from a discontinuous potential with diameter 4π at a frequency of k = 30.



Figure 4: Numerical results for the scattering of a Gaussian beam from an Eaton lens with a diameter of 4π at a frequency of k = 30.

problems the displacement $u: \mathbb{R}^2 \times [0,\infty) \to \mathbb{C}$ satisfies the initial value problem

$$\Delta u(\mathbf{r},t) - (1+Q(\mathbf{r}))\frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2}u(\mathbf{r},t) = f(\mathbf{r},t)$$
(50)

$$u(\mathbf{r},0) = 0 \tag{51}$$

$$\frac{\partial}{\partial t}u(\mathbf{r},0) = 0. \tag{52}$$

In the following we assume that the potential $Q : \mathbb{R}^2 \to [q_0, q_1]$ is a radially-symmetric function compactly supported on a ball of radius *b*. Moreover, we assume that the source *f* has the following two properties:

- 1. $f(\mathbf{r}, t) = 0$ for all $\|\mathbf{r}\| \le b, t \in [0, \infty)$,
- 2. for all $\mathbf{r} \in \mathbb{R}^2$, $f(\mathbf{r}, t)$ is a C^{∞} function of t, compactly supported in some interval [0, T].

If $\tilde{u}(\mathbf{r}, k)$ denotes the Fourier transform of u with respect to time evaluated at frequency k,

$$\tilde{u}(\mathbf{r},k) = \frac{1}{(2\pi)^2} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-ikt} u(\mathbf{r},t) \,\mathrm{d}t,\tag{53}$$

then \tilde{u} satisfies the Helmholtz equation (see, for example, [3])

$$\Delta \tilde{u}(\mathbf{r},k) + k^2 (1+Q(\mathbf{r})) \tilde{u}(\mathbf{r},k) = \tilde{f}(\mathbf{r},k)$$
(54)

where \tilde{f} is the Fourier transform of the source f. Moreover, given \tilde{u} one can compute u via the inverse Fourier transform

$$u(\mathbf{r},t) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{ikt} \,\tilde{u}(\mathbf{r},k) \,\mathrm{d}k.$$
(55)

We observe that since f is smooth in time its Fourier transform decays rapidly with k. In particular, for some constant K depending on f the interval of integration $(-\infty, \infty)$ in (55) can be replaced by a finite interval [-K, K] with essentially no loss in accuracy. As an example to illustrate this approach we consider the problem of scattering from a Luneburg lens (see Figure 5a) with an incoming source f given by

$$f(\mathbf{r},t) = \sqrt{8}\,\delta(x-10)\delta(y-10)e^{-4(t-10)^2}$$

where $\mathbf{r} = (x, y)$. The solution was calculated by solving the problem at 516 frequencies in the interval [-16, 16]. The intervals [2, 16] and [-16, -2] were discretized using a 200-point Gauss-Legendre quadrature while the interval [-2, 2] was discretized using a custom generalized Gaussian quadrature.

5 Conclusion and future work

In this paper we described a fast, adapative, simple, and accurate method for computing the scattering from a radially-symmetric body in two dimensions. The algorithm is based on taking Fourier series in the angular variable and solving the resulting equations mode by mode using a fast adaptive solver based on scattering matrices. Numerical experiments were performed which demonstrate the performance of the algorithm. We observe that a similar approach can be employed for three-dimensional radially-symmetric scattering problems as well as for waveguides with constant cross-sectional parameters. Finally, a natural extension to this algorithm would be to collections of compactlysupported radially-symmetric scatterers, which arise in problems in optics and the study of wave propagation in disordered media.



(e) Magnitude of the field at t = 34 s (f) Magnitude of the field at t = 37 s Figure 5: Numerical results for the scattering of a wave from a Luneburg lens.

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