

telegraph equations solved with MFEM library using MFEM

Denis Lachapelle

June 2025

1 Introduction

This document explains the telegraph equations simulation using finite difference method based on MFEM library.

2 Theory, a second trial

V is approximated in H1 space and I in L2 space.

2.1 From Telegraph PDE to Matrix form

The telegraph equations are:

$$\frac{\partial V}{\partial x} + L \frac{\partial I}{\partial t} + RI = 0 \quad (1)$$

$$\frac{\partial I}{\partial x} + C \frac{\partial V}{\partial t} + GV = 0 \quad (2)$$

For now assumes a single line from points a to b.

Going to weak form using space H1 for V (ϕ) and L2 for I (ψ). Note the test functions span the entire domain and is zero on the border and the equations below have to be true for all test functions. Look at "element_finis.pdf" p. 42.

$$\int_{\Omega} \left(\frac{\partial V}{\partial x} + L \frac{\partial I}{\partial t} + RI \right) \phi_i = 0 \quad (3)$$

$$\int_{\Omega} \left(\frac{\partial I}{\partial x} + C \frac{\partial V}{\partial t} + GV \right) \psi_i = 0 \quad (4)$$

and then

$$\int_{\Omega} \frac{\partial V}{\partial x} \phi_i + \int_{\Omega} \left(L \frac{\partial I}{\partial t} + RI \right) \phi_i = 0 \quad (5)$$

$$\int_{\Omega} \frac{\partial I}{\partial x} \psi_i + \int_{\Omega} \left(C \frac{\partial V}{\partial t} + GV \right) \psi_i = 0 \quad (6)$$

Using integration by part on the first term...

$$\int_a^b u(x) v'(x) dx = \left[u(x) v(x) \right]_a^b - \int_a^b u'(x) v(x) dx \quad (7)$$

Each equations becomes ...

$$\left[\phi_i V \right]_a^b - \int_{\Omega} \left(V \frac{\partial \phi_i}{\partial x} \right) + \int_{\Omega} \left(L \frac{\partial I}{\partial t} + RI \right) \phi_i = 0 \quad (8)$$

$$\left[\psi_i I \right]_a^b - \int_{\Omega} \left(I \frac{\partial \psi_i}{\partial x} \right) + \int_{\Omega} \left(C \frac{\partial V}{\partial t} + GV \right) \psi_i = 0 \quad (9)$$

Then we approximate V and I, V(x) by

$$V(x, t) = \sum_j V_j(t) \phi_j(x) \quad (10)$$

and I(x) by

$$I(x, t) = \sum_j I_j(t) \psi_j(x) \quad (11)$$

Equations (8) becomes ...

$$\left[\phi_i \sum_j V_j(t) \phi_j(x) \right]_a^b - \int_{\Omega_i} \sum_j V_j \phi_j \frac{\partial \phi_i}{\partial x} + L \int_{\Omega_i} \frac{\partial}{\partial t} \left[\sum_j I_j \psi_j \right] \phi_i + R \int_{\Omega_i} \sum_j I_j \psi_j \phi_i = 0 \quad (12)$$

Assume $\frac{\partial I}{\partial t}$ is constant on each element so we can exclude $\frac{\partial I}{\partial t}$ from inside the integral and interchange the integral and summation.

$$\left[\phi_i \sum_j V_j(t) \phi_j(x) \right]_a^b - \sum_j V_j \int_{\Omega_i} \phi_j \frac{\partial \phi_i}{\partial x} + L \sum_j \frac{\partial I_j}{\partial t} \int_{\Omega_i} \psi_j \phi_i + R \sum_j I_j \int_{\Omega_i} \psi_j \phi_i = 0 \quad (13)$$

and equation 9 becomes ...

$$\left[\psi_i \sum_j I_j(t) \psi_j(x) \right]_a^b - \sum_j I_j \int_{\Omega} \psi_j \frac{\partial \psi_i}{\partial x} + C \sum_j \frac{\partial V_j}{\partial t} \int_{\Omega} \phi_j \psi_i + G \sum_j V_j \int_{\Omega} \phi_j \psi_i = 0 \quad (14)$$

So now we have two equations (13) and (14) with unknown $V_j(t)$ and $I_j(t)$.

The term $\left[\phi_i \sum_j V_j(t) \phi_j(x) \right]_a^b$ is $\phi_{N-1}(b)V(b, t) - \phi_0(a)V(a, t)$.

The term $\left[\psi_i \sum_j I_j(t) \psi_j(x) \right]_a^b$ is $\psi_{N-1}(b)I(b, t) - \psi_0(a)I(a, t)$.

The j span the trial functions (Approximating Functions) and the i span the elements. The equations can be converted in matrix form...

$$\phi_i(b)V(b, t) - \phi_i(a)V(a, t) - S_V V + L M_V \frac{\partial I}{\partial t} + R M_V I == 0 \quad (15)$$

$$\psi_i(b)I(b, t) - \psi_i(a)I(a, t) - S_I I + C M_I \frac{\partial V}{\partial t} + G M_I V == 0 \quad (16)$$

Where ...

$$S_V = \int_{\Omega} \phi_j \frac{\partial \phi_i}{\partial x}$$

dimensions VDOFxVDOF

$$M_V = \int_{\Omega} \psi_j \phi_i$$

dimension VDOFxIDOF

$$S_I = \int_{\Omega} \psi_j \frac{\partial \psi_i}{\partial x}$$

dimension IDOFxIDOF

$$M_I = \int_{\Omega} \phi_j \psi_i$$

dimension IDOFxVDOF

We can then isolate $LM_V \frac{\partial I}{\partial t}$ and $CM_I \frac{\partial V}{\partial t}$ on the right.

$$LM_V \frac{\partial I}{\partial t} = -RM_V I + S_V V - \phi_i(b)V(b, t) + \phi_i(a)V(a, t) \quad (17)$$

$$CM_I \frac{\partial V}{\partial t} = -GM_I V + S_I I - \psi_i(b)I(b, t) + \psi_i(a)I(a, t) \quad (18)$$

The combine block matrix will be ...

$$\begin{bmatrix} CM_I & 0 \\ 0 & LM_V \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial V}{\partial t} \\ \frac{\partial I}{\partial t} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -GM_I & S_I \\ S_V & -RM_V \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} V \\ I \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} -Fi \\ -Fv \end{bmatrix} \quad (19)$$

For the source V_s R_s , F_i shall have element 0 ($x=a$) $-\psi_i(a)I(a, t)$ where $I(a, t)$ is $\frac{V_s - V_0}{R_s}$ so it becomes $-\psi_i(a)\frac{V_s - V_0}{R_s}$ and split in two $-\psi_i(a)\frac{V_s}{R_s} + \psi_i(a)\frac{V_0}{R_s}$. The term in V_s is a forcing function and need to be an added linear form (column vector) in place of F_i . The term in V_0 shall be assemble as a linear form and added to A_{00} row 0.

Just rewrite the equation with named submatrix.

$$\begin{bmatrix} CM_I & 0 \\ 0 & LM_V \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial V}{\partial t} \\ \frac{\partial I}{\partial t} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} B0 \\ B1 \end{bmatrix} \quad (20)$$

The equations are then independants:

$$CM_I \frac{\partial V}{\partial t} = B0 \quad (21)$$

$$LM_V \frac{\partial I}{\partial t} = B1 \quad (22)$$

These two equations shall be solved separately. The first one is overdetermined while the second is underdetermined.

$$A^T A x = A^T b$$

DL250625: je suis bloqué la système ne donne pas de bon résultats, et je n'arrive pas à faire un preconditionner. Je dois prendre un break.

Je retourne avec H1 et L2 puis je vais demander de l'aide sur mfem/issues.

DL250709: New approach, I will work in 2D one dimensions being x and the other being time, so no need for runge kuta.

2.2 Source Boundary Condition

To add the voltage source V_s with R_s we should add the current I caused by $(V_s - V_a)/R_s$ to V_a .

Firstly add the current source caused by V_s/R_s , so to the rhs node vector element 0 of I add the contribution V_s/R_s . Units are OK because V_s/R_s gives Ampere.

Secondly add to the coupling matrix (RHS matrix) the contribution of R_s to account for V_0 caused current. So to I_0 row (A10) add to first element $-\frac{1}{R_s}$. Physical unit check; S_V is a weight without unit so $S_V V$ are Volt and $\frac{V}{R_s}$ unit is Volt.

$$\begin{bmatrix} CM & 0 \\ 0 & LM \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial V}{\partial t} \\ \frac{\partial I}{\partial t} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -GM & S_I \\ S_V & -RM \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ -\frac{1}{R_s} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots \end{bmatrix} \left[\begin{bmatrix} V \\ I \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \frac{V_s}{R_s} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \right] \quad (23)$$

2.3 Load Boundary Condition

Add to the coupling matrix the current caused by R_l . This will be the element row $\text{nbrDof}-1$, col $\text{nbrDof}-1$ of S_V .

$$\begin{bmatrix} CM & 0 \\ 0 & LM \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \frac{\partial V}{\partial t} \\ \frac{\partial I}{\partial t} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} -GM & S_I \\ S_V & -RM \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ -\frac{1}{R_s} \dots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ \dots -\frac{1}{R_L} & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} V \\ I \end{bmatrix} + \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ \frac{V_S}{R_s} \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \quad (24)$$

Let check the units to make sure the BC make sense.

2.4 C++/MFEM Implementation

The software is name stltferk4.cpp.

Instead of using the MFEM class to add BC I modify the sparse matrix directly.

2.4.1 MV Matrix

The MV matrix is made this way:

```
MV = new MixedBilinearForm(IFESpace, VFESpace);
MV->AddDomainIntegrator(new MixedScalarMassIntegrator(one));
```

which made the following operator $(\lambda u, v)$.

2.4.2 MI Matrix

```
MI = new MixedBilinearForm(VFESpace, IFESpace);
MI->AddDomainIntegrator(new MixedScalarMassIntegrator(one));
```

2.4.3 S_V Matrix

The S_V Matrix is made with:

```
SV = new BilinearForm(VFESpace);
SV->AddDomainIntegrator(new DerivativeIntegrator(one, 0));
```

Which one implement the following operator: $(\lambda \frac{du}{dx_i}, v)$

2.4.4 S_I Matrix

The S_I Matrix is made with:

```
SI = new BilinearForm(IFESpace);
```

```
SI->AddDomainIntegrator(new DerivativeIntegrator(one, 0));
```

Which one implement the following operator: $(\lambda \frac{du}{dx_i}, v)$