

Scattering from a PEC Wedge

Jake W. Liu

December 2, 2025

Reading: Ufimtsev. *Fundamentals of the Physical Theory of Scattering*.
John Wiley & Sons, 2014.
Section 2.1.

Scattering from a PEC Wedge

2-D wave equation with current sources ($e^{i\omega t}$ convention):

$$(\nabla^2 + k^2) E_z = i\omega\mu J_z, \quad (1)$$

$$(\nabla^2 + k^2) H_z = -i\omega\epsilon M_z. \quad (2)$$

Define the Green function:

$$(\nabla^2 + k^2) G = -\delta(\rho - \rho', \phi - \phi'), \quad (3)$$

then

$$E_z = \int_S -i\omega\mu J_z(\rho', \phi') G ds', \quad (4)$$

$$H_z = \int_S i\omega\epsilon M_z(\rho', \phi') G ds'. \quad (5)$$

Scattering from a PEC Wedge

Geometry: Infinite wedge with faces $\phi = 0$ and $\phi = n\pi$, line source I_0 at (ρ', ϕ') , 2-D ($\partial/\partial z \equiv 0$).

Boundary conditions (PEC):

$$G_s = 0 \quad (\text{soft} / \text{TM: } E_z), \quad (6)$$

$$\frac{\partial G_h}{\partial n} = 0 \quad (\text{hard} / \text{TE: } H_z). \quad (7)$$

Solution:

$$E_z = -i\omega\mu I_0 G_s, \quad (8)$$

$$H_z = i\omega\epsilon I_0 G_h. \quad (9)$$

Scattering from a PEC Wedge

Laplacian in polar coordinates:

$$\nabla^2 = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \rho^2} + \frac{1}{\rho} \frac{\partial}{\partial \rho} + \frac{1}{\rho^2} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial \phi^2}. \quad (10)$$

Use $G = R(\rho)\Phi(\phi)$:

$$\frac{d^2 R}{dx^2} + \frac{1}{x} \frac{dR}{dx} + \left(1 - \frac{\nu^2}{x^2}\right) R = 0, \quad x = k\rho, \quad (11)$$

$$\frac{d^2 \Phi}{d\phi^2} + \nu^2 \Phi = 0. \quad (12)$$

Soft (Dirichlet) faces $\phi = 0, n\pi$:

$$\Phi = \sin(\nu\phi), \quad \nu = \frac{m}{n}, \quad m = 1, 2, \dots \quad (13)$$

Hard (Neumann) faces:

$$\Phi = \cos(\nu\phi), \quad \nu = \frac{m}{n}, \quad m = 0, 1, 2, \dots \quad (14)$$

Scattering from a PEC Wedge

Radial solutions of (11):

$$R = \begin{cases} J_\nu(k\rho), \\ H_\nu^{(2)}(k\rho) \end{cases} \quad (15)$$

Only Bessel functions $J_\nu(k\rho)$ with positive indices $\nu \geq 0$ remain finite at $\rho = 0$, and are thus suitable for $\rho \leq \rho'$. Hankel functions are used for $\rho \geq \rho'$, as they satisfy Sommerfeld's radiation condition at infinity ($\rho \rightarrow \infty$):

$$\lim_{\rho \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{\rho} \left(\frac{dG}{d\rho} + ik G \right) = 0. \quad (16)$$

The solution can be written as

$$G_s = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} a_m \begin{cases} J_\nu(k\rho) H_\nu^{(2)}(k\rho') \sin \nu\phi' \sin \nu\phi, & \rho \leq \rho', \\ J_\nu(k\rho') H_\nu^{(2)}(k\rho) \sin \nu\phi' \sin \nu\phi, & \rho \geq \rho'. \end{cases} \quad (17)$$

$$G_h = \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} b_m \begin{cases} J_\nu(k\rho) H_\nu^{(2)}(k\rho') \cos \nu\phi' \cos \nu\phi, & \rho \leq \rho', \\ J_\nu(k\rho') H_\nu^{(2)}(k\rho) \cos \nu\phi' \cos \nu\phi, & \rho \geq \rho', \end{cases} \quad (18)$$

The solutions are constructed so that they satisfy the boundary conditions and are reciprocal under $(\rho, \phi) \leftrightarrow (\rho', \phi')$ (interchanging source and observation).

Scattering from a PEC Wedge

To find the coefficients a_m and b_m , Green's identity over region S bounded by L is applied:

$$\oint_L \partial_n G dl = \int_S \nabla^2 G ds, \quad ds = \rho d\rho d\phi. \quad (19)$$

Using

$$\nabla^2 G = -k^2 G - \delta(\rho - \rho', \phi - \phi'), \quad (20)$$

and shrinking the contour around (ρ', ϕ') gives

$$\begin{aligned} & \int_{\phi' - \psi}^{\phi' + \psi} \left[\partial_\rho G|_{\rho' + 0} - \partial_\rho G|_{\rho' - 0} \right] \rho' d\phi \\ &= - \int_{\phi' - \psi}^{\phi' + \psi} d\phi \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \int_{\rho' - \varepsilon}^{\rho' + \varepsilon} \delta(\rho - \rho', \phi - \phi') \rho d\rho. \end{aligned} \quad (21)$$

Scattering from a PEC Wedge

Polar delta:

$$\delta(\rho - \rho', \phi - \phi') = \frac{1}{\rho} \delta(\rho - \rho') \delta(\phi - \phi'). \quad (22)$$

Hence

$$\int_{\phi' - \psi}^{\phi' + \psi} \left[\partial_{\rho} G|_{\rho' + 0} - \partial_{\rho} G|_{\rho' - 0} \right] \rho' d\phi = - \int_{\phi' - \psi}^{\phi' + \psi} \delta(\phi - \phi') d\phi. \quad (23)$$

The above is valid for arbitrary ψ . This is possible if the integrands of both side are equal:

$$\partial_{\rho} G|_{\rho' + 0} - \partial_{\rho} G|_{\rho' - 0} = \frac{-1}{\rho'} \delta(\phi - \phi'). \quad (24)$$

Scattering from a PEC Wedge

Sine orthogonality (similar for cos):

$$\int_0^{n\pi} \sin \nu \phi \sin \nu_t \phi d\phi = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{2} n\pi, & m = t, \\ 0, & m \neq t, \end{cases} \quad (25)$$

Consider the soft case first. Apply (24) to the (17), multiply $\sin \nu_t \phi$ ($\nu_t = t/n$), and integrate over ϕ from 0 to $n\pi$ yields:

$$k\rho' \frac{n\pi}{2} a_m \left[J_\nu(k\rho') \frac{d}{d(k\rho')} H_\nu^{(2)}(k\rho') - H_\nu^{(2)}(k\rho') \frac{d}{d(k\rho')} J_\nu(k\rho') \right] = -1. \quad (26)$$

Wronskian:

$$W[J_\nu(x), H_\nu^{(2)}(x)] = J_\nu(x) H_\nu^{(2)'}(x) - H_\nu^{(2)}(x) J_\nu'(x) = -\frac{2i}{\pi x}. \quad (27)$$

Scattering from a PEC Wedge

Therefore

$$a_m = -\frac{i}{n}. \quad (28)$$

Similarly, for the hard case:

$$b_m = -\varepsilon_m \frac{i}{n}, \quad \varepsilon_0 = \frac{1}{2}, \quad \varepsilon_{m \geq 1} = 1. \quad (29)$$

Thus, using a more compact notation, the solutions are written as

$$G_s = -\frac{i}{n} \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} J_{\nu}(k\rho_{<}) H_{\nu}^{(2)}(k\rho_{>}) \sin \nu\phi' \sin \nu\phi. \quad (30)$$

$$G_h = -\varepsilon_m \frac{i}{n} \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} J_{\nu}(k\rho_{<}) H_{\nu}^{(2)}(k\rho_{>}) \cos \nu\phi' \cos \nu\phi. \quad (31)$$

where $\rho_{<} = \min(\rho, \rho')$ and $\rho_{>} = \max(\rho, \rho')$.

Scattering from a PEC Wedge

Since

$$\sin \nu \phi' \sin \nu \phi = \frac{1}{2} [\cos \nu(\phi - \phi') - \cos \nu(\phi + \phi')]$$

and

$$\cos \nu \phi' \cos \nu \phi = \frac{1}{2} [\cos \nu(\phi - \phi') + \cos \nu(\phi + \phi')]$$

and noted that when $m = 0 \implies \sin \nu \phi' \sin \nu \phi = 0$, thus,

$$G_{s,h} = -\varepsilon_m \frac{i}{2n} \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} J_{\nu}(k\rho_{<}) H_{\nu}^{(2)}(k\rho_{>}) [\cos \nu(\phi - \phi') \mp \cos \nu(\phi + \phi')]. \quad (32)$$

Scattering from a PEC Wedge

Transition to plane-wave excitation ($k\rho' \rightarrow \infty$):

$$H_{\nu}^{(2)}(k\rho') \approx \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi k\rho'}} e^{-i(k\rho' - \pi/4 - \nu\pi/2)} \quad (33)$$

Then

$$\begin{aligned} G_{s,h} &= -\varepsilon_m \frac{i}{n} \sqrt{\frac{1}{2\pi k\rho'}} e^{-i(k\rho' - \pi/4)} \\ &\quad \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} J_{\nu}(k\rho) i^{\nu} [\cos \nu(\phi - \phi') \mp \cos \nu(\phi + \phi')] \\ &= -i \sqrt{\frac{i}{2\pi k\rho'}} e^{-ik\rho'} \Psi_{s,h}(k\rho), \end{aligned} \quad (34)$$

where

$$\Psi_{s,h}(k\rho) = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{m=0}^{\infty} \varepsilon_m J_{\nu}(k\rho) i^{\nu} [\cos \nu(\phi - \phi') \mp \cos \nu(\phi + \phi')]. \quad (35)$$