

# A verification procedure for environmental acoustic codes

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- 1 Code verification
- 2 Geometrical spreading
- 3 Ground reflection
- 4 Scattering by a circular obstacle
- 5 Conclusion

# Outline

## 1 Code verification

# Introduction

**Verification and Validation (V&V):** checking that a code **returns the correct value for a given application.**

Criteria for code assessment in order of increasing rigor [1]:

- 1 **expert judgment:** e.g. spectrum overlapping (it fits!),
- 2 **error quantification:** comparison with a reference,
- 3 **consistency/convergence:** behavior of the solution,
- 4 **order of accuracy:** rate of convergence.

[1] P. Knupp, K. Salari, Verification of Computer Codes in Computational Science and Engineering, Chapman and Hall/CRC, Boca Raton, FL, 2003.

# Definitions

- **Verification:** process of assessing software correctness and numerical accuracy of the solution to a given mathematical model [2].
- **Validation:** process of assessing the physical accuracy of a mathematical model based on comparisons between computational results and experimental data [2].

[2] W. L. Oberkampf and C. J. Roy. *Verification and Validation in Scientific Computing*, Cambridge University Press, 2010.

# Errors

## Absolute errors:

$$\text{error}(x, y, t) = \left| \hat{p}_{i,j}^n - p_{(x,y,t)}^{\text{exact}} \right| \quad (1)$$

- Verification = simplified cases,
- use of analytical solutions  $\rightarrow p_{(x,y,z,t)}^{\text{exact}}$  is known.

## Norms (continuous) - 2D:

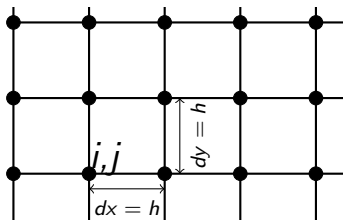
$$\|\text{error}\|_q = \left( \int_{x,y} |\text{error}(x, y, t = t_n)|^q dx dy \right)^{1/q} \quad (2)$$

# Norms

## Norms (discretized):

$$\|\text{error}\|_q = \left( \sum_{i,j} |\text{error}_{i,j}^n|^q h^2 \right)^{1/q}, \quad (3)$$

$$\|\text{ERROR}\|_q = \left( \sum_{i,j} |\text{ERROR}_{i,j}^{f_n}|^q h^2 \right)^{1/q}. \quad (4)$$

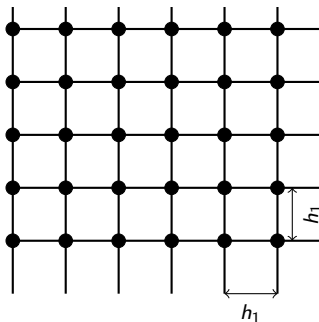


**2D rectilinear grid**

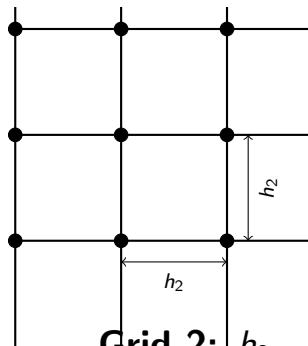
# Order of accuracy

Observed order of accuracy:

$$p_{\text{obs}} = \frac{\log_{10}(\|\text{error}\|_q(h_1)/\|\text{error}\|_q(h_2))}{\log_{10}(h_1/h_2)} \quad (5)$$



**Grid 1:**  $h_1$



**Grid 2:**  $h_2$



# A verification procedure

## The 5 steps of the procedure:

- ① use of an **initial condition** or a well **known signal**,
- ② calculation of the **absolute error**,
- ③ **repetition of step 2** for at least five spatial steps,
- ④ calculation of the spatial **norms**,
- ⑤ **convergence rate** and **observed order of accuracy**.

# Test cases

*'... all numerical wave models have advantages and disadvantages concerning the computational efficiency and the **accuracy** of the results. And **this strongly depends on the case study chosen...** ' [3]*

[3] M. Vorländer, *Computer simulations in room acoustics: Concepts and uncertainties*, The Journal of the Acoustical Society of America, 2012.

## 5 test cases:

- Laplace eigenfunction,
- geometrical spreading,
- acoustic modes,
- ground reflection,
- scattering by a circle.

## 3 numerical methods (2D):

- Finite Difference on Helmholtz (**FDH**),
- Finite Difference Time Domain (**FDTD**),
- Transmission Line Matrix (**TLM**).

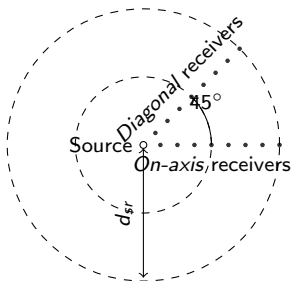
# Outline

## 2 Geometrical spreading

# Geometry of the simulations

## Simulations setup:

- Spatial steps:  $h = [0.01, 0.02, 0.04, 0.08, 0.16]$  m,
- Time steps:  $T_s = [1.25e-05, 2.50e-05, 5.00e-05, 1.00e-04, 2.00e-04]$  s,
- Simulation length:  $T_{\text{sim}} = 0.06$  s,
- Source signal: Gaussian pulse with  $f_{\text{max}} = 2000$  Hz.



Geometry of the case 1: the maximal distance between the source and the receiver is  $d_{sr} = 4$  m, with 8 receivers per axis.

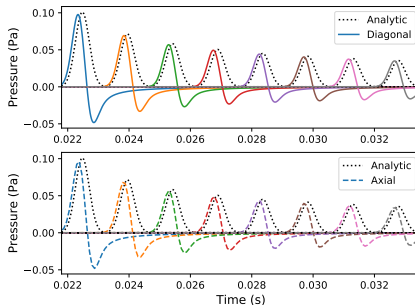
# Formulation

**Gaussian source term:**

$$\hat{f}_{ij}^n = \exp \left( -\pi^2 (0.5fnT_s - 1)^2 \right), \quad (6)$$

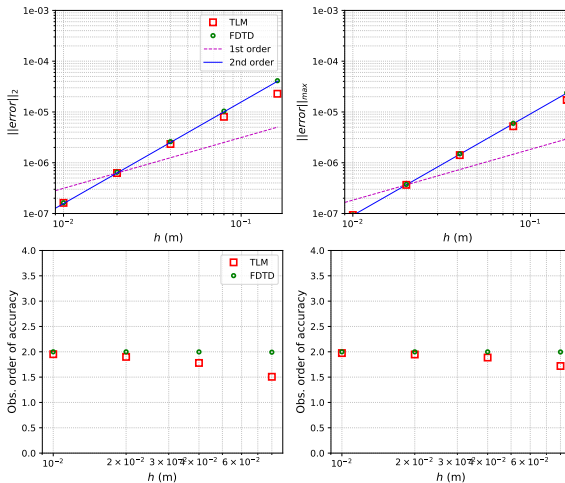
**Pressure at receivers:**

$$\hat{p}_{ij}^n = 1/\sqrt{d_{sr}} \exp \left( -\pi^2 (0.5f(nT_s - d_{sr}/c) - 1)^2 \right). \quad (7)$$



Time signals for the FDTD compared to analytic.

# Results



Two-norm and max-norm of the absolute error (top) and the corresponding observed orders of accuracy (bottom) for case 2, using the FDTD and the TLM methods.

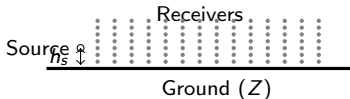
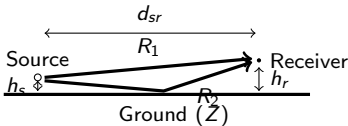
# Outline

## 3 Ground reflection

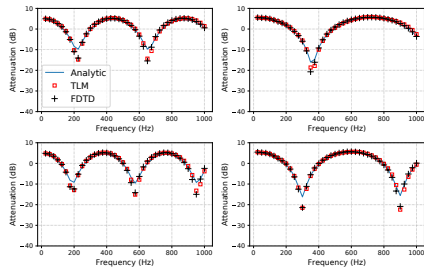
# Geometry

## Simulations setup:

- Ground: perfectly reflecting,
- Spatial steps:  $h = [0.01, 0.02, 0.04, 0.08, 0.16]$  m,
- Time steps:  $T_s = [1.25e-05, 2.50e-05, 5.00e-05, 1.00e-04, 2.00e-04]$  s,
- Simulation length:  $T_{\text{sim}} = 0.04$  s,
- Source signal: Gaussian pulse with  $f_{\text{max}} = 2000$  Hz.



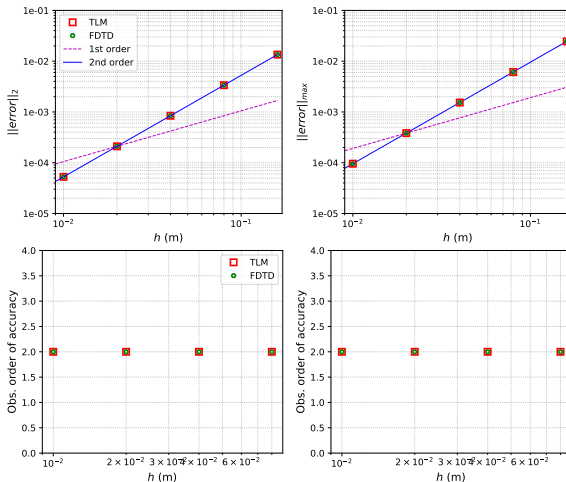
Geometry of the simulation with a total of 112 receivers.



Attenuation relative to free-field propagation for 4 receiver positions.



# Results



Two-norm and max-norm of the absolute error (top) and the corresponding observed orders of accuracy (bottom) for case 4, using the FDTD and the TLM methods.

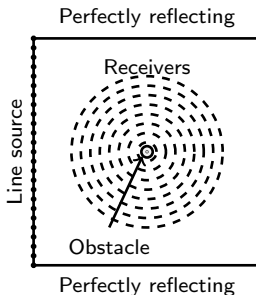
# Outline

## 4 Scattering by a circular obstacle

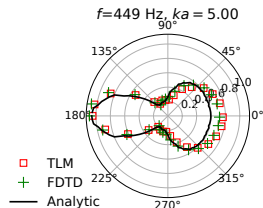
# Geometry

## Simulations setup:

- Lengths:  $L_x = 12$  m and  $L_y = 12$  m.
- Spatial steps:  $h = [0.0213, \dots, 0.0695]$  m,
- Simulation length:  $T_{\text{sim}} = 0.08$  s,
- Source signal: Gaussian pulse with  $f_{\text{max}} = 2000$  Hz, line source.

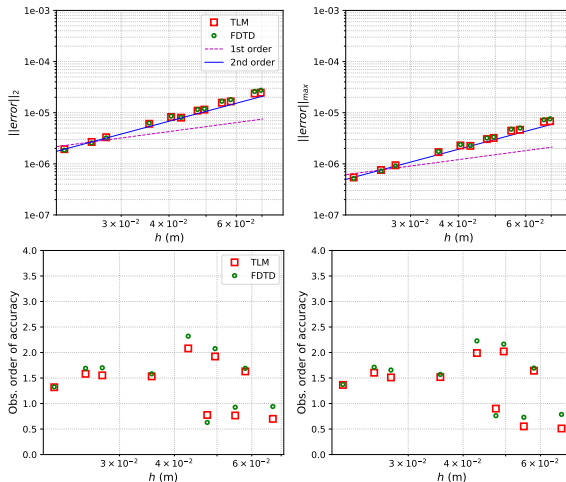


Geometry of the numerical domain.



Polar diagrams of the scattered fields for  $f = 449$  Hz.

# Results



Two-norm and max-norm of the absolute error (top) and their observed orders of accuracy (bottom) for case 5, with  $f = 449$  Hz.

# Outline

## 5 Conclusion

# Conclusion

Numerical methods have been **verified** for several **test cases** related to outdoor sound propagation using:

- **grid convergence study,**
- **convergence rate,**
- **order of accuracy.**



**All codes available at:**

[https://github.com/pchobeau/sinecity\\_testcases](https://github.com/pchobeau/sinecity_testcases)



**Test cases pushed on the benchmarks EAA webpage:**

<https://eaa-bench.mec.tuwien.ac.at/main/>

# Future work

- verification procedure **as a function of frequency**,
- increase of the complexity: **3D** and **additional cases** (meteo, impedance models, noise barriers...),
- **validation** procedure using measurement results ('real world'),
- development of a 'user friendly' **online tool** (e.g. use of java script for online calculations).



**All codes available at:**

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**Thanks for your attention.**

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