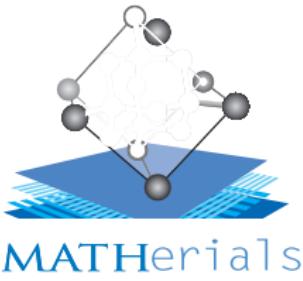




École des Ponts  
ParisTech



# Effective Approximation for Elliptic PDEs with Highly Oscillating Coefficients

**Simon Ruget**

Joint work with Claude Le Bris and Frédéric Legoll

École des Ponts ParisTech & Inria

ECCOMAS 2024

June 3<sup>rd</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024

# Outline

- 1 An inverse multiscale problem
- 2 Recovering an effective coefficient

# Inverse problem

Our study focuses on **inverse problems** for PDEs.

Consider an equation of the type

$$\mathcal{L}u = f.$$

- Is it possible to reconstruct the operator  $\mathcal{L}$  (namely its coefficients) from the knowledge of some solutions  $u$  ?
- Can other (coarser) observables be used to reconstruct  $\mathcal{L}$  ?

# Inverse multiscale problem

Our study focuses on inverse problems for **multiscale** PDEs:

$$\mathcal{L}_\varepsilon u_\varepsilon = f.$$

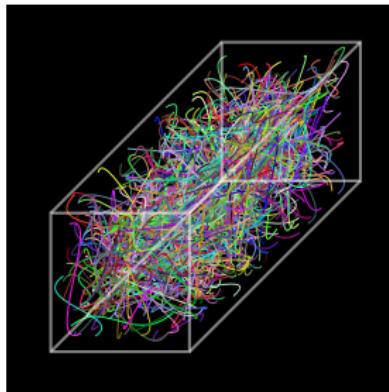


Figure 1: Scheme of a composite material.

Determining the fine-scale structure from measurements is an ill-posed problem... but identifying effective parameters is possible !

# Homogenization theory as a guideline

Consider the prototypical linear equation oscillating at the **small length scale  $\varepsilon$** ,

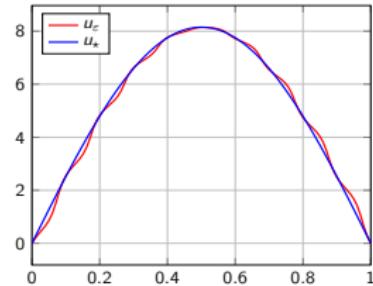
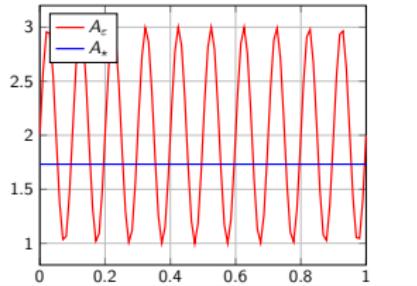
$$\mathcal{L}_\varepsilon u_\varepsilon = -\operatorname{div}(A_\varepsilon \nabla u_\varepsilon) = f \text{ in } \Omega, \quad u_\varepsilon = 0 \text{ on } \partial\Omega, \quad (1)$$

with  $A_\varepsilon(\cdot) = A^{\operatorname{per}}(\cdot/\varepsilon)$  a bounded coercive coefficient.

Homogenization<sup>1</sup> assesses the existence of a limit equation when  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ ,

$$\mathcal{L}_* u_* = -\operatorname{div}(A_* \nabla u_*) = f \text{ in } \Omega, \quad u_* = 0 \text{ on } \partial\Omega, \quad (2)$$

with  $A_*$  an **effective** constant coefficient.



<sup>1</sup> see e.g. A. Bensoussan, J.-L. Lions, G. Papanicolaou, *Asymptotic Analysis for Periodic Structures*, 1978.

# Building an effective coefficient

Consider the multiscale diffusion problem (3)

$$\mathcal{L}_\varepsilon u_\varepsilon = -\operatorname{div}(A_\varepsilon \nabla u_\varepsilon) = f \text{ in } \Omega, \quad u_\varepsilon = 0 \text{ on } \partial\Omega. \quad (3)$$

From the knowledge of *observables* (to be explicated latter) associated to solutions  $u_\varepsilon$  for various r.h.s.  $f$ , our aim is to propose a **numerical methodology** to build an **effective operator**  $\bar{\mathcal{L}}$  approaching  $\mathcal{L}_\varepsilon$ .

Our strategy

- is inspired by homogenization theory,
- does not rely on classical hypothesis for homogenization (such as periodicity) which may be too restrictive in practical situations,
- is valid outside the regime of homogenization (i.e.  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ ),
- requires only coarse scale prior information about the underlying system,
- is designed to get satisfying approximation of  $u_\varepsilon$  (but not of  $\nabla u_\varepsilon$ ).

# Previous work [CRAS2013]<sup>2</sup>, [COCV2018]<sup>3</sup>

**Idea:** For  $\bar{A} \in \mathbb{R}_{\text{sym}}^{d \times d}$  a *constant* symmetric coefficient, denote  $\bar{u} = u(\bar{A}, f)$  the solution to

$$\bar{\mathcal{L}}\bar{u} = -\operatorname{div}(\bar{A}\nabla\bar{u}) = f \text{ in } \Omega, \quad \bar{u} = 0 \text{ on } \partial\Omega. \quad (4)$$

The quality of the approximation of  $\mathcal{L}_\varepsilon$  by  $\bar{\mathcal{L}}$  can be quantified through the functional

$$\sup_{\|f\|_{L^2(\Omega)}=1} \|u_\varepsilon(f) - u(\bar{A}, f)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}$$

Our strategy consists in **minimizing** the **worst case scenario** by looking at the optimization problem

$$\inf_{\bar{A} \in \mathbb{R}_{\text{sym}}^{d \times d}} \sup_{\|f\|_{L^2(\Omega)}=1} \|u_\varepsilon(f) - u(\bar{A}, f)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}$$

**Issue:** Using the **full solutions**  $u_\varepsilon$  **in the whole domain**  $\Omega$  as observables is **disproportionate** to estimate a  $d \times d$  constant symmetric matrix.

---

<sup>2</sup>C. Le Bris, F. Legoll, K. Li, CRAS, 2013.

<sup>3</sup>C. Le Bris, F. Legoll, S. Lemaire, ESAIM COCV, 2018.

# Exploiting the energy

Coarser observables can be considered, such as the energy

$$\mathcal{E}(A_\varepsilon, f) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} A_\varepsilon \nabla u_\varepsilon \cdot \nabla u_\varepsilon - \int_{\Omega} f u_\varepsilon. \quad (5)$$

Homogenization theory guarantees the convergence for energy:

$$\mathcal{E}(A_\varepsilon, f) \xrightarrow{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \mathcal{E}(A_*, f) \text{ in } \mathbb{R}, \quad (6)$$

with

$$\mathcal{E}(A_*, f) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Omega} A_* \nabla u_* \cdot \nabla u_* - \int_{\Omega} f u_*,$$

and where  $u_*$  still denotes the solution to

$$\mathcal{L}_* u_* = -\operatorname{div}(A_* \nabla u_*) = f \quad \text{in } \Omega, \quad u_* = 0 \text{ on } \partial\Omega.$$

## Our strategy

For  $\bar{A} \in \mathbb{R}_{\text{sym}}^{d \times d}$  a *constant* symmetric coefficient, denote  $\bar{u} = u(\bar{A}, f)$  the solution to

$$\bar{\mathcal{L}}\bar{u} = -\operatorname{div}(\bar{A}\nabla\bar{u}) = f \text{ in } \Omega, \quad \bar{u} = 0 \text{ on } \partial\Omega. \quad (7)$$

To assess the quality of the approximation of  $\mathcal{L}_\varepsilon$  by  $\bar{\mathcal{L}}$ , we use the functional

$$\sup_{\substack{\|f\|_{L^2(\Omega)}=1}} \|u_\varepsilon(f) - u(\bar{A}, f)\|_{L^2(\Omega)} \rightarrow \sup_{\|f\|_{L^2(\Omega)}=1} |\mathcal{E}(A_\varepsilon, f) - \mathcal{E}(\bar{A}, f)|$$

Our strategy consists in **minimizing** the **worst case scenario** by looking at the optimization problem

$$\inf_{\bar{A} \in \mathbb{R}_{\text{sym}}^{d \times d}} \sup_{\|f\|_{L^2(\Omega)}=1} |\mathcal{E}(A_\varepsilon, f) - \mathcal{E}(\bar{A}, f)|$$

# In the limit of separated scales

In the limit of vanishing  $\varepsilon$ , the problem leads to the homogenized diffusion coefficient  $A_*$ .

$$I_\varepsilon = \inf_{\overline{A} \in \mathbb{R}_{\text{sym}}^{d \times d}} \sup_{\|f\|_{L^2(\Omega)}=1} |\mathcal{E}(A_\varepsilon, f) - \mathcal{E}(\overline{A}, f)|. \quad (8)$$

## Proposition (Asymptotic consistency, periodic case)

For any sequence of quasi-minimizer  $(\overline{A}_\varepsilon^\#)_{\varepsilon>0}$ , i.e. sequence such that

$$I_\varepsilon \leq J_\varepsilon(\overline{A}_\varepsilon^\#) \leq I_\varepsilon + \text{err}(\varepsilon), \quad (9)$$

the following convergence holds:

$$\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \overline{A}_\varepsilon^\# = A_*. \quad (10)$$

# Computational procedure

To solve

$$I_\varepsilon = \inf_{\overline{A} \in \mathbb{R}_{\text{sym}}^{d \times d}} \sup_{\|f\|_{L^2(\Omega)}=1} (\mathcal{E}(A_\varepsilon, f) - \mathcal{E}(\overline{A}, f))^2.$$

Given some iterate  $\overline{A}^n$ ,

- ① Define  $f^n$ , the argsup to

$$\sup_{\substack{f \text{ s.t.} \\ \|f\|_{L^2(\Omega)} = 1}} (\mathcal{E}(A_\varepsilon, f) - \mathcal{E}(\overline{A}^n, f))^2.$$

In practice,  $\sup_{f \in L^2(\Omega)} \rightarrow \sup_{f \in V_P}$  on  $V_P = \text{Span}\{P \text{ r.h.s.}\}$ , with  $P \approx 3$ .

This step requires computing  $P$  solutions to a coarse PDE in order to get the energy  $\mathcal{E}(\overline{A}^n, \cdot)$ . We next solve a  $P \times P$  eigenvalue problem.

- ② Define  $\overline{A}^{n+1}$ , the optimizer to

$$\inf_{\overline{A} \in \mathbb{R}_{\text{sym}}^{d \times d}} (\mathcal{E}(A_\varepsilon, f^n) - \mathcal{E}(\overline{A}, f^n))^2.$$

In practice, we perform a gradient descent. The gradient can be expressed with solutions computed in step ①, hence no additional costs.

In practice, we perform  $N \approx 10$  iterations of both steps.

## Numerical results

We use an alternating direction algorithm in 2D ( $\Omega = [0, 1]^2$ ) using the coefficient

$$A_\varepsilon(x, y) = A^{\text{per}}\left(\frac{x}{\varepsilon}, \frac{y}{\varepsilon}\right) = \begin{pmatrix} 22 + 10 \times (\sin(2\pi \frac{x}{\varepsilon}) + \sin(2\pi \frac{y}{\varepsilon})) & 0 \\ 0 & 12 + 2 \times (\sin(2\pi \frac{x}{\varepsilon}) + \sin(2\pi \frac{y}{\varepsilon})) \end{pmatrix}.$$

for which

$$A_* \approx \begin{pmatrix} 19.3378 & 0 \\ 0 & 11.8312 \end{pmatrix}.$$

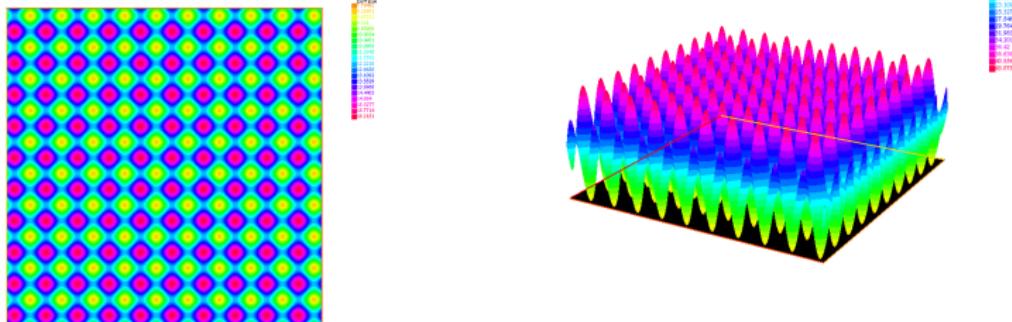


Figure 2: Components 11 and 22 of coefficient  $A_\varepsilon$ .

# Consistency with homogenization theory

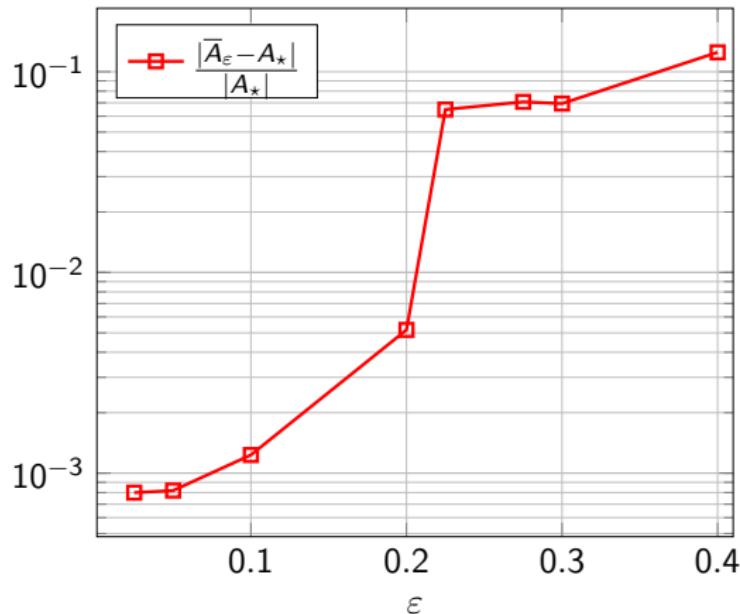


Figure 3: Error between the homogenized coefficient  $A_*$  and the effective coefficient  $\bar{A}_\varepsilon$  as a function of  $\varepsilon$ .

# Beyond the regime of separated scales

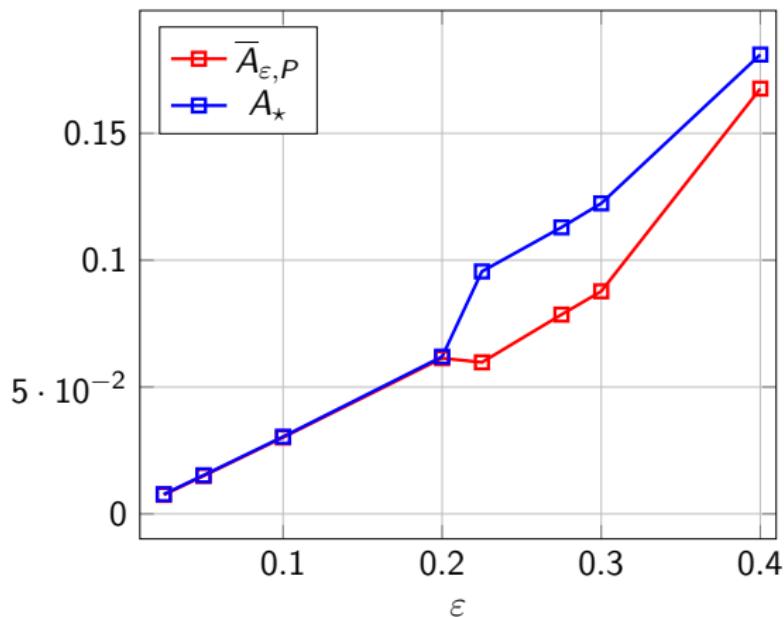


Figure 4: Error  $\frac{\sup_{f \in V_Q} \|u_\varepsilon(f) - u(\bar{A}_\varepsilon, P, f)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}}{\|u_\varepsilon(f)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}}$  as a function of  $\varepsilon$ . ( $\bar{A}_\varepsilon$  is computed with  $P \ll Q = 16$  r.h.s)

# Beyond periodicity

We now use a non periodic coefficient (random checkerboard),

$$A_\varepsilon(x, y, \omega) = a^{\text{sto}}\left(\frac{x}{\varepsilon}, \frac{y}{\varepsilon}, \omega\right) = \left( \sum_{k \in \mathbb{Z}^2} X_k(\omega) \mathbb{1}_{k+Q}(x, y) \right) \text{Id},$$

with  $X_k$  i.i.d random variables such that  $\mathbb{P}(X_k = 4) = \mathbb{P}(X_k = 16) = \frac{1}{2}$ .

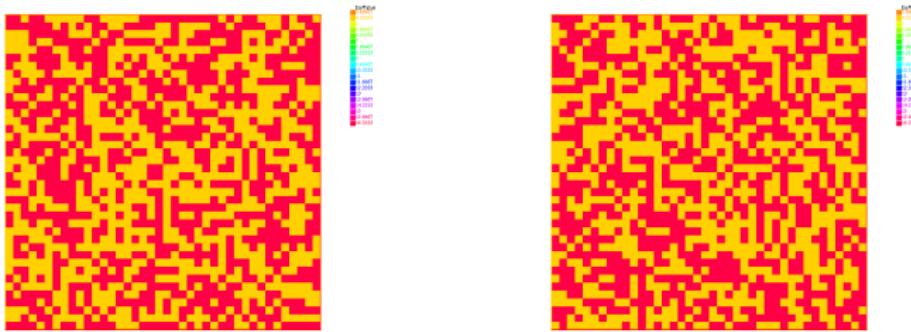


Figure 5: Two realizations of coefficient  $A_\varepsilon$ .

Our strategy rewrites  $I_\varepsilon = \inf \sup |\mathbb{E}(\mathcal{E}(A_\varepsilon(\cdot, \omega), f)) - \mathcal{E}(\bar{A}, f)|$ . The expectation is computed from 40 realizations.

# Consistency with homogenization theory

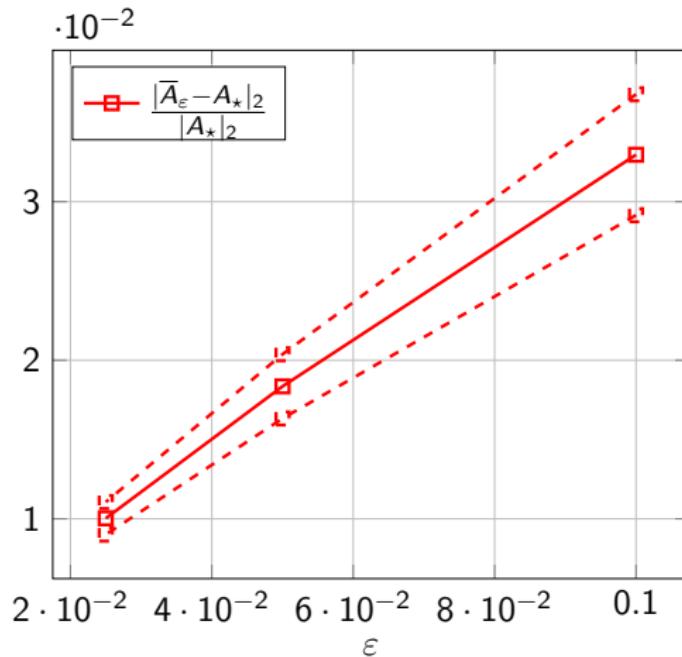


Figure 6: Error between the homogenized coefficient  $A_*$  and the effective coefficient  $\bar{A}_\varepsilon$  as a function of  $\varepsilon$ .

# Beyond periodicity and the regime of separated scales

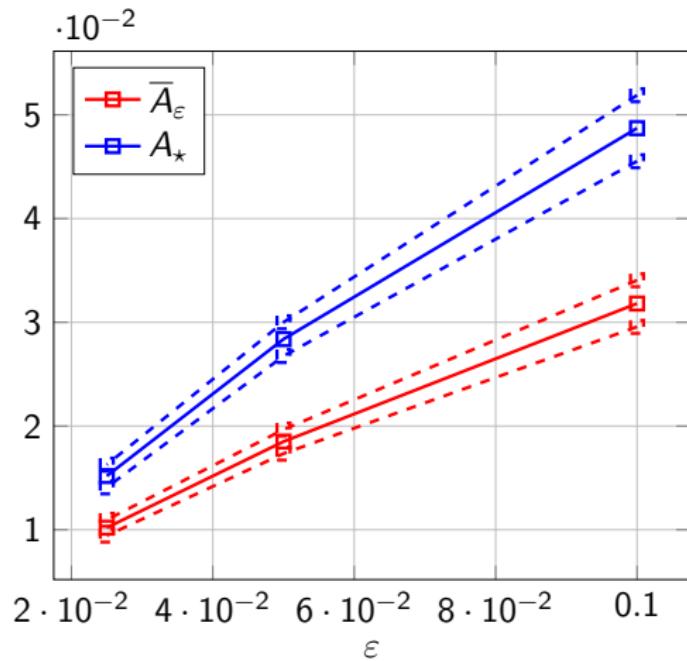


Figure 7: Error  $\frac{\sup_{f \in V_Q} \|\mathbb{E}(u_\varepsilon(f, \omega)) - u(\bar{A}_\varepsilon, P, f)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}}{\|\mathbb{E}(u_\varepsilon(\bar{f}, \omega))\|_{L^2(\Omega)}}$  as a function of  $\varepsilon$ . ( $\bar{A}_\varepsilon$  is computed with  $P \ll Q = 16$  r.h.s)

# Conclusion and ongoing works

## Our strategy

- aims at determining effective coefficients for multiscale PDEs,
- provides an accurate description of  $u_\varepsilon$  (not of  $\nabla u_\varepsilon$ ),
- is inspired by homogenization theory and consistent with it (numerically and theoretically),
- can be extended outside the regime of separated scale,
- requires coarse scale prior information on the system.