Waves with Firedrake

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Outline

Motivation

• Background

- Physical problem
- Weak form

• Examples

- Drumhead
- Resonate box
- Simple model of Earth-Ionosphere waveguide
- Questions



Motivation

- Time dependent problem
- Not too complicated
 - \circ No vectors
 - No system of equations
 - No magnetodynamics
- Foundation for a Schumann resonance model
 - Applicable at the Earth and beyond
 - FE is a reasonable tool for this question



Background: Schumann Resonances

- Electromagnetic Resonance Frequencies in the Earth-Ionosphere Cavity
 - Frequencies of ~ 7.83, 14.3, 20.8,
 27.3, 33.8... Hz
 - Generated by lightning strikes
- First Theorized in 1893 by George FitzGerald [1]
- Theory Modified in 1952 by Winfried Schumann [2]
- Observed in 1960 (M. Balser, and C. A. Wagner) [3]





[1]: Jackson, J. D. (2003), FitzGerald's observation preceded Tesla's, Am. Phys. Soc. News, 17(7), 4.
 [2]: Schumann, W. O. (1952), Über die strahlungslosen Eigenschwingungen einer leitenden Kugel, die von einer Luftschicht und einer Ionosphärenhülle umgeben ist (On the free eigen-oscillations of a conducting sphere, surrounded by an air film and an ionospheric shell), Z. Naturforsch. A, 7, 149–154.
 [3]: Balser, M., and C. A. Wagner (1960), Observations of Earth-ionosphere cavity resonances, Nature, 188, 638–641.

Image Credit: Vagabard, Wikipedia ^{-154.} Image Date: 2024-04-24

Background: Schumann Resonances

- A useful tool for
 - Analyzing Earth's weather
 - Studying Earth's electrical environment
- Both created and measured at Earth by
 - Ground receivers
 - Spacecraft [1]
- Theorized to occur on other planets [2]
- A whole project someone could/should do:
 - Generate then measure these resonances via satellites at Earth
 - Verify using known techniques
 - Develop models
 - Search for these resonances at other planets to gain insight into their environments



Figure 2 From F. Simões, et al. 2011



[1]: Simões, F., R. Pfaff, and H. Freudenreich (2011), Satellite observations of Schumann resonances in the Earth's ionosphere, Geophys. Res. Lett., 38, L22101, doi:10.1029/2011GL049668.

Background: Equation and Boundary and Initial Conditions

• Wave equation:

$$\frac{\partial^2 \phi}{\partial t^2} - \nabla^2 \phi = 0$$

- For TM modes, electric field is 0 on grounded, conducting surfaces
 - So boundary condition is:

 $\phi = 0$ on Γ_D

- Initial conditions vary
 - All take the form of an initial step-function pulse in the domain
 - Excite all wave modes
 - Rely on numerical diffusion and dissipation to only keep resonate modes



Background: Weak Form

• To get to the weak form, first make the substitution:

$$\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial t} = -p$$

• This results in modified equation with a first derivative in time:

$$\frac{\partial p}{\partial t} + \nabla^2 \phi = 0$$

• The weak form of this PDE is:

$$\int_{\Omega} \frac{\partial p}{\partial t} v \mathrm{d}x = \int_{\Omega} \nabla \phi \cdot \nabla v \mathrm{d}x$$



Background: Time Stepping

- Verlet method [1]
 - Second-order accurate in time
 - Time reversible
- First step, solve (1) for $\phi^{n+\frac{1}{2}}$
 - Pointwise operation
- Second step, solve (2) for p^{n+1}
 - Done by inverting mass matrix
 - Linear solver
- Third step, solve (3) for ϕ^{n+1}
 - Pointwise operation

$$\frac{\phi^{n+1/2} - \phi^n}{\Delta t/2} = -p^n \qquad (1)$$

$$rac{p^{n+1}-p^n}{\Delta t} = - \nabla^2 \phi^{n+1/2}$$
 (2)

$$\frac{\phi^{n+1} - \phi^{n+1/2}}{\Delta t/2} = -p^{n+1} \quad (3)$$



Example 1: Drumhead

• Switch to code and paraview



Example 2: Resonate Box

- Look at code
- Took ~15 minutes to run





Example 2: Resonate Box

- Extracted a time series from a random point in the domain
 - Took an FFT to see if there is any resonance
 - Maybe at ~1 Hz?





Example 3: Simple Model of Earth-Ionosphere Waveguide

- Look at code
- Took ~6 hours to run





Example 3: Simple Model of Earth-Ionosphere Waveguide

- Extracted a time series from a random point in the domain
 - Took an FFT to see if there is any resonance
 - Black vertical lines show where schumann-like resonances are
 - Grey vertical lines show approximate "parallel plate" resonances





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- Ed Bueler, Stephano Fochesatto
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 - Previous work together and research on Schumann Resonances
- Firedrake tutorial
 - Served as a basis for the three examples



Questions?

