

Investigation of some transmission
problems with sign changing coefficients.
Application to metamaterials.

A.-S. Bonnet-Ben Dhia[†], Lucas Chesnel[†], P. Ciarlet[‡]

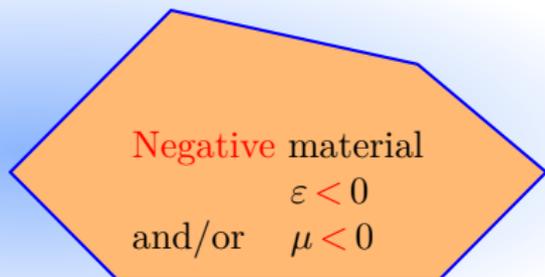
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Introduction: objective

Scattering by a **negative material** in electromagnetism in 3D in **time-harmonic** regime (at a given frequency):

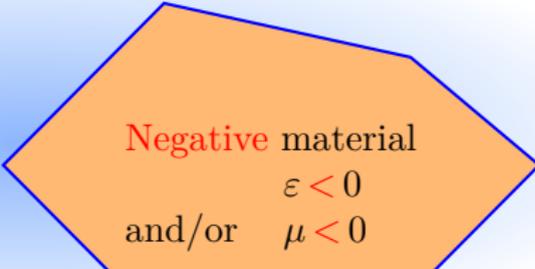
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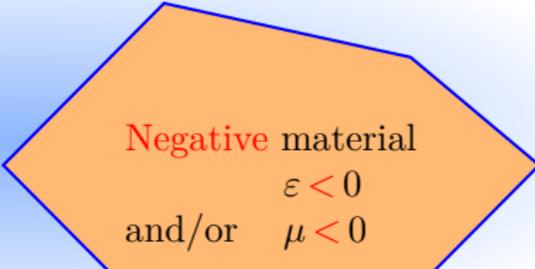
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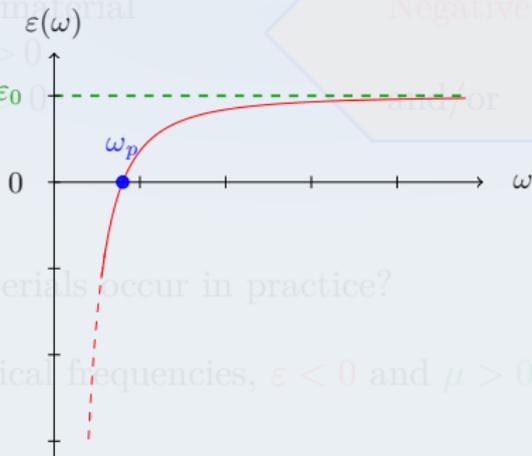
Drude model for a **metal** (high frequency):

$$\varepsilon(\omega) = \varepsilon_0 \left(1 - \frac{\omega_p^2}{\omega^2} \right),$$

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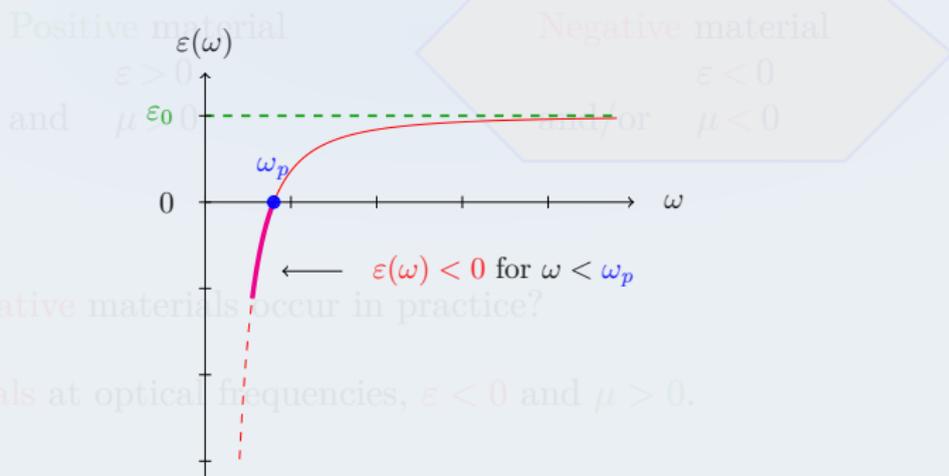
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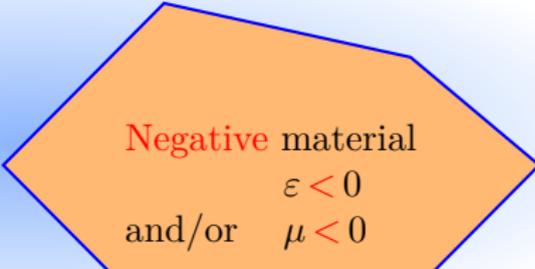
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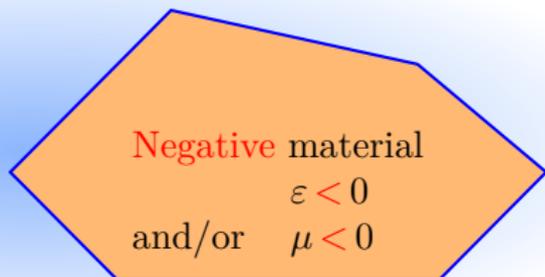
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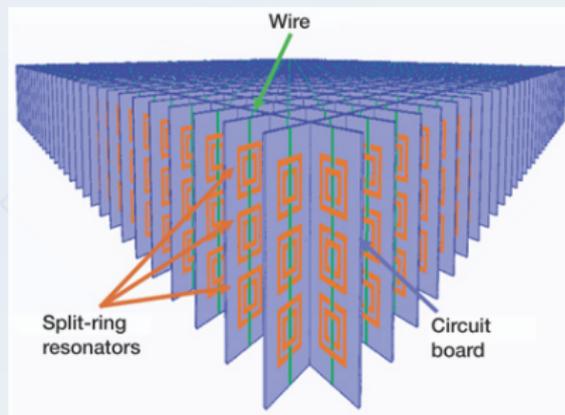
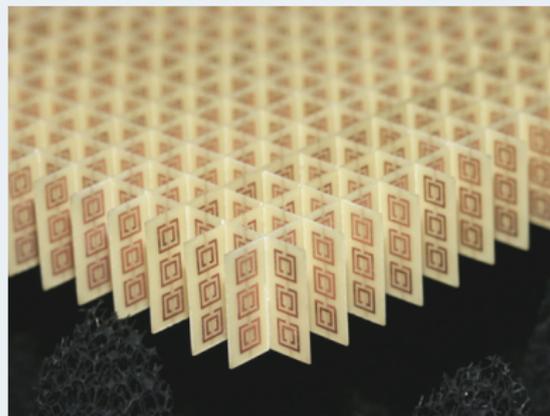
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- ▶ Recently, artificial **metamaterials** have been realized which can be modelled (at some frequency of interest) by $\varepsilon < 0$ and $\mu < 0$.

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Zoom on a **metamaterial**: practical realizations of metamaterials are achieved by a **periodic** assembly of small **resonators**.



EXAMPLE OF METAMATERIAL (NASA)

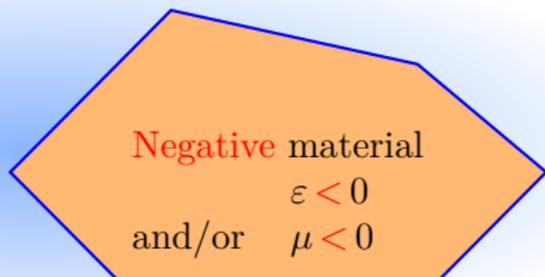
Mathematical justification of the homogenized model (Bouchitté, Bourel, Felbacq 09).

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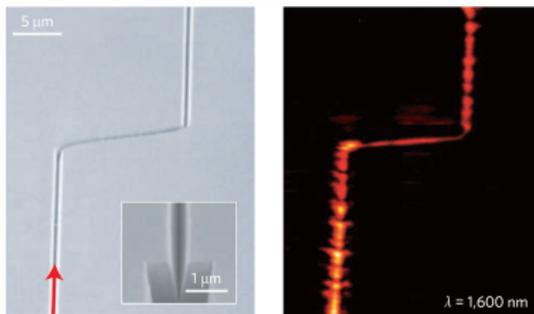


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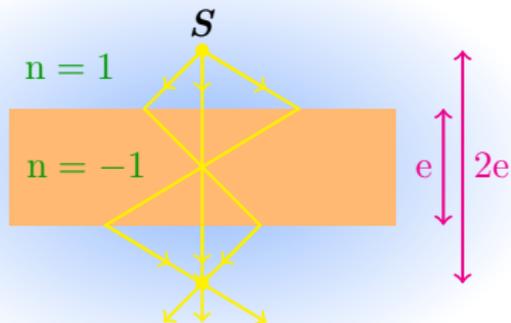
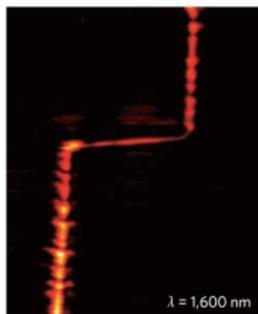
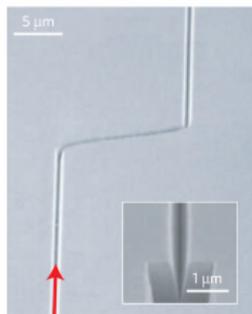
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- ▶ **Surface Plasmons Polaritons** that propagate at the interface between a metal and a dielectric can help reducing the size of **computer chips**.



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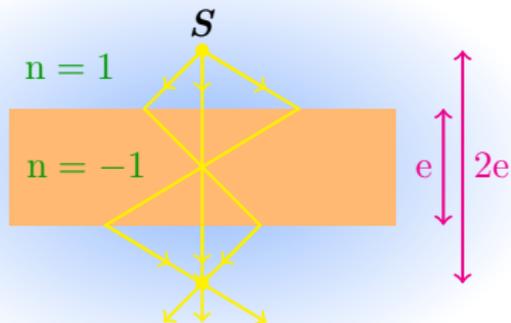
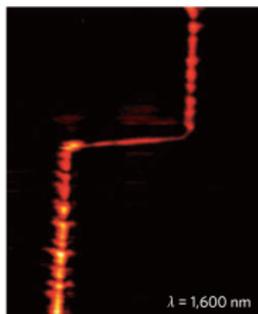
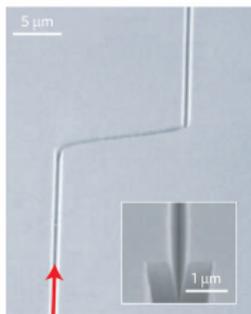
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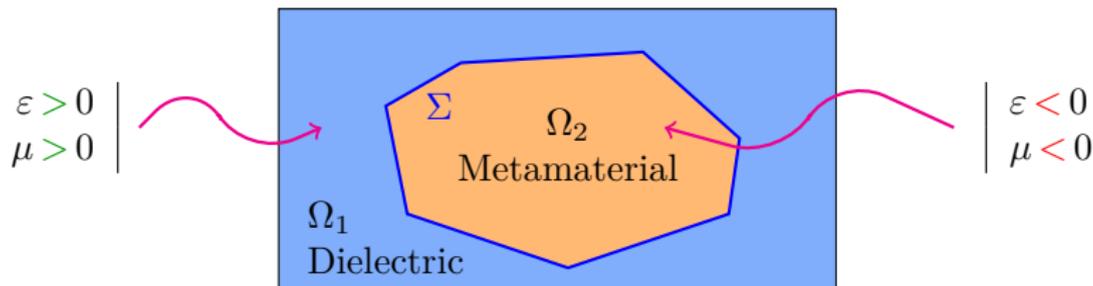


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Interfaces between negative materials and dielectrics occur in all (exciting) applications...

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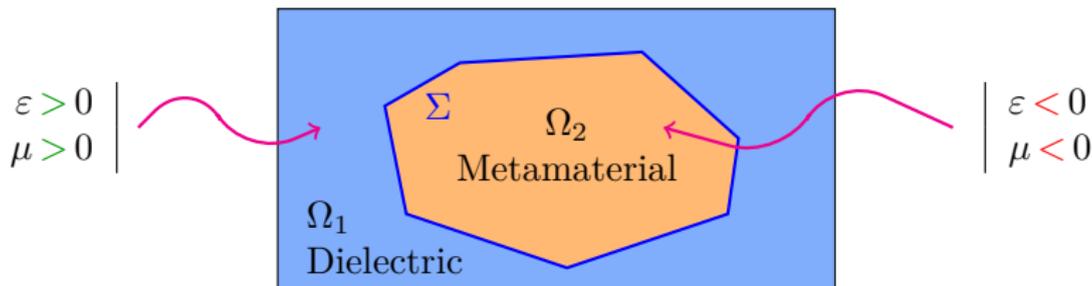
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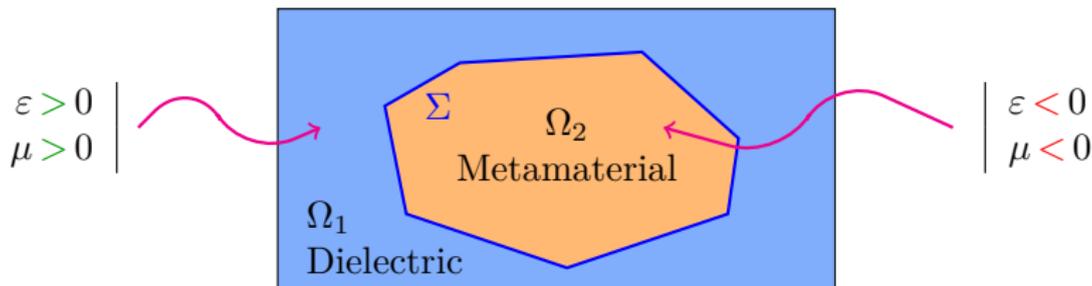
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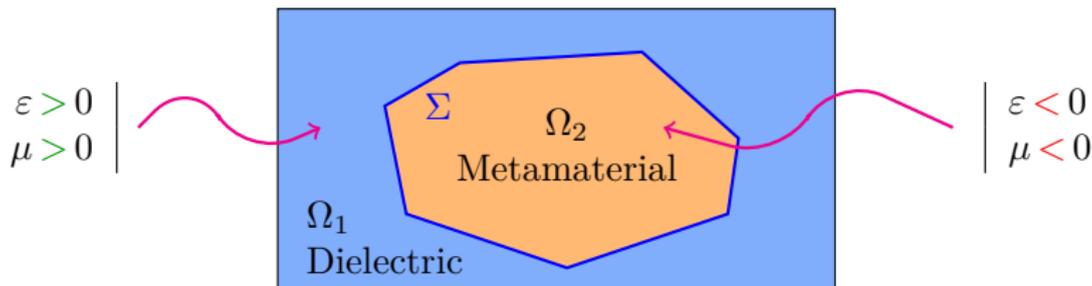


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The relevant question is then: **what happens if dissipation is neglected** ?



- Does **well-posedness** still hold?
- What is the appropriate **functional framework**?
- What about the convergence of **approximation methods**?

Outline of the talk

1 The coerciveness issue for the scalar case

We develop a **T-coercivity method** based on geometrical transformations to study $\operatorname{div}(\mu^{-1}\nabla\cdot) : \mathbf{H}_0^1(\Omega) \rightarrow \mathbf{H}^{-1}(\Omega)$ (improvement over **Bonnet-Ben Dhia et al. 10, Zwölf 08**).

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2 A new functional framework in the critical interval

We propose a **new functional framework** when $\operatorname{div}(\mu^{-1}\nabla\cdot) : \mathbf{X} \rightarrow \mathbf{Y}$ is **not Fredholm** for $\mathbf{X} = \mathbf{H}_0^1(\Omega)$ and $\mathbf{Y} = \mathbf{H}^{-1}(\Omega)$ (extension of **Dauge, Texier** 97, **Ramdani** 99).

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3 A curious instability phenomenon

We prove a curious **instability** phenomenon for a **rounded corner** when the rounding parameter tends to zero.

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- 2 A new functional framework in the critical interval
- 3 A curious instability phenomenon

A scalar model problem

Problem for E_z in 2D in case of an invariance with respect to z :

$$\left| \begin{array}{l} \text{Find } E_z \in H_0^1(\Omega) \text{ such that:} \\ \operatorname{div}(\mu^{-1} \nabla E_z) + \omega^2 \varepsilon E_z = -f \quad \text{in } \Omega. \end{array} \right.$$

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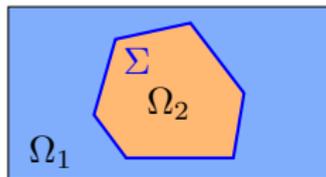
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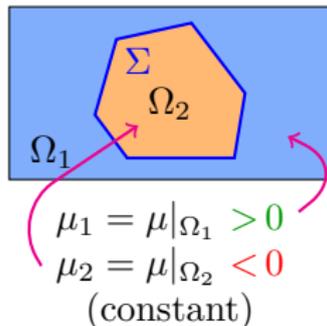
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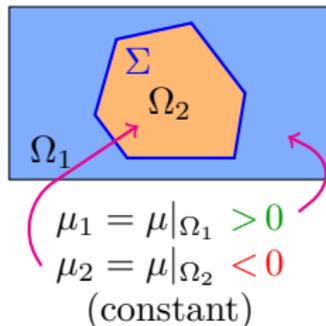


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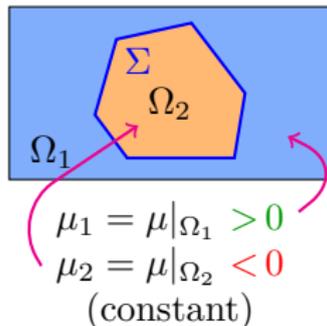
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DEFINITION. We will say that the problem (\mathcal{P}) is **well-posed** if the operator $A = \operatorname{div}(\mu^{-1} \nabla \cdot)$ is an **isomorphism** from $H_0^1(\Omega)$ to $H^{-1}(\Omega)$.

Mathematical difficulty

- Classical case $\mu > 0$ everywhere:

$$a(u, u) = \int_{\Omega} \mu^{-1} |\nabla u|^2 \geq \min(\mu^{-1}) \|u\|_{H_0^1(\Omega)}^2 \quad \text{coercivity}$$

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- ▶ When $\mu_2 = -\mu_1$, (\mathcal{P}) is always ill-posed (Costabel-Stephan 85). For a symmetric domain (w.r.t. Σ) we can build a kernel of infinite dimension.

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Let \mathbf{T} be an **isomorphism** of $\mathbf{H}_0^1(\Omega)$.

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In this case, Lax-Milgram $\Rightarrow (\mathcal{P}_V^{\mathbf{T}})$ (and so (\mathcal{P}_V)) is well-posed.

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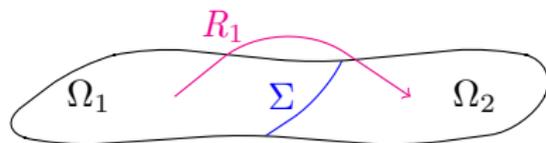
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R_1 transfer/extension operator



Idea of the T-coercivity 1/2

Let \mathbf{T} be an **isomorphism** of $H_0^1(\Omega)$.

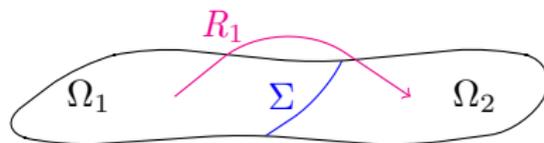
$$(\mathcal{P}) \Leftrightarrow (\mathcal{P}_V) \Leftrightarrow (\mathcal{P}_V^{\mathbf{T}}) \quad \left| \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{Find } u \in H_0^1(\Omega) \text{ such that:} \\ a(u, \mathbf{T}v) = l(\mathbf{T}v), \forall v \in H_0^1(\Omega). \end{array} \right.$$

Goal: Find \mathbf{T} such that a is \mathbf{T} -coercive: $\int_{\Omega} \mu^{-1} \nabla u \cdot \nabla(\mathbf{T}u) \geq C \|u\|_{H_0^1(\Omega)}^2$.

In this case, Lax-Milgram $\Rightarrow (\mathcal{P}_V^{\mathbf{T}})$ (and so (\mathcal{P}_V)) is well-posed.

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$$\left. \begin{array}{l} R_1 u_1 = u_1 \quad \text{on } \Sigma \\ R_1 u_1 = 0 \quad \text{on } \partial\Omega_2 \setminus \Sigma \end{array} \right|$$

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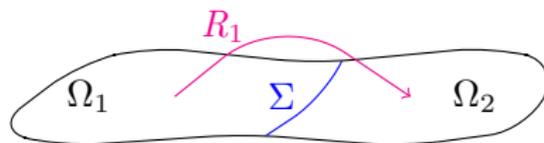
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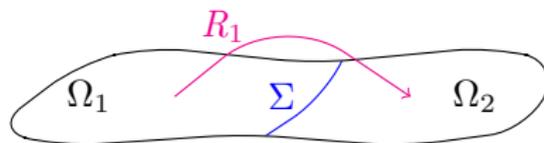
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2 $\mathbf{T}_1 \circ \mathbf{T}_1 = Id$ so \mathbf{T}_1 is an **isomorphism** of $H_0^1(\Omega)$

Idea of the T-coercivity 2/2

③ One has $a(u, \mathbb{T}_1 u) = \int_{\Omega} |\mu|^{-1} |\nabla u|^2 - 2 \int_{\Omega_2} \mu_2^{-1} \nabla u \cdot \nabla (R_1 u_1)$

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⑤ Conclusion:

THEOREM. If the **contrast** $\kappa_{\mu} = \mu_2/\mu_1 \notin [-\|R_1\|^2; -1/\|R_2\|^2]$, then the operator $\operatorname{div}(\mu^{-1} \nabla \cdot)$ is an **isomorphism** from $H_0^1(\Omega)$ to $H^{-1}(\Omega)$.

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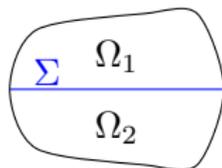
⑤ Conclusion:

The interval depends on the norms of the transfer operators

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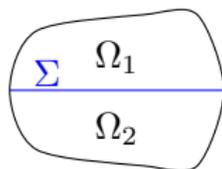
Choice of R_1, R_2 ?

- ▶ A simple case: symmetric domain



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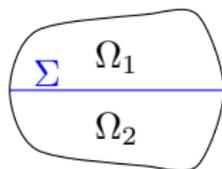
$$R_1 = R_2 = S_\Sigma$$

so that $\|R_1\| = \|R_2\| = 1$

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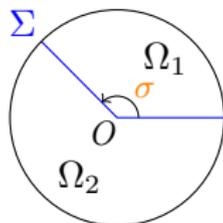
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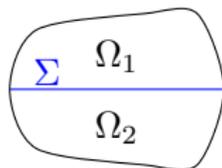
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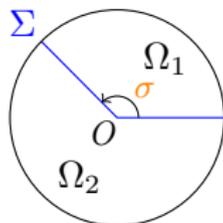
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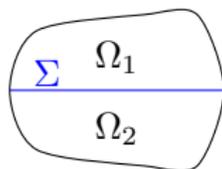
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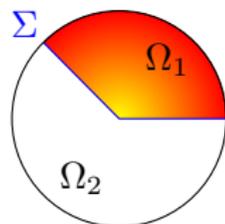
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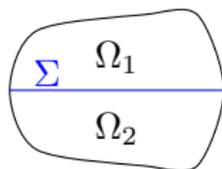
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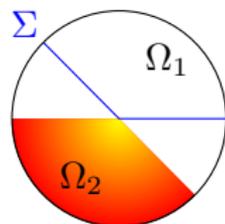
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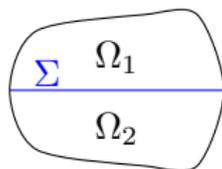


Action of R_1 : symmetry

w.r.t θ

Choice of R_1, R_2 ?

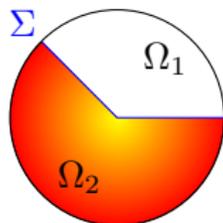
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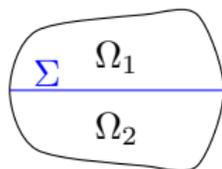
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Action of R_1 : symmetry + dilatation w.r.t θ

Choice of R_1, R_2 ?

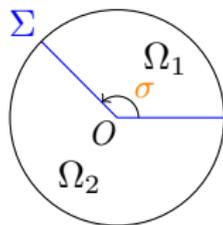
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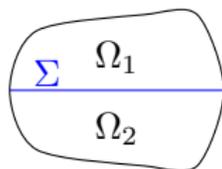


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$$\|R_1\|^2 = \mathcal{R}_\sigma := (2\pi - \sigma)/\sigma$$

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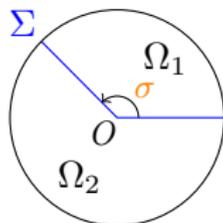
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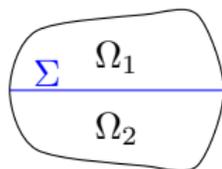
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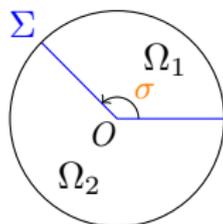
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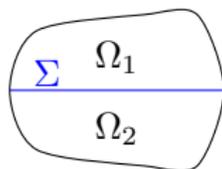
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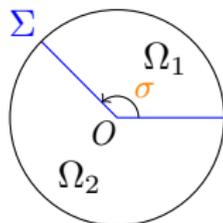
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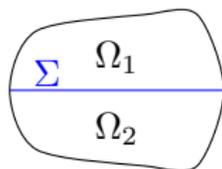
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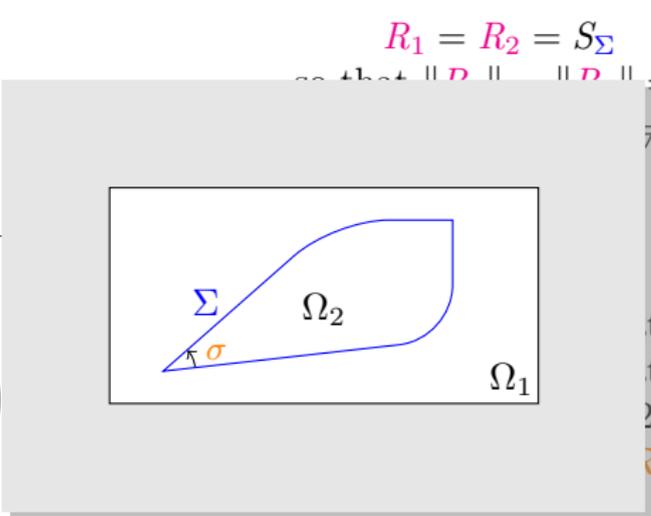
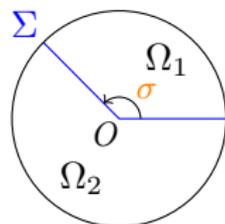
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- ▶ Interface with



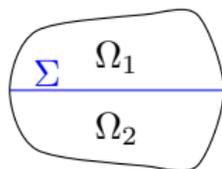
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rotation w.r.t θ
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 $(2\pi - \sigma)/\sigma$
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Choice of R_1, R_2 ?

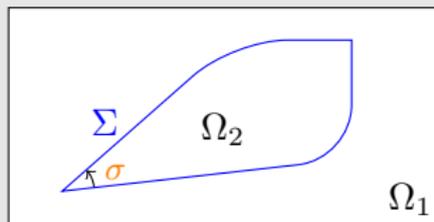
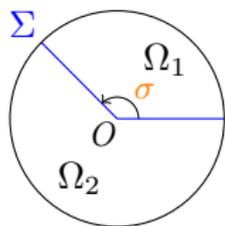
- ▶ A simple case: **symmetric domain**



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- ▶ Interface with



rotation w.r.t θ
 rotation w.r.t θ
 $2\pi - \sigma)/\sigma$
 $[\mathcal{R}_\sigma; -1/\mathcal{R}_\sigma]$

- ▶ By **localization** techniques, we prove

PROPOSITION. (\mathcal{P}) is well-posed in the **Fredholm** sense for a **curvilinear polygonal interface** iff $\kappa_\mu \notin [-\mathcal{R}_\sigma; -1/\mathcal{R}_\sigma]$ where σ is the smallest angle.

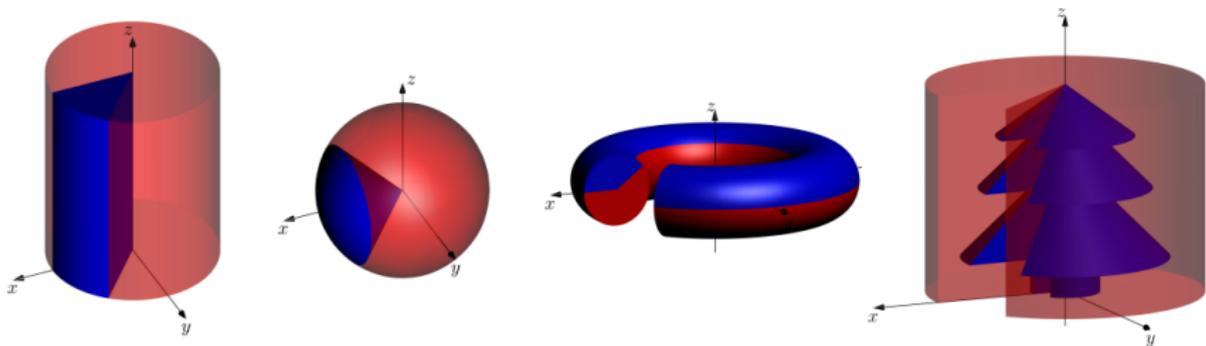
\Rightarrow When Σ is **smooth**, (\mathcal{P}) is well-posed in the Fredholm sense iff $\kappa_\mu \neq -1$.

Extensions for the scalar case

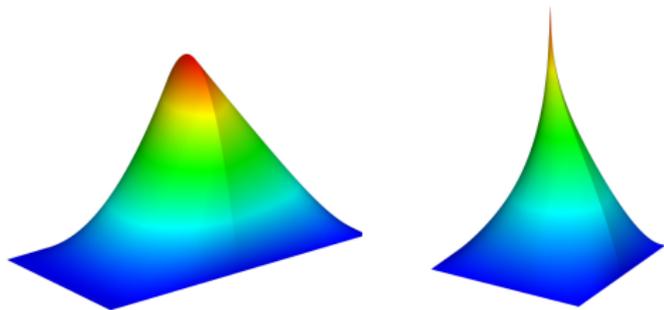
- ▶ The T-coercivity approach can be used to deal with non constant μ_1, μ_2 and with the **Neumann** problem.

Extensions for the scalar case

- ▶ The T-coercivity approach can be used to deal with non constant μ_1, μ_2 and with the **Neumann** problem.
- ▶ **3D geometries** can be handled in the same way.



- ▶ The T-coercivity technique allows to justify convergence of standard **finite element** method for simple meshes (**Bonnet-Ben Dhia et al. 10**, **Nicaise, Venel 11**, **Chesnel, Ciarlet 12**).



Digression: the result for Maxwell's equations

Consider $\mathbf{F} \in \mathbf{L}^2(\Omega)$ such that $\operatorname{div} \mathbf{F} \in \mathbf{L}^2(\Omega)$.

THEOREM. Suppose

$$(\varphi, \varphi') \mapsto \int_{\Omega} \varepsilon \nabla \varphi \cdot \nabla \varphi' \text{ is } \mathbf{T}\text{-coercive on } H_0^1(\Omega); \quad (\mathcal{A}_{\varepsilon})$$

$$(\varphi, \varphi') \mapsto \int_{\Omega} \mu \nabla \varphi \cdot \nabla \varphi' \text{ is } \mathbf{T}\text{-coercive on } H^1(\Omega)/\mathbb{R}. \quad (\mathcal{A}_{\mu})$$

Then, the problem for the **magnetic field**

Find $\mathbf{H} \in \mathbf{H}(\operatorname{curl}; \Omega)$ such that:

$$\begin{cases} \operatorname{curl}(\varepsilon^{-1} \operatorname{curl} \mathbf{H}) - \omega^2 \mu \mathbf{H} = \mathbf{F} & \text{in } \Omega \\ \varepsilon^{-1} \operatorname{curl} \mathbf{H} \times \mathbf{n} = 0 & \text{on } \partial\Omega \\ \mu \mathbf{H} \cdot \mathbf{n} = 0 & \text{on } \partial\Omega. \end{cases}$$

is **well-posed** for all $\omega \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \mathcal{S}$ where \mathcal{S} is a discrete (or empty) set of \mathbb{C} .

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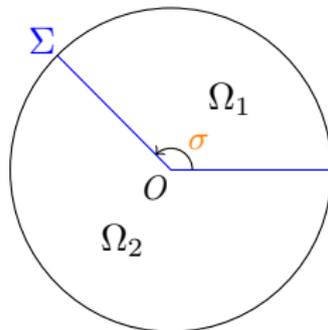
is **well-posed** for all $\omega \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \mathcal{S}$ where \mathcal{S} is a discrete (or empty) set of \mathbb{C} .

- This result (with the **same assumptions**) is also true for the problem for the **electric field**.

Transition: from variational methods to Fourier/Mellin techniques



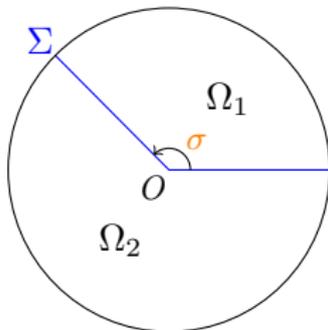
For the **corner** case, what happens when the **contrast** lies **inside** the **critical interval**, *i.e.* when $\kappa_\mu \in [-\mathcal{R}_\sigma; -1/\mathcal{R}_\sigma]$???



Transition: from variational methods to Fourier/Mellin techniques



For the **corner** case, what happens when the **contrast** lies **inside** the **critical interval**, *i.e.* when $\kappa_\mu \in [-\mathcal{R}_\sigma; -1/\mathcal{R}_\sigma]$???



Idea: we will study precisely the **regularity** of the “solutions” using the **Kondratiev’s** tools, *i.e.* the Fourier/Mellin transform (Dauge, Texier 97, Nazarov, Plamenevsky 94).

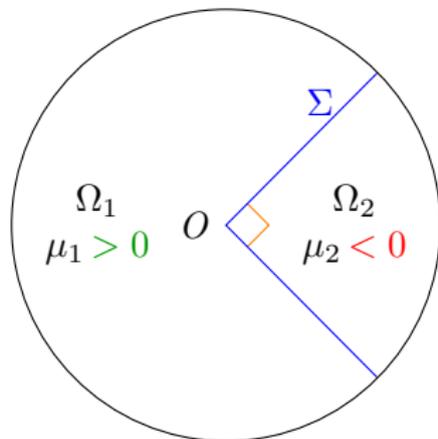
- 1 The coerciveness issue for the scalar case
- 2 A new functional framework in the critical interval
⇒ collaboration with **X. Claeys** (LJLL Paris VI).
- 3 A curious instability phenomenon

Problem considered in this section

- ▶ We recall the problem under consideration

$$(\mathcal{P}) \quad \left| \begin{array}{l} \text{Find } u \in H_0^1(\Omega) \text{ such that:} \\ -\operatorname{div}(\mu^{-1}\nabla u) = f \quad \text{in } \Omega. \end{array} \right.$$

- ▶ To simplify the presentation, we work on a particular configuration.

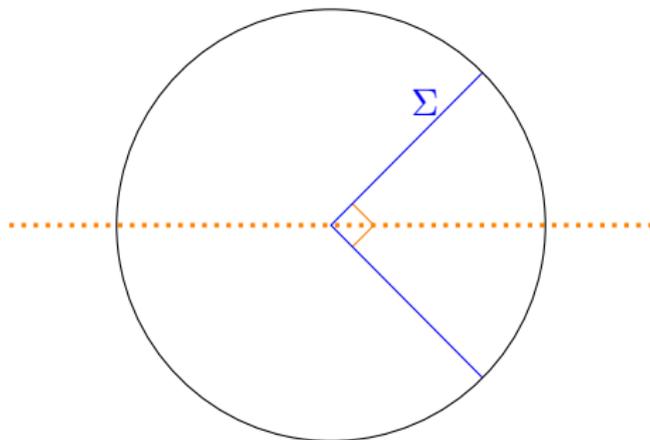


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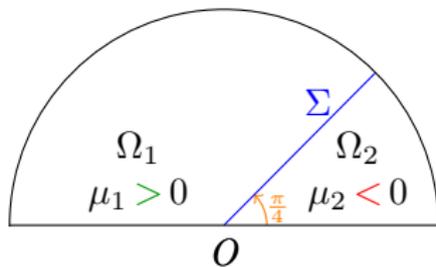


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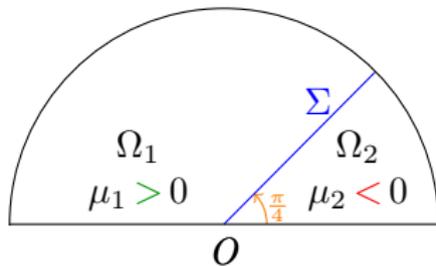


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- ▶ Using the **variational method** of the previous section, we prove the

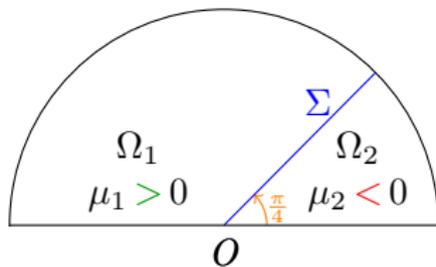
PROPOSITION. The problem (\mathcal{P}) is well-posed as soon as the **contrast** $\kappa_\mu = \mu_2/\mu_1$ satisfies $\kappa_\mu \notin [-3; -1]$.

Problem considered in this section

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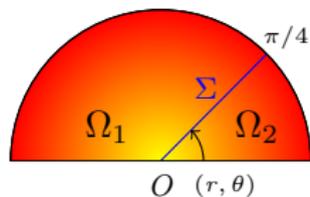
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PROPOSITION. The problem (\mathcal{P}) is well-posed as soon as the **contrast** $\kappa_\mu = \mu_2/\mu_1$ satisfies $\kappa_\mu \notin [-3; -1]$.

What happens when $\kappa_\mu \in [-3; -1]$?

Analogy with a waveguide problem

- Bounded sector Ω

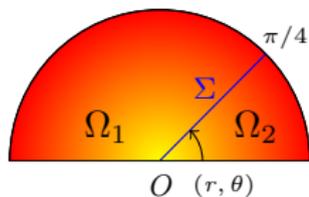


- Equation:

$$\underbrace{-\operatorname{div}(\mu^{-1} \nabla u)}_{-r^{-2}(\mu^{-1}(r\partial_r)^2 + \partial_\theta \mu^{-1} \partial_\theta)u} = f$$

Analogy with a waveguide problem

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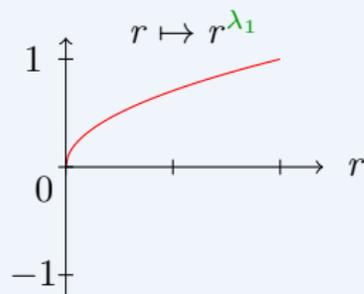
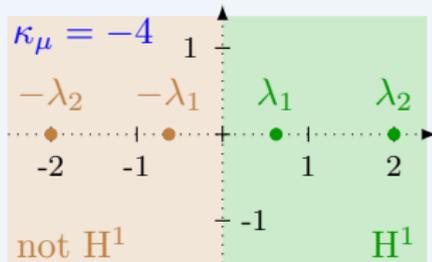
- **Singularities** in the sector

$$s(r, \theta) = r^\lambda \varphi(\theta)$$

Analogy with a waveguide problem

We compute the singularities $s(r, \theta) = r^\lambda \varphi(\theta)$ and we observe two cases:

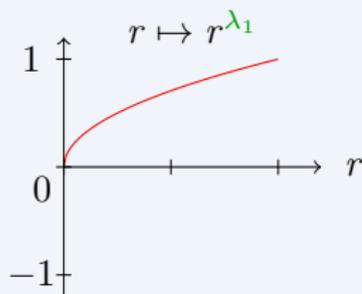
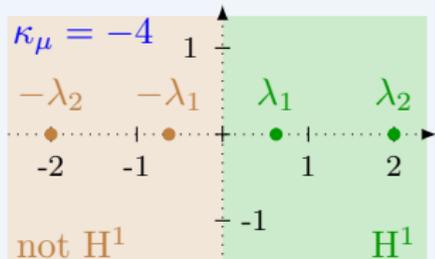
► **Outside the critical interval**



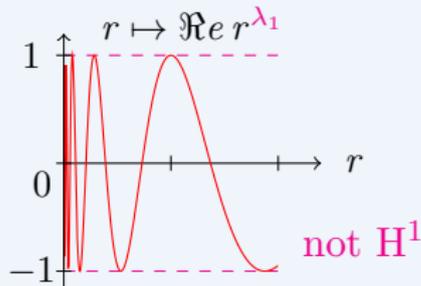
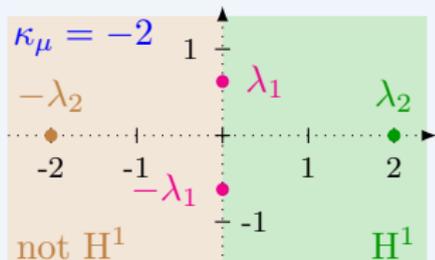
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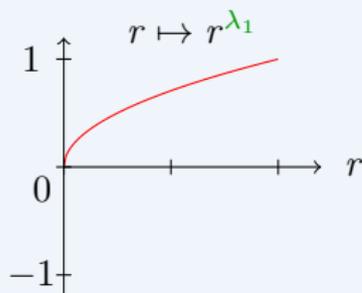
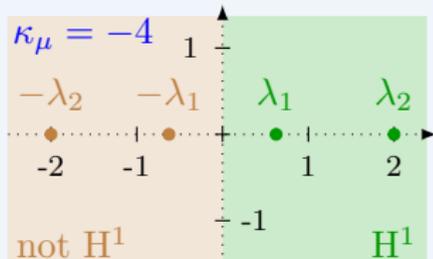
Inside the critical interval



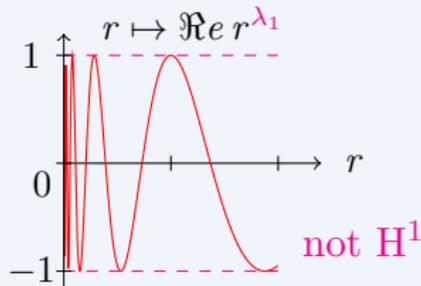
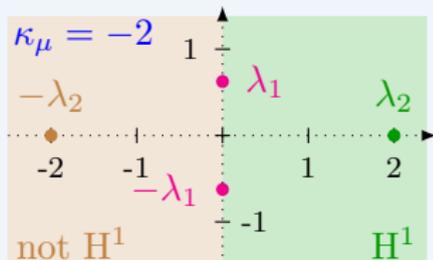
Analogy with a waveguide problem

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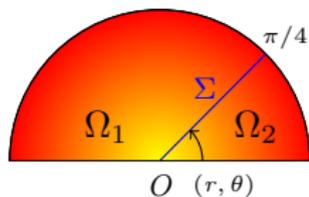
Inside the critical interval



How to deal with the **propagative singularities** inside the critical interval?

Analogy with a waveguide problem

- Bounded sector Ω



- Equation:

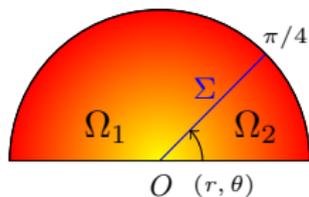
$$\underbrace{-\operatorname{div}(\mu^{-1} \nabla u)}_{-r^{-2}(\mu^{-1}(r\partial_r)^2 + \partial_\theta \mu^{-1} \partial_\theta)u} = f$$

- **Singularities** in the sector

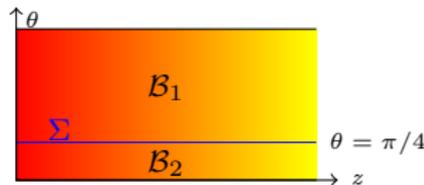
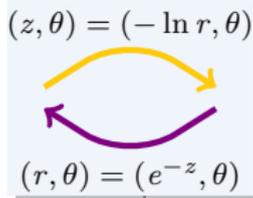
$$s(r, \theta) = r^\lambda \varphi(\theta)$$

Analogy with a waveguide problem

- Bounded sector Ω



- Half-strip \mathcal{B}



- Equation:

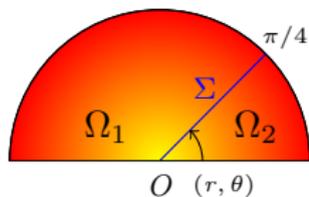
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Analogy with a waveguide problem

- Bounded sector Ω



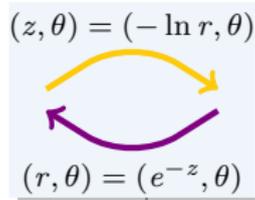
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- Half-strip \mathcal{B}

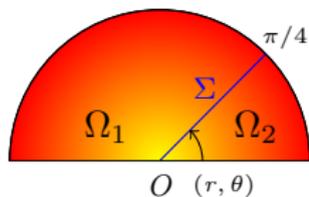


- Equation:

$$\underbrace{-\operatorname{div}(\mu^{-1} \nabla u)}_{-(\mu^{-1} \partial_z^2 + \partial_\theta \mu^{-1} \partial_\theta)u} = e^{-2z} f$$

Analogy with a waveguide problem

- Bounded sector Ω



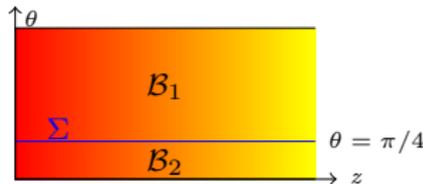
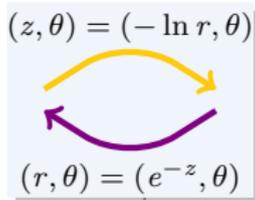
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- Half-strip \mathcal{B}



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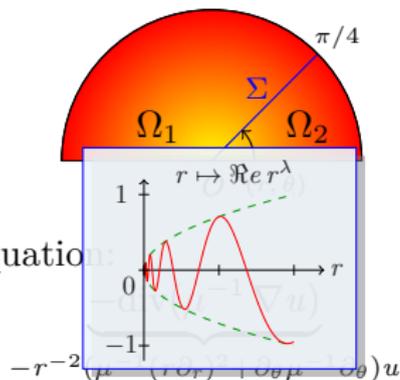
$$\underbrace{-\operatorname{div}(\mu^{-1} \nabla u)}_{-(\mu^{-1} \partial_z^2 + \partial_\theta \mu^{-1} \partial_\theta)u} = e^{-2z} f$$

- Modes** in the strip

$$m(z, \theta) = e^{-\lambda z} \varphi(\theta)$$

Analogy with a waveguide problem

- Bounded sector Ω



- Equation:

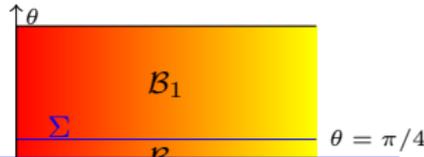
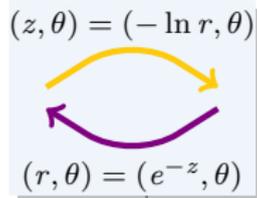
$= f$

- Singularities** in the sector

$$s(r, \theta) = r^\lambda \varphi(\theta)$$

$$s \in H^1(\Omega)$$

- Half-strip \mathcal{B}



- Equation:

- Modes** in the strip

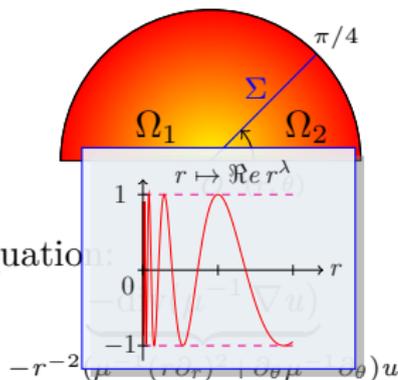
$$m(z, \theta) = e^{-\lambda z} \varphi(\theta)$$

m is evanescent

$$\Re \lambda > 0$$

Analogy with a waveguide problem

- Bounded sector Ω



- Equation:

$= f$

- Singularities** in the sector

$$s(r, \theta) = r^\lambda \varphi(\theta)$$

$$= r^a (\cos b \ln r + i \sin b \ln r) \varphi(\theta)$$

$(\Re e \lambda = a, \Im m \lambda = b)$

$$s \in H^1(\Omega)$$

$$s \notin H^1(\Omega)$$

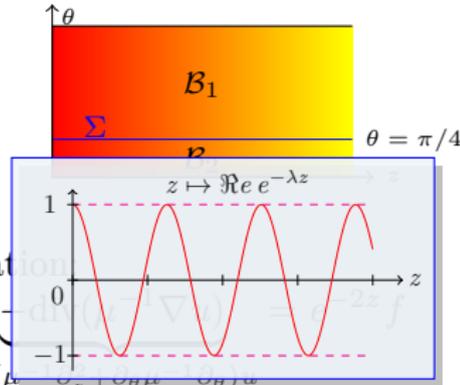
$$\Re e \lambda > 0$$

$$\Re e \lambda = 0$$

- Half-strip \mathcal{B}

$$(z, \theta) = (-\ln r, \theta)$$

$$(r, \theta) = (e^{-z}, \theta)$$



- Equation:

- Modes** in the strip

$$m(z, \theta) = e^{-\lambda z} \varphi(\theta)$$

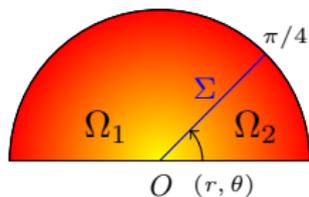
$$= e^{-az} (\cos bz - i \sin bz) \varphi(\theta)$$

$$m \text{ is evanescent}$$

$$m \text{ is propagative}$$

Analogy with a waveguide problem

- Bounded sector Ω



- Equation:

$$\underbrace{-\operatorname{div}(\mu^{-1} \nabla u)}_{-r^{-2}(\mu^{-1}(r\partial_r)^2 + \partial_\theta \mu^{-1} \partial_\theta)u} = f$$

- Singularities** in the sector

$$s(r, \theta) = r^\lambda \varphi(\theta) = \cancel{r^a} (\cos b \ln r + i \sin b \ln r) \varphi(\theta)$$

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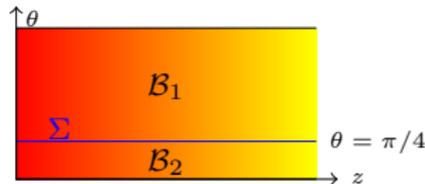
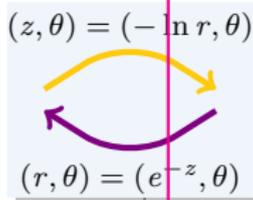
$$s \in H^1(\Omega)$$

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- Half-strip \mathcal{B}



- Equation:

$$\underbrace{-\operatorname{div}(\mu^{-1} \nabla u)}_{-(\mu^{-1} \partial_z^2 + \partial_\theta \mu^{-1} \partial_\theta)u} = e^{-2z} f$$

- Modes** in the strip

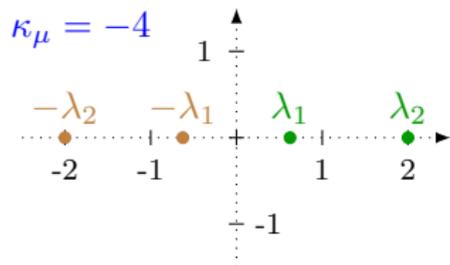
$$m(z, \theta) = e^{-\lambda z} \varphi(\theta) = \cancel{e^{-az}} (\cos bz - i \sin bz) \varphi(\theta)$$

$$m \text{ is evanescent}$$

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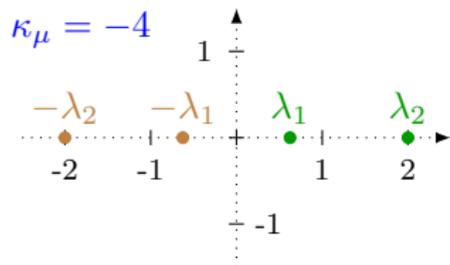
- This encourages us to use **modal decomposition** in the half-strip.

Modal analysis in the waveguide

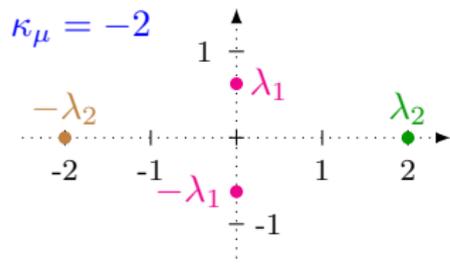


- **Outside the critical interval**. All the modes are exponentially growing or decaying.
- We look for an exponentially decaying solution. H^1 framework

Modal analysis in the waveguide

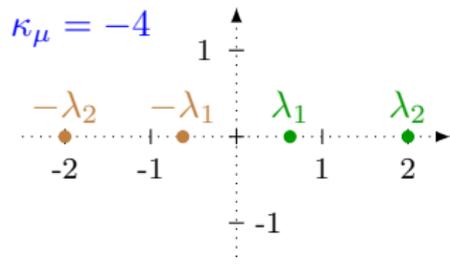


- ▶ **Outside the critical interval**. All the modes are exponentially growing or decaying.
→ We look for an exponentially decaying solution. H^1 framework



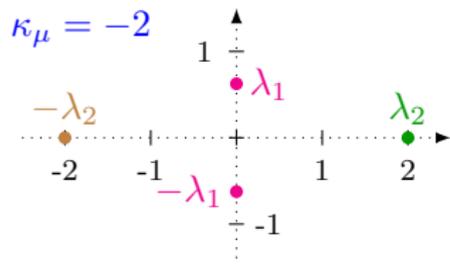
- ▶ **Inside the critical interval**. There are exactly two propagative modes.

Modal analysis in the waveguide



► **Outside the critical interval**. All the modes are **exponentially growing or decaying**.

→ We look for an **exponentially decaying** solution. H^1 framework



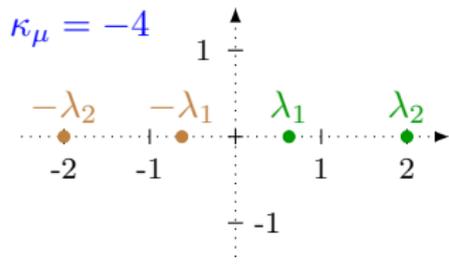
► **Inside the critical interval**. There are exactly two **propagative modes**.

→ The decomposition on the **outgoing modes** leads to look for a solution of the form

$$u = \underbrace{c_1 \varphi_1 e^{\lambda_1 z}}_{\text{propagative part}} + \underbrace{u_e}_{\text{evanescent part}}$$

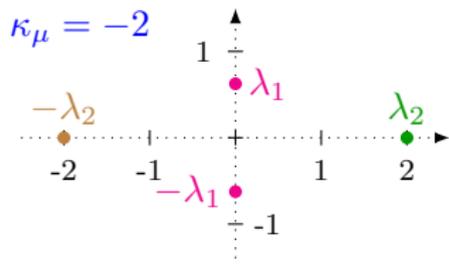
non H^1 framework

Modal analysis in the waveguide



► **Outside the critical interval**. All the modes are **exponentially growing or decaying**.

→ We look for an **exponentially decaying** solution. **H¹ framework**



► **Inside the critical interval**. There are exactly two **propagative modes**.

→ The decomposition on the **outgoing modes** leads to look for a solution of the form

$$u = \underbrace{c_1 \varphi_1 e^{\lambda_1 z}}_{\text{propagative part}} + \underbrace{u_e}_{\text{evanescent part}}$$

non H¹ framework

 ... but the modal decomposition is not easy to justify because two sign-changing appear in the **transverse problem**: $\partial_\theta \sigma \partial_\theta \varphi = -\sigma \lambda^2 \varphi$.

The new functional framework

Consider $0 < \beta < 2$, ζ a cut-off function (equal to 1 in $+\infty$) and define

$$W_{-\beta} = \{v \mid e^{\beta z} v \in H_0^1(\mathcal{B})\} \quad \text{space of exponentially decaying functions}$$

The new functional framework

Consider $0 < \beta < 2$, ζ a cut-off function (equal to 1 in $+\infty$) and define

$W_{-\beta} = \{v \mid e^{\beta z} v \in H_0^1(\mathcal{B})\}$ space of exponentially decaying functions

$W_{\beta} = \{v \mid e^{-\beta z} v \in H_0^1(\mathcal{B})\}$ space of exponentially growing functions

The new functional framework

Consider $0 < \beta < 2$, ζ a cut-off function (equal to 1 in $+\infty$) and define

$$\begin{aligned} W_{-\beta} &= \{v \mid e^{\beta z} v \in H_0^1(\mathcal{B})\} && \text{space of exponentially decaying functions} \\ W^+ &= \text{span}(\zeta \varphi_1 e^{\lambda_1 z}) \oplus W_{-\beta} && \text{propagative part} + \text{evanescent part} \\ W_{\beta} &= \{v \mid e^{-\beta z} v \in H_0^1(\mathcal{B})\} && \text{space of exponentially growing functions} \end{aligned}$$

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THEOREM. Let $\kappa_{\mu} \in (-3; -1)$ and $0 < \beta < 2$. The operator $A^+ : \text{div}(\mu^{-1} \nabla \cdot)$ from W^+ to W_{β}^* is an **isomorphism**.

The new functional framework

Consider $0 < \beta < 2$, ζ a cut-off function (equal to 1 in $+\infty$) and define

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IDEAS OF THE PROOF:

- 1 $A_{-\beta} : \text{div}(\mu^{-1} \nabla \cdot)$ from $W_{-\beta}$ to W_{β}^* is **injective** but not **surjective**.

The new functional framework

Consider $0 < \beta < 2$, ζ a cut-off function (equal to 1 in $+\infty$) and define

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IDEAS OF THE PROOF:

- 1 $A_{-\beta} : \text{div}(\mu^{-1} \nabla \cdot)$ from $W_{-\beta}$ to W_β^* is **injective** but not **surjective**.
- 2 $A_\beta : \text{div}(\mu^{-1} \nabla \cdot)$ from W_β to $W_{-\beta}^*$ is **surjective** but **not injective**.

The new functional framework

Consider $0 < \beta < 2$, ζ a cut-off function (equal to 1 in $+\infty$) and define

$$\begin{aligned} W_{-\beta} &= \{v \mid e^{\beta z} v \in H_0^1(\mathcal{B})\} && \text{space of exponentially decaying functions} \\ W^+ &= \text{span}(\zeta \varphi_1 e^{\lambda_1 z}) \oplus W_{-\beta} && \text{propagative part} + \text{evanescent part} \\ W_{\beta} &= \{v \mid e^{-\beta z} v \in H_0^1(\mathcal{B})\} && \text{space of exponentially growing functions} \end{aligned}$$

THEOREM. Let $\kappa_{\mu} \in (-3; -1)$ and $0 < \beta < 2$. The operator $A^+ : \text{div}(\mu^{-1} \nabla \cdot)$ from W^+ to W_{β}^* is an **isomorphism**.

IDEAS OF THE PROOF:

- 1 $A_{-\beta} : \text{div}(\mu^{-1} \nabla \cdot)$ from $W_{-\beta}$ to W_{β}^* is **injective** but not **surjective**.
- 2 $A_{\beta} : \text{div}(\mu^{-1} \nabla \cdot)$ from W_{β} to $W_{-\beta}^*$ is **surjective** but **not injective**.
- 3 The intermediate operator $A^+ : W^+ \rightarrow W_{\beta}^*$ is **injective** (energy integral) and **surjective** (residue theorem).

The new functional framework

Consider $0 < \beta < 2$, ζ a cut-off function (equal to 1 in $+\infty$) and define

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{W}_{-\beta} &= \{v \mid e^{\beta z} v \in H_0^1(\mathcal{B})\} && \text{space of exponentially decaying functions} \\ \mathbb{W}^+ &= \text{span}(\zeta \varphi_1 e^{\lambda_1 z}) \oplus \mathbb{W}_{-\beta} && \text{propagative part} + \text{evanescent part} \\ \mathbb{W}_\beta &= \{v \mid e^{-\beta z} v \in H_0^1(\mathcal{B})\} && \text{space of exponentially growing functions} \end{aligned}$$

THEOREM. Let $\kappa_\mu \in (-3; -1)$ and $0 < \beta < 2$. The operator $A^+ : \text{div}(\mu^{-1} \nabla \cdot)$ from \mathbb{W}^+ to \mathbb{W}_β^* is an **isomorphism**.

IDEAS OF THE PROOF:

- 1 $A_{-\beta} : \text{div}(\mu^{-1} \nabla \cdot)$ from $\mathbb{W}_{-\beta}$ to \mathbb{W}_β^* is **injective** but not **surjective**.
- 2 $A_\beta : \text{div}(\mu^{-1} \nabla \cdot)$ from \mathbb{W}_β to $\mathbb{W}_{-\beta}^*$ is **surjective** but **not injective**.
- 3 The intermediate operator $A^+ : \mathbb{W}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{W}_\beta^*$ is **injective** (energy integral) and **surjective** (residue theorem).
- 4 Limiting absorption principle to select the **outgoing mode**.

How to approximate the solution?

- ▶ Let us try a **usual Finite Element Method** (P1 Lagrange Finite Element). We solve the problem

$$\left| \begin{array}{l} \text{Find } u_h \in V_h \text{ s.t.:} \\ \int_{\Omega} \mu^{-1} \nabla u_h \cdot \nabla v_h = \int_{\Omega} f v_h, \quad \forall v \in V_h, \end{array} \right.$$

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THE SEQUENCE (u_h) DOES NOT CONVERGE AS $h \rightarrow 0!!!$

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- ▶ We display u_h as $h \rightarrow 0$.

(...)

(...)

Contrast $\kappa_{\mu} = -1.001 \in (-3; -1)$.

Remark

- ▶ Outside the critical interval, the sequence (u_h) converges.

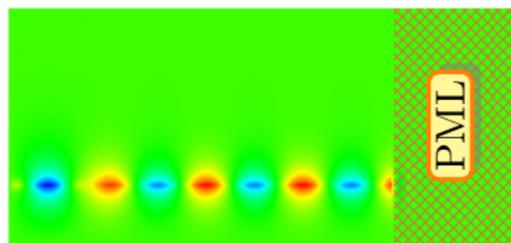
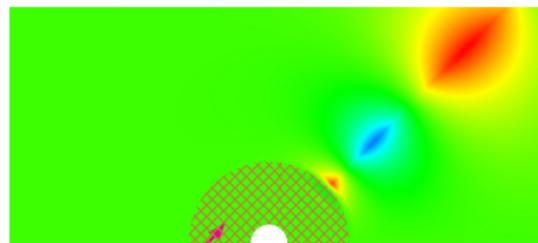
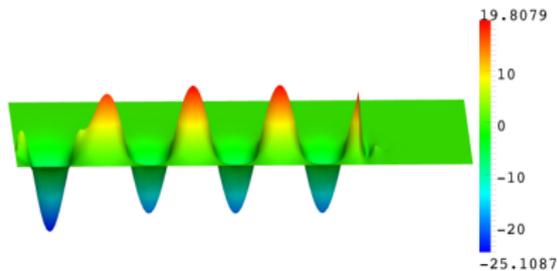
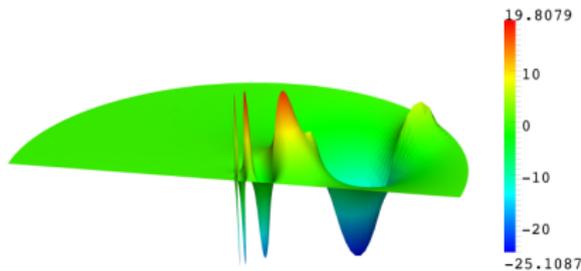
(...)

(...)

Contrast $\kappa_\mu = -0.999 \notin (-3; -1)$.

A funny use of PMLs

- ▶ We use a **PML** (*Perfectly Matched Layer*) to bound the domain \mathcal{B} + **finite elements** in the truncated strip



PML

Contrast $\kappa_\mu = -1.001 \in (-3; -1)$.

A black hole phenomenon

- ▶ The same phenomenon occurs for the **Helmholtz equation**.

$$(\mathbf{x}, t) \mapsto \Re e(u(\mathbf{x})e^{-i\omega t}) \quad \text{for } \kappa_\mu = -1.3$$

(...)

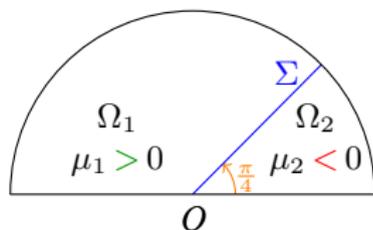
(...)

- ▶ Analogous phenomena occur in **cuspidal domains** in the theory of water-waves and in elasticity (**Cardone, Nazarov, Taskinen**).

Summary of the results for the scalar problem

Problem

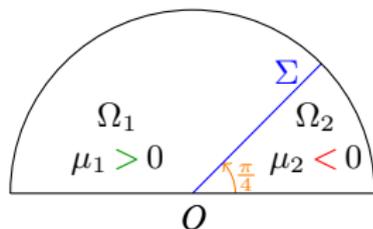
$$(\mathcal{P}) \quad \left| \begin{array}{l} \text{Find } u \in H_0^1(\Omega) \text{ s.t.:} \\ -\operatorname{div}(\mu^{-1}\nabla u) = f \quad \text{in } \Omega. \end{array} \right.$$



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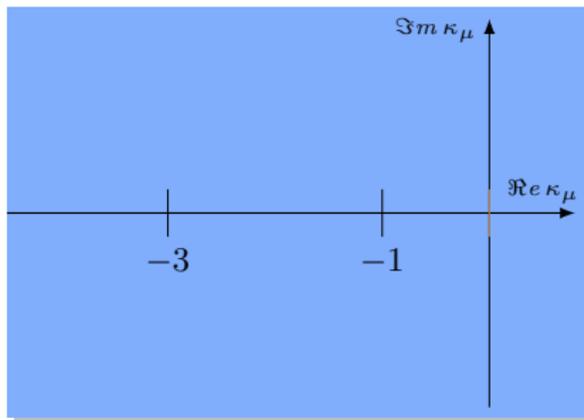
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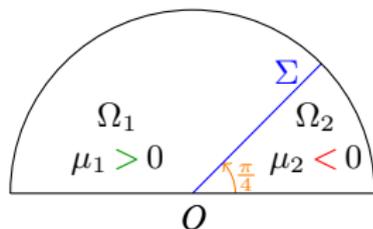
For $\kappa_\mu \in \mathbb{C} \setminus \mathbb{R}_-$, (\mathcal{P}) well-posed in $H_0^1(\Omega)$ (Lax-Milgram)



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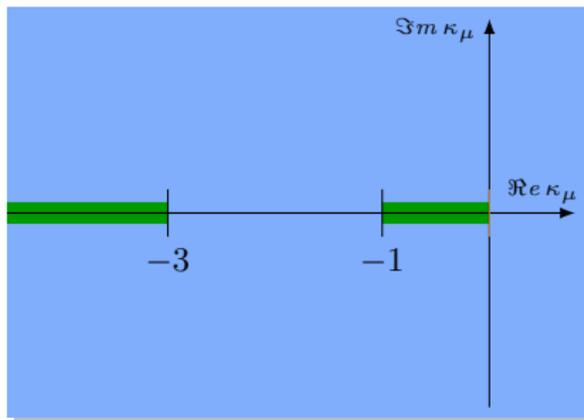
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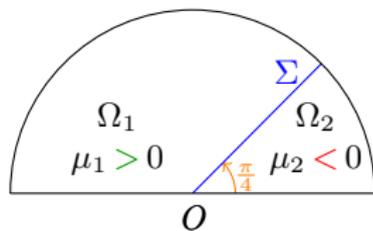
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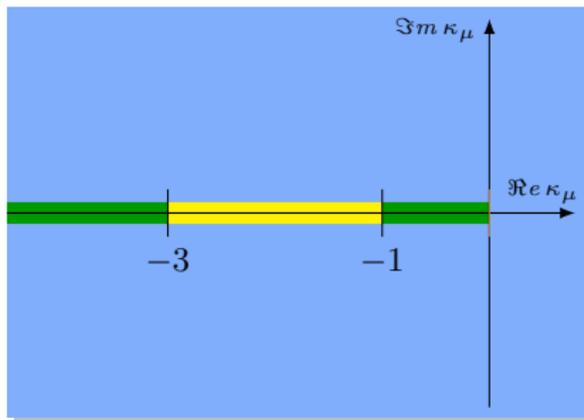


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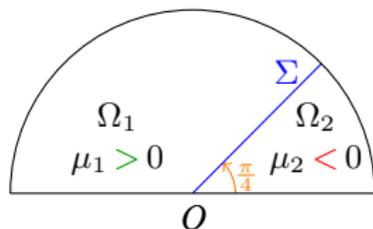
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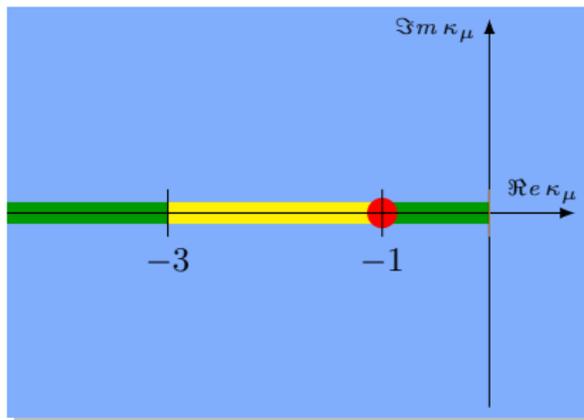
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• $\kappa_\mu = -1$, (\mathcal{P}) ill-posed in $H_0^1(\Omega)$



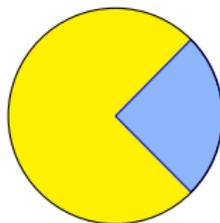
- 1 The coerciveness issue for the scalar case
- 2 A new functional framework in the critical interval
- 3 A curious instability phenomenon
⇒ joint work with **S.A. Nazarov** (IPME RAS St Petersburg).

Problem considered in this section

- ▶ We recall the problem under consideration

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- ▶ When the interface has a **corner**, (\mathcal{P}) is well-posed in the Fredholm sense iff $\kappa_\mu \notin I_c$ (the critical interval).

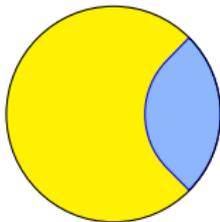
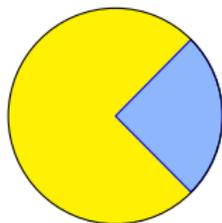


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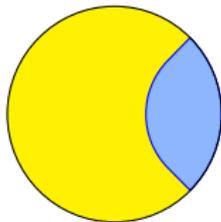
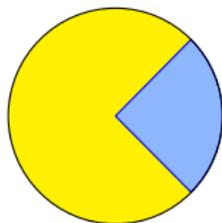
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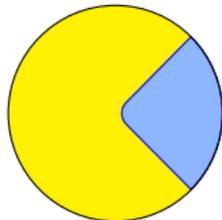
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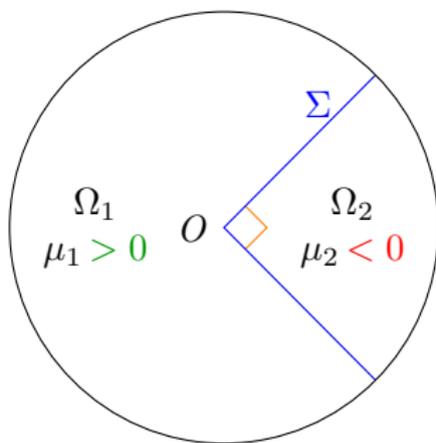
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What happens for a **slightly rounded corner** when $\kappa_\mu \in I_c \setminus \{-1\}$?



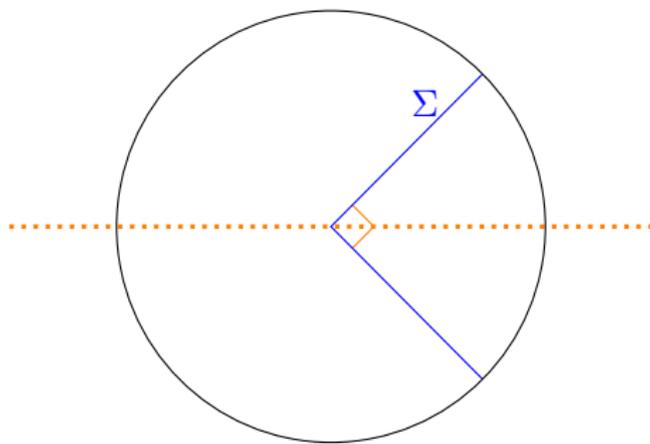
Numerical experiment 1/2

- For the numerical experiment, we **round the corner** in a particular way.



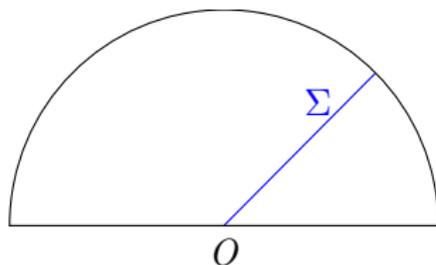
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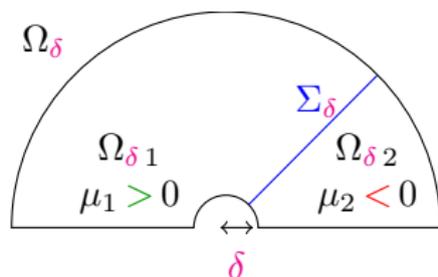
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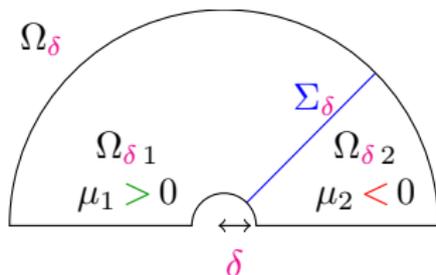
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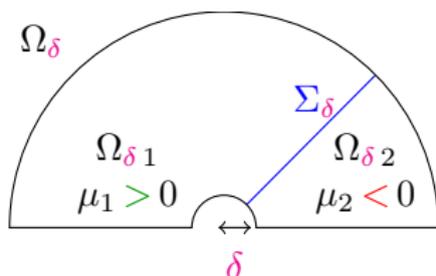
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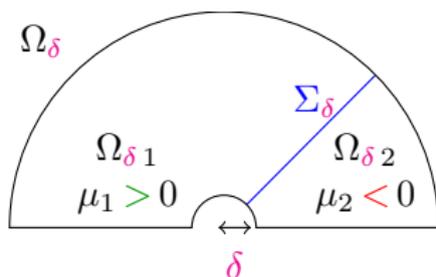
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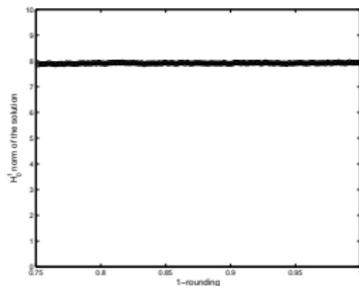
Numerical experiment 2/2

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(...)

(...)



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$|\nabla u_{\delta h}|$ w.r.t. δ

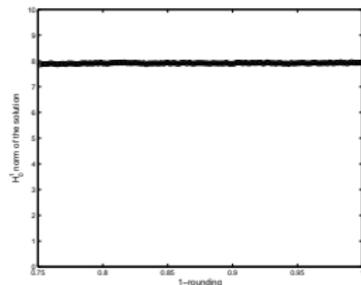
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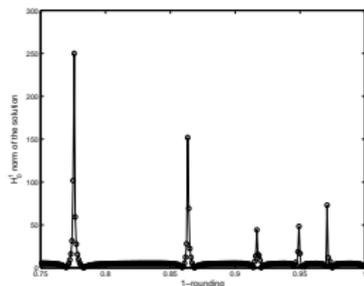
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We proved that the problem (\mathcal{P}_δ) **critically depends** on the value of the **rounding parameter δ** .

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This leads us to question the **physical model** we are using. What do we lose at the corner?

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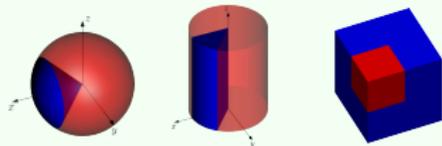


Future directions



Scalar problem

- ♠ Computation of **3D singularities** (conical tip, edge, Fichera corner) for the scalar problem. Are the interval obtained by **geometrical** methods **optimal**?
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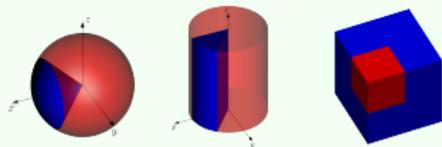


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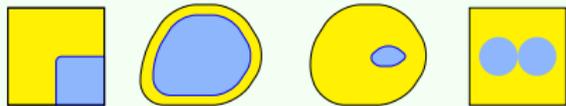
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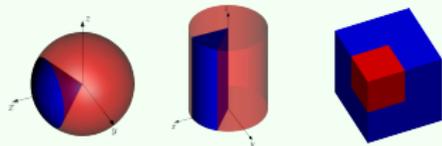


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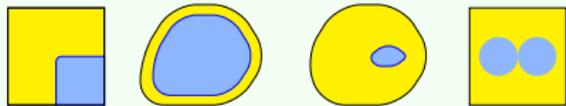
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- ♠ Study for a **cusp** between two kissing balls?



Maxwell's equations inside the critical interval

- ♠ **New functional framework** for Maxwell's equations taking into account the **propagative singularities**.
- ♠ **Approximation** of the solution in the new functional framework. We need first to justify an **edge element** method outside the critical interval...

Thank you for your attention!!!