



Efficient outdoor sound propagation modelling in time-domain

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- **Sound propagation is essentially a time-domain process**
- **Response over broad frequency range possible with a single run**
- **Including of non-linear effects**
- **Modelling realistic sources (moving, transient)**
- **Fluid-flow acoustics coupling can be treated more easily**

■ Finite-difference time-domain (FDTD) method

- Solving LEE
- Numerical discretisation strongly influences modelling efficiency
 - ◆ **computational cost**
 - ◆ **numerical accuracy**
 - ◆ **numerical stability**
- In absence/presence of flow
- Finite absorbers

■ Long distance sound propagation

- moving frame approach
- hybrid modelling

■ Linear continuous sound propagation equation in still air

- **Navier-Stokes equations reduced to**
 - ◆ Momentum equation (*velocity equation*)
 - ◆ Continuity equation (*pressure equation*) + (linear) pressure-density relation
- **Assumptions**
 - ◆ Linearization in acoustical quantities
 - ◆ Non-moving propagation medium
 - ◆ No thermal, viscous effects and molecular relaxation
 - ◆ No gravity

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{v}}{\partial t} + \frac{1}{\rho_0} \nabla p = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial p}{\partial t} + c^2 \rho_0 \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} = 0$$

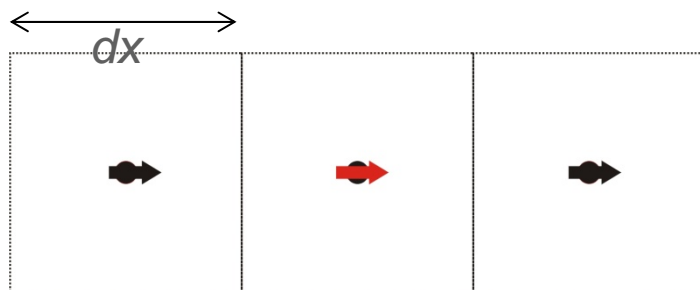
$$\frac{\partial^2 p}{\partial t^2} - c^2 \nabla^2 p = 0$$

$$p_{idx, jdy, kdz}^{ldt} = p_{i, j, k}^l$$

■ Lowest possible spatial stencil

- Two options for central differences
 - ◆ Collocated-in-place (CIP)
 - ◆ Staggered-in-place (SIP)

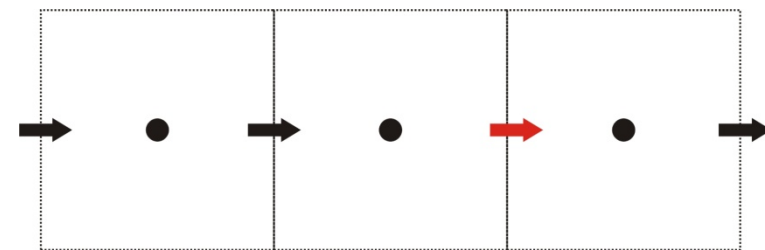
$$\begin{aligned}
 p_{i+1,j,k} &= p_{i,j,k} + \frac{dx}{1!} \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} \Big|_{i,j,k} + \frac{dx^2}{2!} \frac{\partial^2 p}{\partial x^2} \Big|_{i,j,k} + \frac{dx^3}{3!} \frac{\partial^3 p}{\partial x^3} \Big|_{i,j,k} + \dots &
 p_{i+1,j,k} &= p_{i+0.5,j,k} + \frac{dx}{2.1!} \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} \Big|_{i+0.5,j,k} + \frac{dx^2}{2^2.2!} \frac{\partial^2 p}{\partial x^2} \Big|_{i+0.5,j,k} + \frac{dx^3}{2^3.3!} \frac{\partial^3 p}{\partial x^3} \Big|_{i+0.5,j,k} \\
 p_{i-1,j,k} &= p_{i,j,k} - \frac{dx}{1!} \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} \Big|_{i,j,k} + \frac{dx^2}{2!} \frac{\partial^2 p}{\partial x^2} \Big|_{i,j,k} - \frac{dx^3}{3!} \frac{\partial^3 p}{\partial x^3} \Big|_{i,j,k} + \dots &
 p_{i,j,k} &= p_{i+0.5,j,k} - \frac{dx}{2.1!} \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} \Big|_{i+0.5,j,k} + \frac{dx^2}{2^2.2!} \frac{\partial^2 p}{\partial x^2} \Big|_{i+0.5,j,k} - \frac{dx^3}{2^3.3!} \frac{\partial^3 p}{\partial x^3} \Big|_{i+0.5,j,k} \\
 \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} \Big|_{i,j,k} &= \left(\frac{p_{i+1,j,k} - p_{i-1,j,k}}{2dx} \right) - \frac{dx^2}{3!} \frac{\partial^3 p}{\partial x^3} \Big|_{i,j,k} + \dots &
 \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} \Big|_{i+0.5,j,k} &= \left(\frac{p_{i+1,j,k} - p_{i,j,k}}{dx} \right) - \frac{dx^2}{4.3!} \frac{\partial^3 p}{\partial x^3} \Big|_{i+0.5,j,k} + \dots
 \end{aligned}$$



$i-1$

i

$i+1$



i

$i+0.5$

$i+1$

■ Extended spatial stencil

- Take more neighbouring cells to better approach the gradient
 - ◆ E.g. Involve 6 neighbouring cells (7-point stencil, CIP, central differences)

$$\left. \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} \right|_{x_0} = \frac{p(x_0 + 3dx) - 9p(x_0 + 2dx) + 45p(x_0 + dx) - 45p(x_0 - dx) + 9p(x_0 - 2dx) - p(x_0 - 3dx)}{60dx} + O(dx^6)$$

a_i	Taylor	DRP
$a_{-3}=-a_3$	-0.0167	-0.0208
$a_{-2}=-a_2$	0.1500	0.1667
$a_{-1}=-a_1$	-0.7500	-0.7709
a_0	0	0

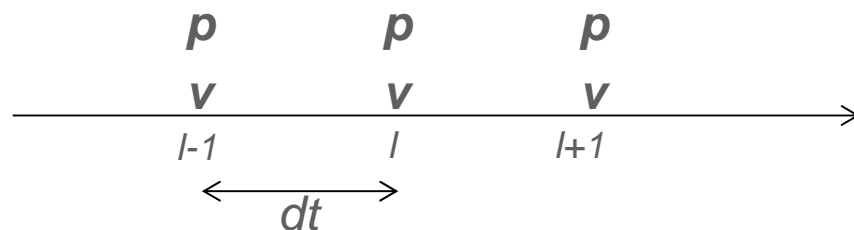
- ◆ Dispersion-relation preserving (DRP) schemes
 - Numerically optimize values of a_i to further decrease phase error

$$\left. \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} \right|_{x_0} \cong \frac{1}{dx} \sum_{i=-n}^n a_i p(x_0 + idx)$$

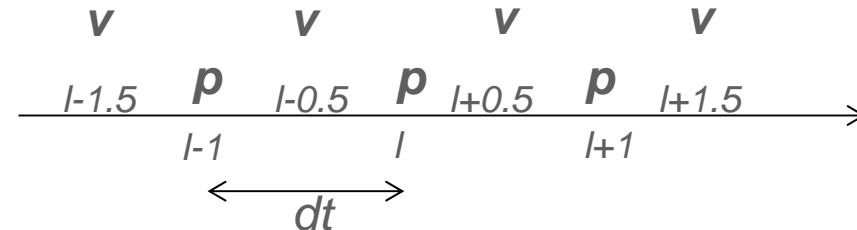
- Drawbacks
 - ◆ Point source representation difficult
 - ◆ Complicated boundary treatment
 - ◆ Reduced time steps for numerical stability

■ Lowest-order schemes

- Two options for explicit schemes
 - ♦ Collocated-in-time (CIT)
 - ♦ Staggered-in-time (SIT)



$$p^l = p^{l-2} - 2dtc^2 \rho_0 \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}^{l-1}$$



$$p^l = p^{l-1} - dtc^2 \rho_0 \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}^{l-0.5}$$

- SIT is advantageous
 - ♦ Higher numerical accuracy with lowest order central difference scheme (see spatial discretisation)
 - ♦ Halves memory use compared to CIT (in-place computation possible)
 - ♦ Doubles time step compared to CIT (stability)

■ High-order schemes

- By Taylor expansion
 - ◆ In general : improves accuracy
 - ◆ Strongly increases memory cost
- Advanced schemes
 - ◆ Runge-Kutta
 - ◆ Crank-Nickolson
 - Implicit scheme
 - Stability guaranteed

■ Numerical stability

- Time-delay system

- ◆ Update equations can be written as a discrete time-delay system (z-transform of SIT scheme)

$$\begin{cases} MP^l = M_{-1}P^{l-1} + \sum_i R_i V_i^{l-0.5} \\ N_i V_i^{l-0.5} = N_{i,-1.5} V_i^{l-1.5} + S_i P^{l-1} \end{cases}$$

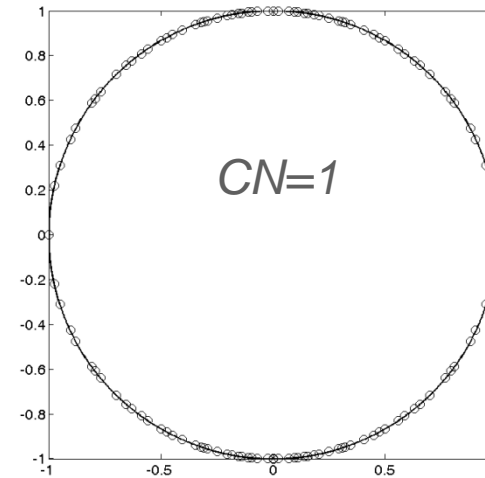
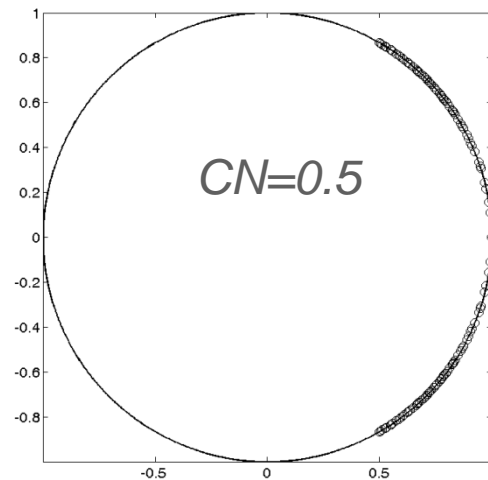
$$X^{m+1} = AX^m$$

$$X^l = \begin{bmatrix} P^l \\ V_i^{l-0.5} \end{bmatrix} \quad A = \begin{bmatrix} M^{-1}M_{-1} + M^{-1}R_i N_i^{-1} S_i & M^{-1}R_i N_i^{-1} N_{i,-1.5} \\ N_i^{-1} S_i & N_i^{-1} N_{i,-1.5} \end{bmatrix}$$

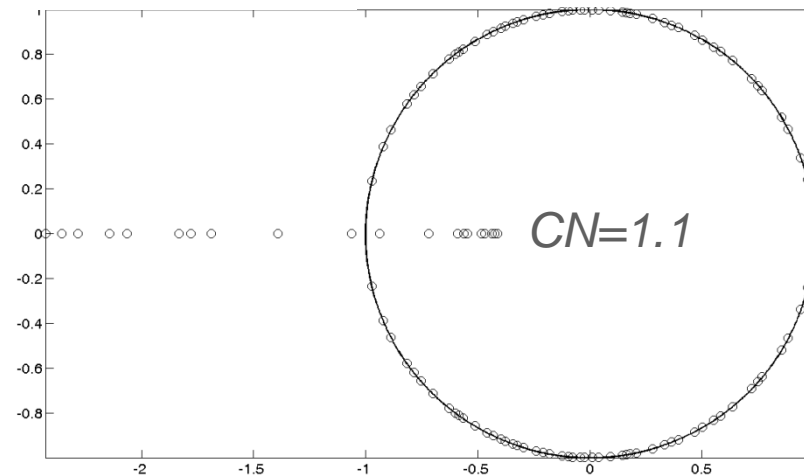
- ◆ Poles of system should have a modulus smaller than or equal to one (or abs of eigenvalues of A should be smaller than 1)

■ Numerical stability

- Time-delay system : pole plots (SIT,SIP)



$$CN = cdt \sqrt{\frac{1}{dx^2} + \frac{1}{dy^2}} \leq 1$$

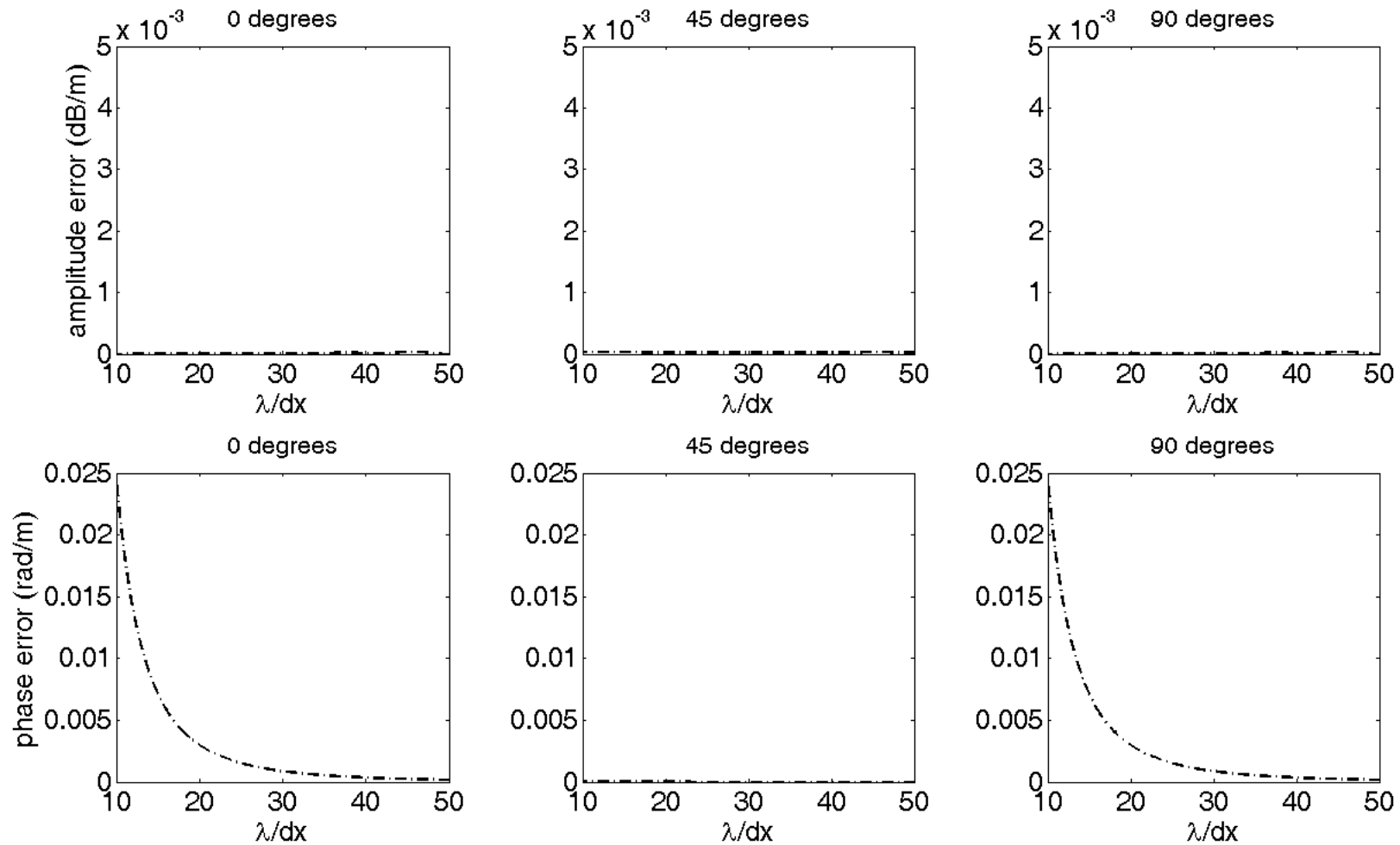


■ Numerical accuracy

- Two aspects
 - ◆ Phase error
 - ◆ Amplitude error
- SIP/SIT p-v FDTD is amplitude-error free
 - ◆ At all Courant Numbers
- FDTD results in phase errors
 - ◆ Phase error decreases with finer spatial discretisation
 - ◆ Phase error vanishes when
 - CN=1
 - Propagation along the diagonal of square cells

$$\Delta\varphi = 2 \arcsin \left(c \, dt \sqrt{\frac{\sin^2(k_x dx / 2)}{dx^2} + \frac{\sin^2(k_y dy / 2)}{dy^2} + \frac{\sin^2(k_z dz / 2)}{dz^2}} \right)$$

■ Numerical accuracy



■ Including meteorological effects

- Concept of “background flow”
 - ◆ Most relevant interactions between wind and acoustics in outdoor applications near the ground included
 - Convection in uniform flows
 - Refraction in non-uniform flows
 - Scattering of sound
 - ◆ No generation of sound
 - ◆ The acoustics will not influence the macro-fluid flow

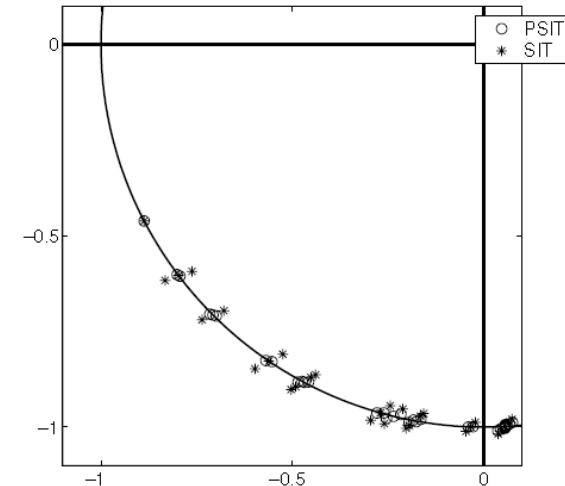
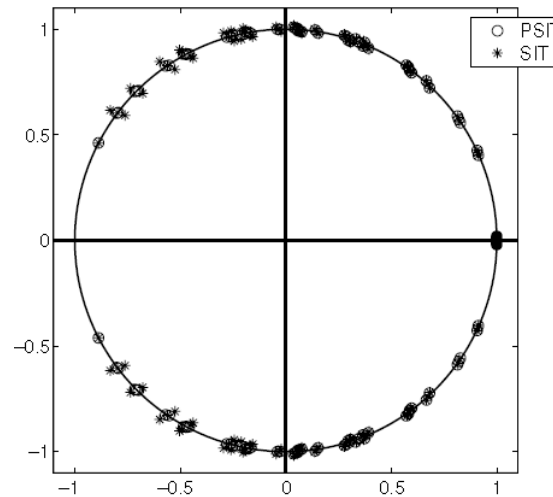
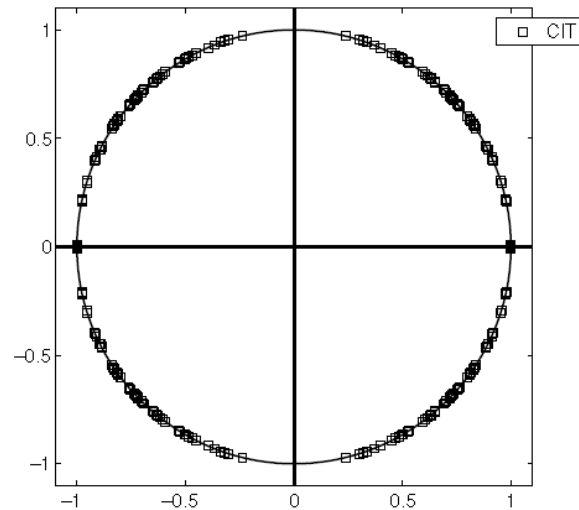
$$\frac{\partial p}{\partial t} + c^2 \rho_0 \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} + \mathbf{v}_0 \cdot \nabla p = 0$$

$$\frac{\partial \mathbf{v}}{\partial t} + (\mathbf{v}_0 \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{v} + (\mathbf{v} \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{v}_0 + \frac{1}{\rho_0} \nabla p = 0$$

- Inhomogeneous atmosphere
 - ◆ No additional cost
 - ◆ Highest sound speed determines stability criterion

■ Numerical discretisation

- Spatial discretisation : SIP still interesting
- Temporal discretisation needs care
 - ◆ **SIT is moderately unstable**
 - ◆ **CIT is fully stable but computationally costly**
 - ◆ **PSIT weakly unstable**



■ Numerical discretisation

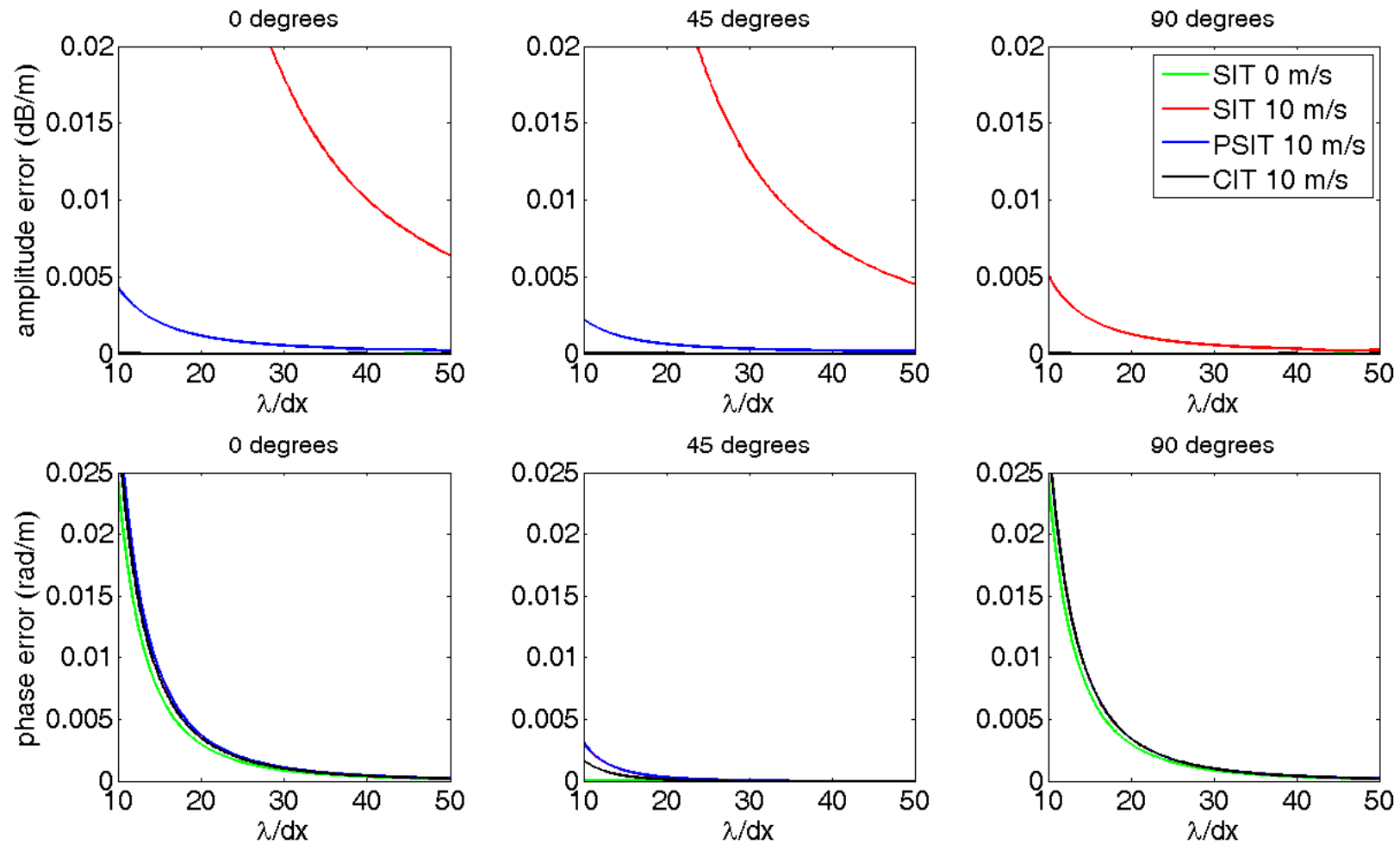
◆ PSIT scheme

- Second order terms in the flow speed are neglected during discretisation as wind speeds are typically low
- Explicit, efficient scheme still possible
- Numerical error
 - » Small amplitude-errors appear
 - » Phase error is not affected
- see Van Renterghem et al.(Appl. Acoust., 2007)
- Can be efficiently implemented

$$p^l = p^{l-1} - dt c^2 \rho_0 \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}^{l-0.5} - dt \mathbf{v}_0 \cdot \nabla p_{noflow}^{l-0.5}$$

$$\mathbf{v}^{l+0.5} = \mathbf{v}^{l-0.5} - dt \frac{1}{\rho_0} \nabla p^l - dt (\mathbf{v}_0 \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{v}_{noflow}^l - dt (\mathbf{v}_{noflow}^l \cdot \nabla) \mathbf{v}_0$$

■ Numerical discretisation



- **Impedance boundary condition**
 - Locally reacting surfaces
 - Models reflection at surfaces only
- **Including a second medium in the simulation domain**
 - Extended reaction (non-local reaction)
 - Models both reflection at surfaces, absorption inside, and transmission through materials
 - Spatially heterogeneous materials

■ Direct convolution

- Frequency domain impedance definition:

$$P(\omega) = Z(\omega) \cdot V(\omega)$$

- Each frequency domain signal or function has a time domain analogy $Z(t) = \mathfrak{F}^{-1}\{Z(\omega)\}$
- In time domain, we need a convolution which is a computationally costly operation

$$p(t) = Z(t) * v(t)$$

$$p(t) = \int_{-\infty}^t Z(t-\tau)v(\tau)d\tau = \int_0^t Z(t-\tau)v(\tau)d\tau$$

■ Using exp. decaying time-domain functions

- Efficient direct convolution
- Recursive approach

$$Z(\omega) = \frac{a}{1 + j\omega t_0} \quad Z(t) = \frac{a}{t_0} e^{-\frac{t}{t_0}}$$

■ Series in $j\omega$

- Easy time-domain equivalent
- Mass-spring-damper system

$$Z(\omega) = a_{-1} \frac{1}{j\omega} + a_0 + a_1 j\omega$$

$$p(t) = a_{-1} \int_{-\infty}^t v(t) dt + a_0 v(t) + a_1 \frac{dv(t)}{dt}$$

■ Pade approximants

- Examples of application
 - ♦ Attenborough 4-parameter model
 - ♦ modified Zwikker and Kosten model

■ Digital filters

- Efficient IIR filters
- Highly flexibility to approach any w-Z curve

$$Z(z) = \frac{\sum_{i=0}^n a_i z^{-i}}{\sum_{i=0}^m b_i z^{-i}}$$

■ Poro-rigid frame model : Zwikker and Kosten

- Only the air in between the material matrix is allowed to vibrate
- Reasonable when density of the frame and the stiffness is significantly larger than those of air
- 3-parameter model
 - ◆ σ (flow resistivity)
 - ◆ φ (porosity)
 - ◆ k_s (structure factor)

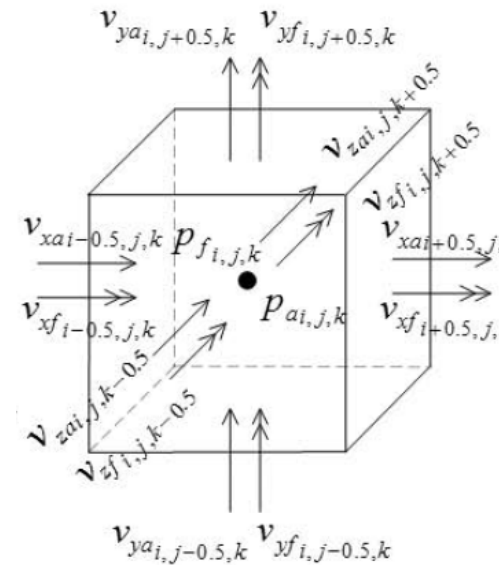
$$\nabla \cdot p + \frac{\rho_0 k_s}{\varphi} \frac{\partial \mathbf{v}}{\partial t} + \sigma \mathbf{v} = \mathbf{0}$$

$$\frac{\partial p}{\partial t} + \frac{\rho_0 c_0^2}{\varphi} \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v} = 0$$

$$\frac{Z(\omega)}{Z_0} = \sqrt{\frac{\sigma}{\rho_0 \omega \varphi} j + \frac{k_s}{\varphi^2}}$$

■ Poro-elastic models : M.A. Biot

- Coupled movement of frame and air inside the porous medium included
- slightly adapted version
- Parameters
 - ◆ Tortuosity: m_t
 - ◆ Porosity: φ_a , $\varphi_f = 1 - \varphi_a$
 - ◆ Flow resistivity: σ
 - ◆ Bulk modulus of frame: K_f
 - ◆ Frame density: ρ_f
 - ◆ Frame damping coefficient: R_f



$$-\frac{\partial p_a}{\partial t} = K_a \varphi_a \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}_a + (K_a - P_0) \varphi_f \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}_f$$

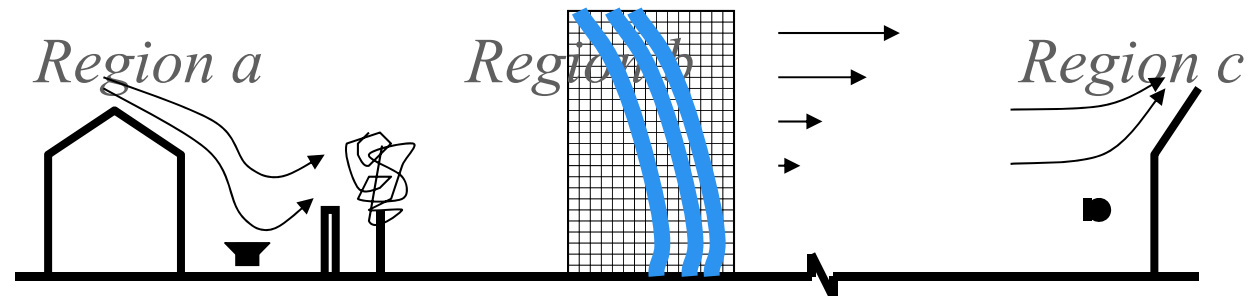
$$-\frac{\partial p_f}{\partial t} + \frac{\varphi_f}{\varphi_a} \frac{\partial p_a}{\partial t} = K_f \nabla \cdot \mathbf{v}_f$$

$$\rho_a \frac{\partial \mathbf{v}_a}{\partial t} = -\nabla p_a - \sigma (\mathbf{v}_a - \mathbf{v}_f) - \rho_a \left(\frac{m_t}{\varphi_a^2} - 1 \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\mathbf{v}_a - \mathbf{v}_f)$$

$$\rho_f \frac{\partial \mathbf{v}_f}{\partial t} + R_f \mathbf{v}_f = -\nabla p_f + \sigma (\mathbf{v}_a - \mathbf{v}_f) + \rho_a \left(\frac{m_t}{\varphi_a^2} - 1 \right) \frac{\partial}{\partial t} (\mathbf{v}_a - \mathbf{v}_f)$$

■ Long distance propagation

- Volume discretisation techniques not well suited for long-distance propagation
- Solutions
 - ◆ **Moving-frame FDTD**
 - Use of short, broadband pulses
 - Mainly software challenge
 - » Allocate and de-allocate memory in an efficient way
 - Mainly efficient if propagation is essentially in one-direction



■ Long distance propagation

- Solutions

- ◆ Hybrid modelling

- Many techniques highly efficient in particular cases
 - Coupling in an attempt to combine “best of both worlds”
 - Coupling in same domain
 - » BEM-PE
 - Cross-domain coupling
 - » Raytracing-analytical formulae (e.g. diffraction)
 - » BEM-raytracing
 - » FDTD-PE

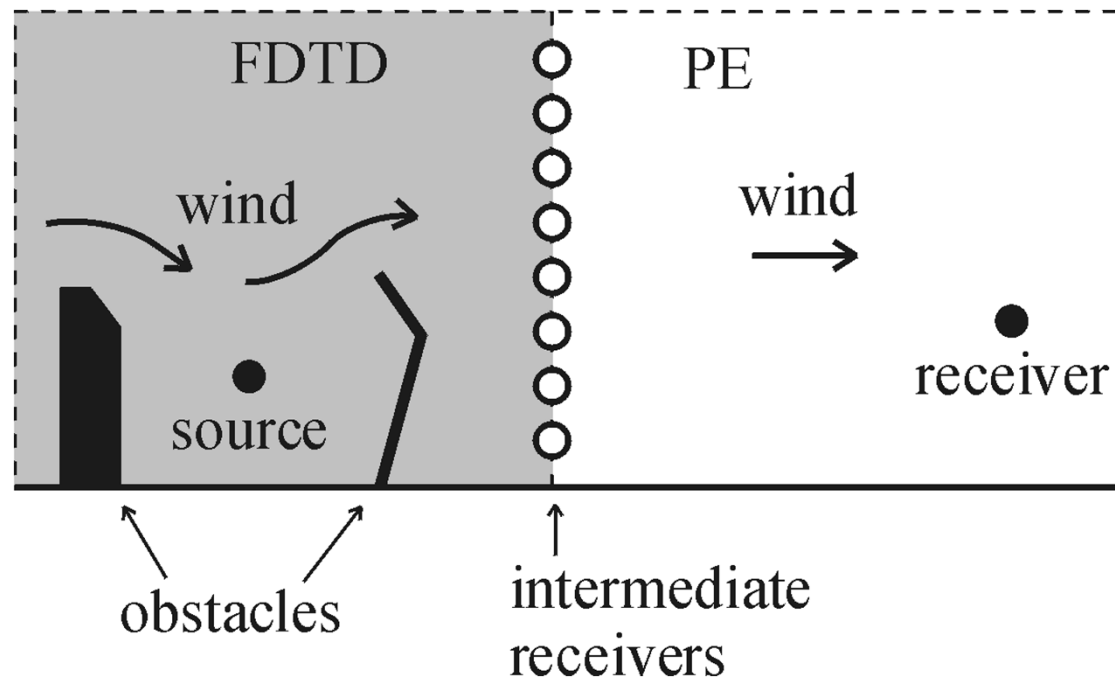
■ Long distance propagation

- Green's Function Parabolic Equation method
 - ◆ PE-type model : one-way sound propagation, effective sound speed approach, range-dependent impedance and profiles, inclusion of terrain possible (CMM,GTPE,rGFPE), diffraction over thin screen, etc.
 - ◆ Works with vertical array of acoustic pressures
 - ◆ Extrapolation towards next array based on Green's function
 - ◆ Discretisation
 - in vertical direction : strong discretisation
 - in forward direction : stepping at several wavelengths without loss in accuracy
 - ◆ Efficiently uses FFT

■ Long distance propagation

- FDTD-GFPE

- ◆ Typical road traffic noise application
- ◆ Complex source region, less complex receiver zone



■ Long distance propagation

- FDTD-PE

- ◆ One-way coupling

- ◆ Interface

- vertical array of receivers in FDTD

- Time signal at each receiver recorded

- Fourier transform gives starting function for PE for all frequencies of interest

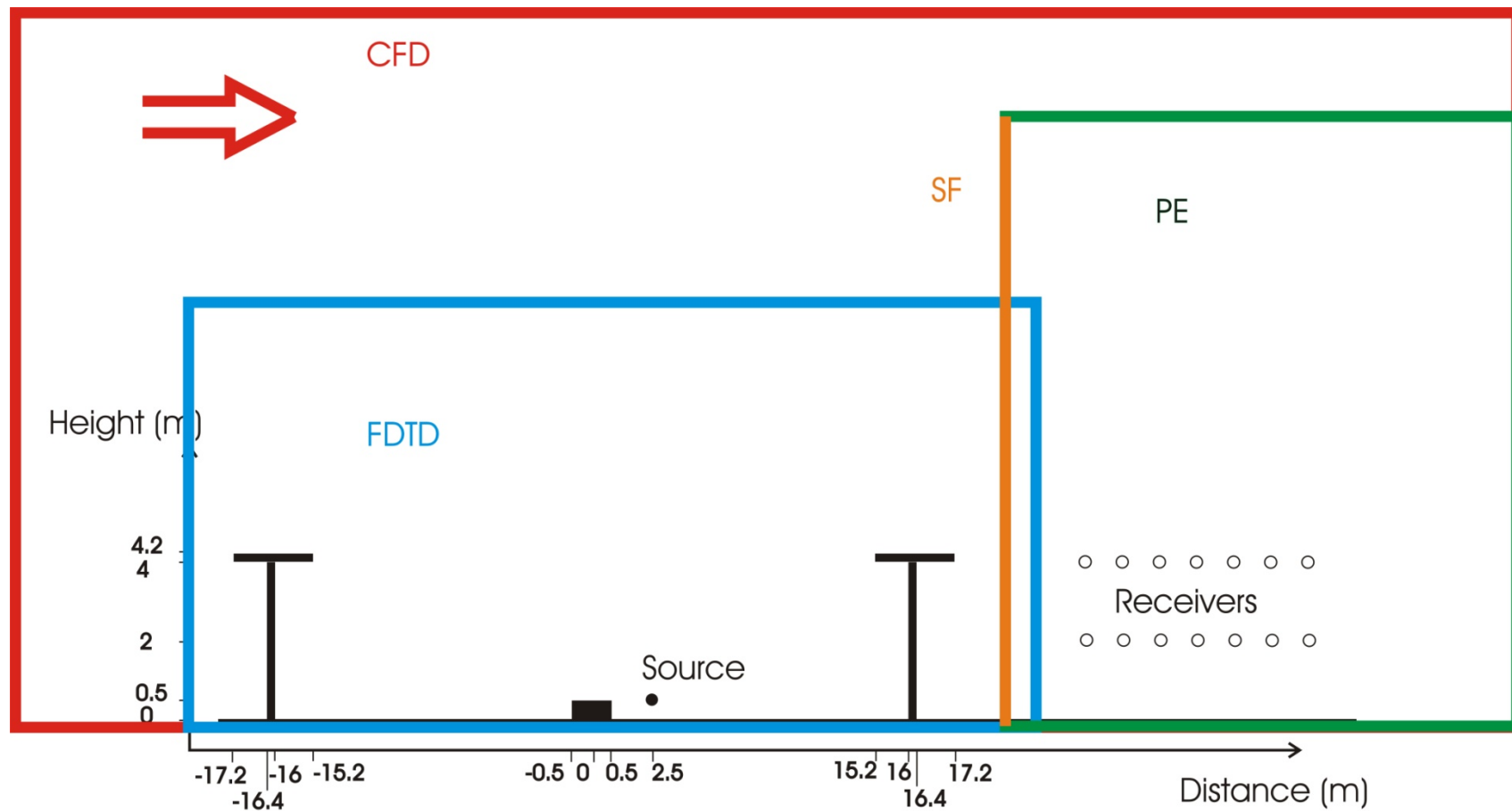
- Should be well chosen

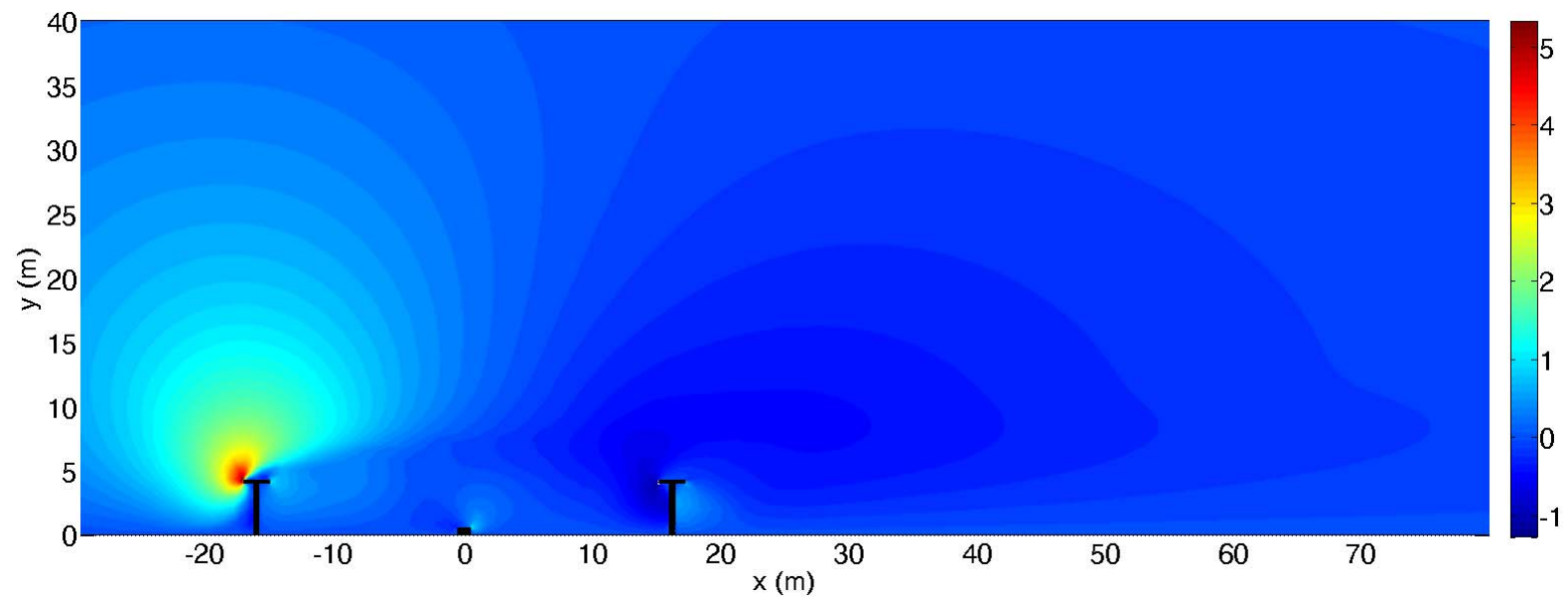
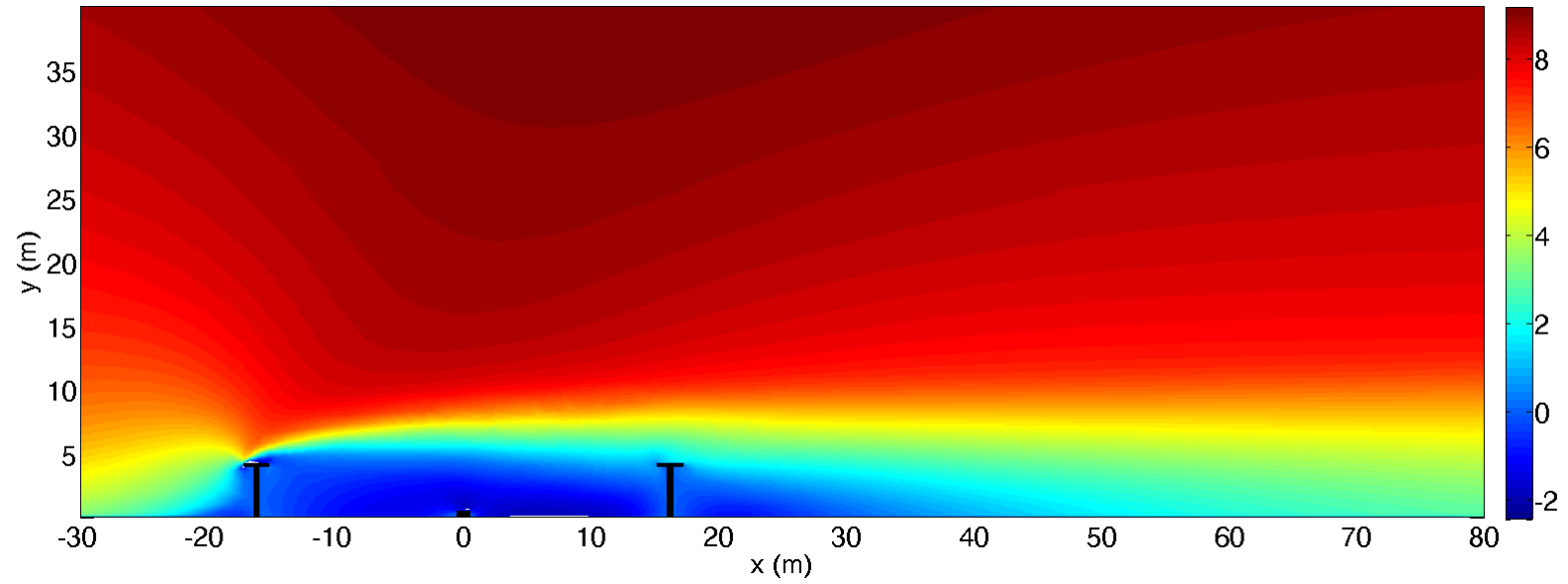
- ◆ 1FDTD, multiple PE calculations

■ Long distance propagation

- FDTD-PE

- ◆ Example : evaluation of T-noise barriers in wind

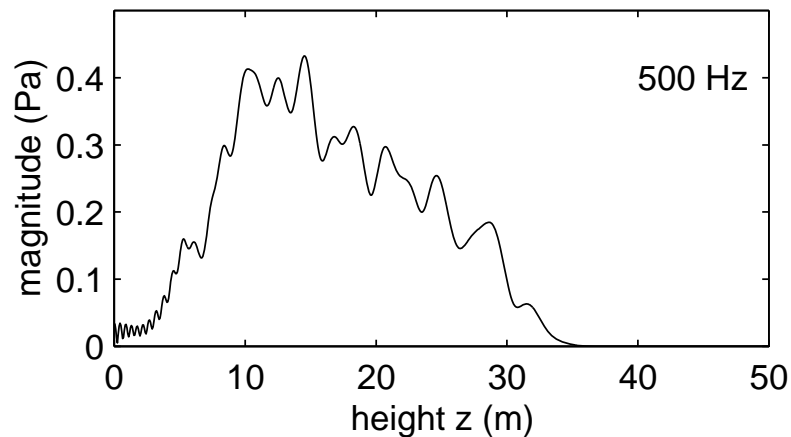
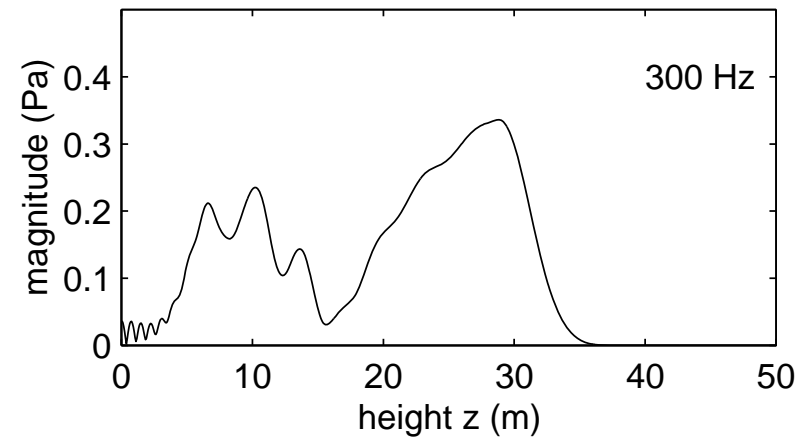
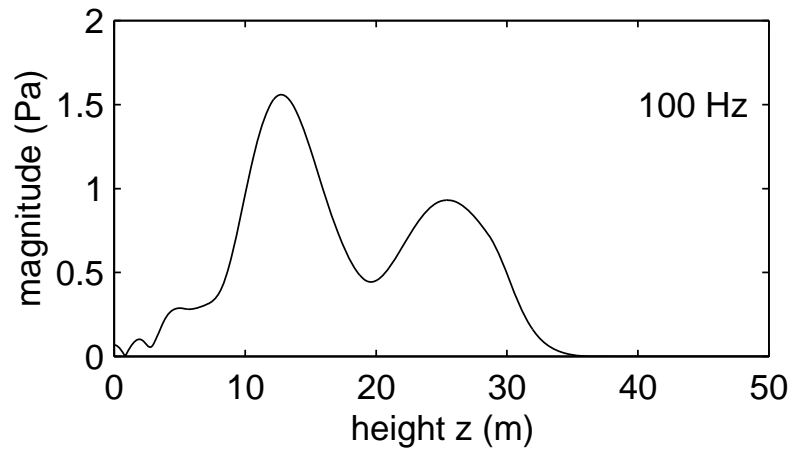


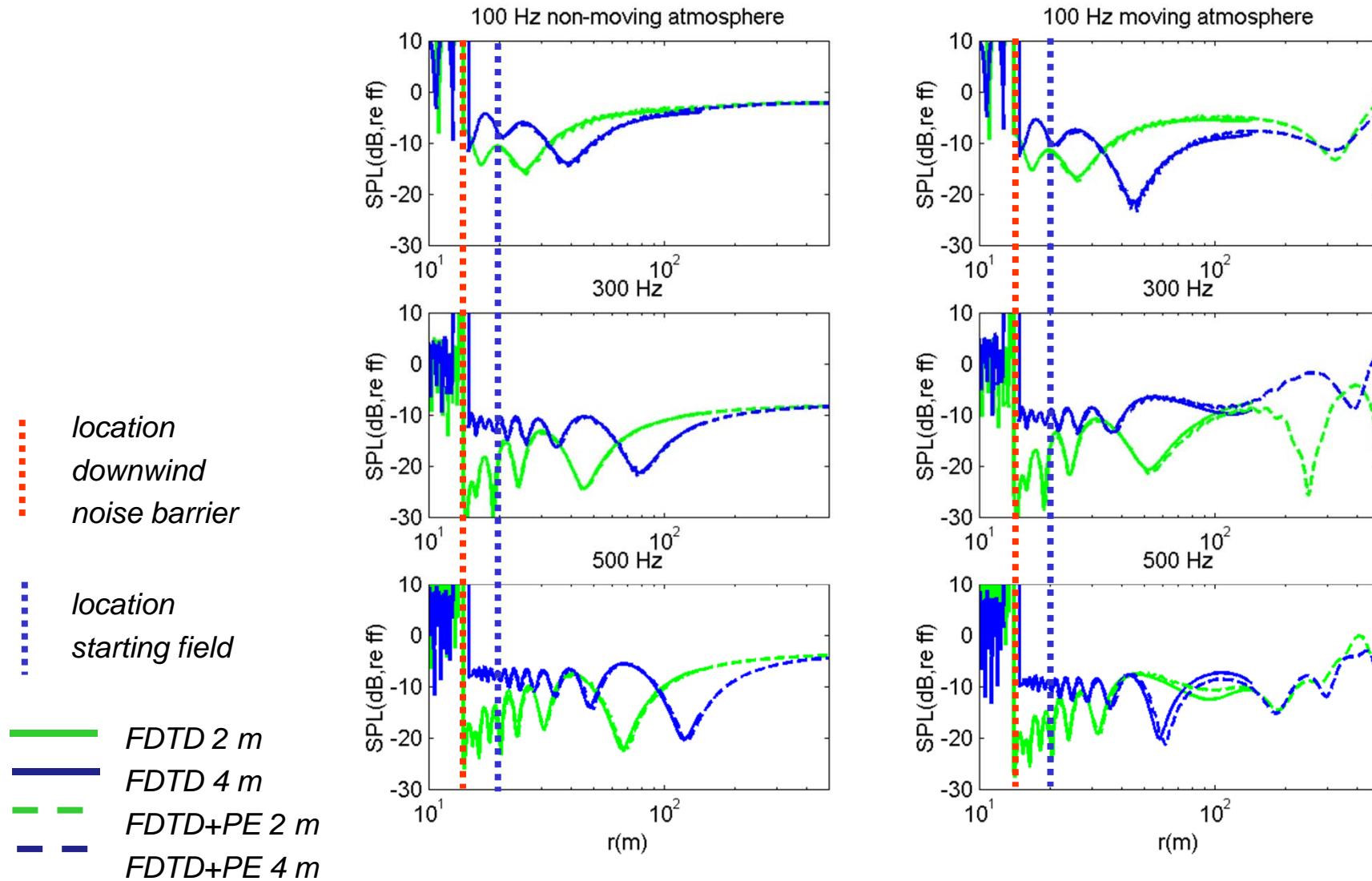


■ Long distance propagation

- FDTD-PE

- ◆ Starting fields





- **Time-domain modelling in outdoor sound propagation has become mature**
- **Low-order schemes are well suited in outdoor sound propagation when carefully choosing the numerical discretisation scheme**
- **Hybrid modelling for long-distance sound propagation**
- **Current trends in time-domain modelling**
 - Parallellisation (by using GPU)
 - Pseudo-spectral time-domain technique (PSTD)