

Effective Approximation for Elliptic PDEs with Highly Oscillating Coefficients

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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:

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

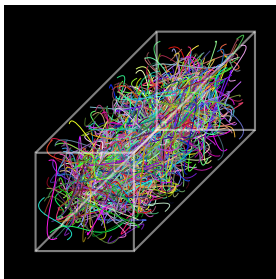


Figure 1: Scheme of a composite material.

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** ε ,

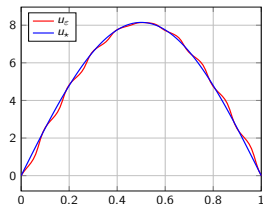
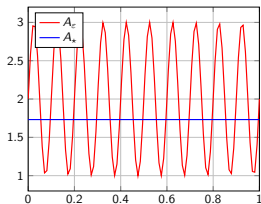
$$\mathcal{L}_\varepsilon u_\varepsilon = -\operatorname{div}(A_\varepsilon \nabla u_\varepsilon) = f \text{ in } \Omega, \quad u_\varepsilon = 0 \text{ on } \partial\Omega, \quad (1)$$

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

Homogenization¹ assesses the existence of a limit equation when $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$,

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

with A_\star an **effective** constant coefficient.



¹ 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 explicitated latter) associated to solutions u_ε for various r.h.s. f , our aim is to propose a **numerical methodology** to build an **effective operator** $\overline{\mathcal{L}}$ approaching \mathcal{L}_ε .

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_ε (but not of ∇u_ε).

Previous work [CRAS2013]², [COCV2018]³

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}_ε 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_ε **in the whole domain** Ω as observables is **disproportionate** to estimate a $d \times d$ constant symmetric matrix.

²C. Le Bris, F. Legoll, K. Li, CRAS, 2013.

³C. 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:

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

with

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

and where u_\star still denotes the solution to

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

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}_ϵ by $\bar{\mathcal{L}}$, we use the functional

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

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

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

In the limit of separated scales

In the limit of vanishing ε , the problem leads to the homogenized diffusion coefficient A_\star .

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

Proposition (Asymptotic consistency, periodic case)

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

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

the following convergence holds:

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

Computational procedure

To solve

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

Given some iterate \bar{A}^n ,

① Define f^n , the argsup to

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

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 $\mathcal{E}(\bar{A}^n, \cdot)$. We next solve a $P \times P$ eigenvalue problem.

② Define \bar{A}^{n+1} , the optimizer to

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

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

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

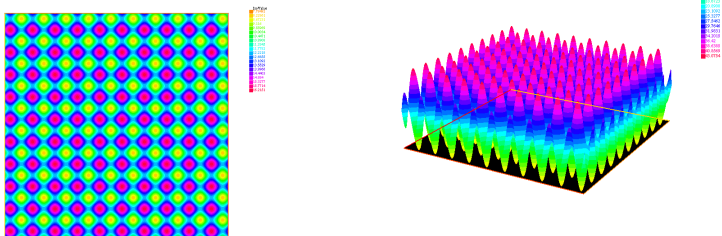


Figure 2: Components 11 and 22 of coefficient A_ε .

Consistency with homogenization theory

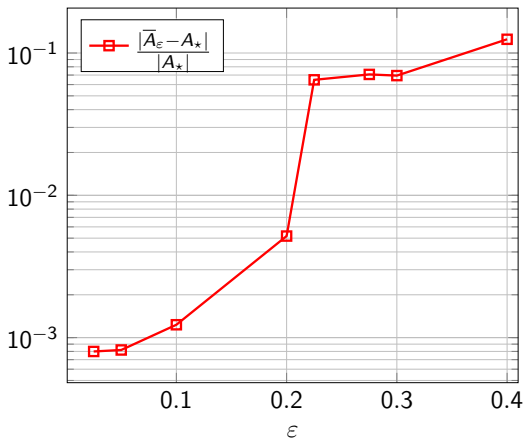


Figure 3: Error between the homogenized coefficient A_* and the effective coefficient \bar{A}_ε as a function of ε .

Beyond the regime of separated scales

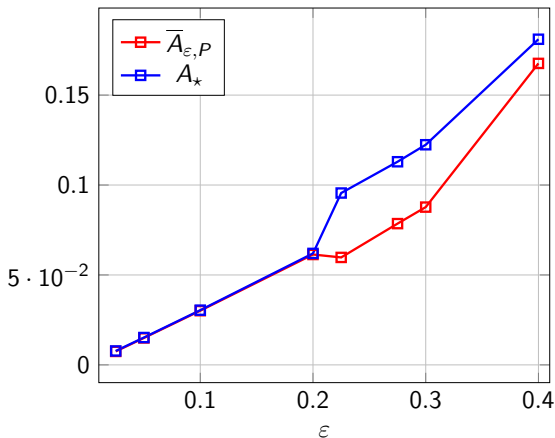


Figure 4: Error $\frac{\sup_{f \in V_Q} \|u_\varepsilon(f) - u(\bar{A}_{\varepsilon, P}, f)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}}{\|u_\varepsilon(\bar{f})\|_{L^2(\Omega)}}$ as a function of ε . (\bar{A}_ε is computed with $P \ll Q = 16$ r.h.s)

Consistency with homogenization theory

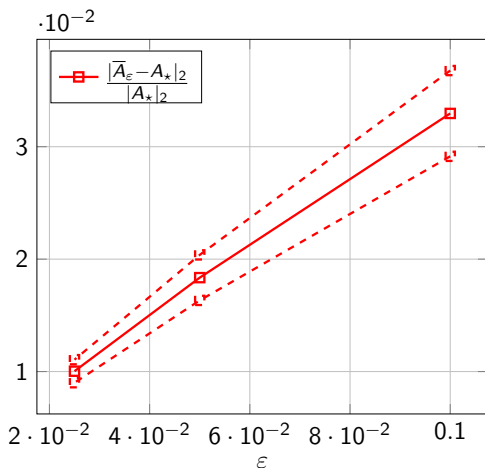


Figure 6: Error between the homogenized coefficient A_\star and the effective coefficient \bar{A}_ε as a function of ε .

Beyond periodicity and the regime of separated scales

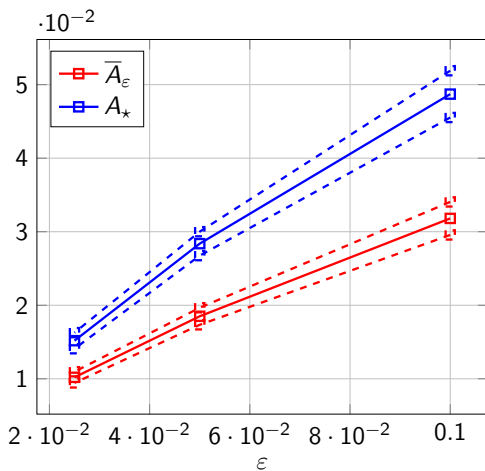


Figure 7: Error $\frac{\sup_{f \in V_Q} \|\mathbb{E}(u_\varepsilon(f, \omega)) - u(\bar{A}_\varepsilon, P, f)\|_{L^2(\Omega)}}{\|\mathbb{E}(u_\varepsilon(\bar{f}, \omega))\|_{L^2(\Omega)}}$ as a function of ε . (\bar{A}_ε is computed with $P \ll Q = 16$ r.h.s)

Conclusion and ongoing works

Our strategy

- aims at determining effective coefficients for multiscale PDEs,
- provides an accurate description of u_ε (not of ∇u_ε),
- 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.