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**HIGHER ORDER  
PARAXIAL WAVE EQUATION  
APPROXIMATIONS  
IN HETEROGENEOUS MEDIA**

**PART II**

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IN HETEROGENEOUS MEDIA  
Part. II

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## RESUME

*Dans la première partie, nous avons longuement étudié l'approximation dite "parabolique" en milieu homogène et hétérogène. Certains résultats étaient déjà connus, mais nous avons surtout mis en évidence la difficulté d'obtenir une "bonne" équation parabolique en milieu hétérogène. Nous avons ainsi proposé une équation qui respecte un certain nombre de critères de "qualité", c'est-à-dire principalement qui mène à un problème bien posé, et qui, en milieu stratifié, a de bonnes propriétés de réflexion et transmission sur l'interface.*

*Notre but ici est d'établir des approximations paraxiales d'ordre supérieur, pour approcher de mieux en mieux la solution de l'équation des ondes.*

*Nous commençons par généraliser des équations déjà introduites dans la littérature (cf. [13]) en milieu homogène. Nous étudions en particulier les solutions élémentaires et nous montrons que les problèmes de CAUCHY associés, dans l'espace libre et dans le demi-espace, sont bien posés. Nous donnons un résultat d'approximation de l'équation des ondes. Nous nous intéressons alors à un milieu hétérogène : dans le même esprit que pour l'équation parabolique, nous établissons un problème bien posé, et nous étudions la réflexion et la transmission par rapport à une interface.*

## ABSTRACT

A new family of paraxial wave equation approximations is derived. These approximations are of higher order accuracy than the parabolic approximation and they can be applied to the same computational problems e.g in seismology, underwater acoustics, and as artificial boundary conditions. The equations are written as systems which simplifies computations. The support and singular support are studied, energy estimates are given which prove the well-posedness. The reflection and transmission are shown to be continuously depending on material interfaces in heterogeneous media.

MOTS CLES

APPROXIMATION PARAXIALE - EQUATION DES ONDES.

KEY WORDS

PAPAXIAL APPROXIMATION - WAVE EQUATION.

## 1 - INTRODUCTION

Paraxial wave equation approximations are used to describe wave propagation with a preferred direction. The most common paraxial approximation is the parabolic equation

$$(1.1) \quad \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x_2 \partial t} - \frac{c}{2} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x_1^2} = 0$$

approximating the scalar wave equation

$$(1.2) \quad \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} - \left( \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x_1^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x_2^2} \right) = 0$$

The solution  $u(x,t)$  of (1.1) is an exact approximation of solutions to (1.2) for plane waves traveling in the positive  $x_2$  direction,  $u = f(x_2 - ct)$ .

In [1], we studied mathematical properties of the parabolic equation (1.1) and its generalization to variable velocity  $c(x)$ . The paper [1] also contains references to the applications of paraxial approximations in seismology, acoustics, and as artificial computational boundary conditions.

The error in the approximation above increases with increasing angle  $\theta$  between the direction of propagation and the  $x_2$  axis ( $u = f(\cos \theta x_2 + \sin \theta x_1 - ct)$ ).

In order to reduce this error higher order approximations than (1.1) have been suggested. Claerbout [5] introduced a third order equation :

$$(1.3) \quad \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial^3 u}{\partial t^3} + \frac{\partial^3 u}{\partial t^2 \partial x_2} - \frac{3c}{4} \frac{\partial^3 u}{\partial t \partial x_1^2} - \frac{c^2}{4} \frac{\partial^3 u}{\partial x_2 \partial x_1^2} = 0$$

the so-called 45°-approximation, for applications in seismology. Higher order paraxial approximations have also been suggested as artificial boundary conditions ([8], [11]).

In this paper we shall present a new family of higher order paraxial approximations. The approximations are written as second order systems of partial differential equations. The higher order scalar equations in [8] can be equivalently written as systems of our type (see also [16]).

In section 2, the paraxial systems of equations are derived for homogeneous media. The derivation is based on rational approximations of the dispersion relation for (1.2). The section also contains analysis of the propagation properties of the equations and an error estimate. The error estimate shows that it is possible to approximate (1.2) by paraxial equation to any accuracy by choosing the order of the paraxial equation high enough.

New higher order approximations for heterogeneous media are derived in section 3. It is here essential that the approximation be written as a system rather than a scalar higher order equation. The formulation as a system is also fundamental for the analysis. The well-posedness is established and propagation properties are analysed. The support of the fundamental solution is proved to propagate in a half-space with a finite speed. This is an essential feature for a paraxial equation. The transmission and reflection at an interface is showed to be continuously dependent on its location.

In section 4, numerical results are presented. Numerical approximations of the fundamental solution of two higher order paraxial systems were computed. Different calculations with different velocity profiles were performed by F. Collino [6].

Some of the results of this paper were announced in [9] and some technical details in the proofs are omitted here but are given in the report [3]. As in [1] we restrict ourselves to two space dimensions, but the techniques are the same in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

## 2 - HIGHER ORDER APPROXIMATIONS IN HOMOGENEOUS MEDIA

### 2.1. DERIVATION OF THE EQUATIONS

Consider the two-dimensional wave equation (1.2).

Let us recall [1] that the paraxial (or one way) approximation consists of approximating the part of the solution to the Cauchy problem propagating close to the positive  $x_2$  direction. By using the Fourier transform, this part  $u_+$  can be written as a sum of harmonic waves traveling in the positive  $x_2$  direction :

$$(2.1) \quad u_+(x, t) = \iint \hat{a}(k) \exp i(\omega(k)t - k \cdot x) dk$$

where the amplitude  $\hat{a}(k)$  depends on the initial values, and  $\omega$  is defined by :

$$(2.2) \quad c \frac{k_2}{\omega(k)} = \left( 1 - \left( c \frac{k_1}{\omega(k)} \right)^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

The function  $u_+$  is solution of a pseudo-differential equation, the symbol (or the dispersion relation) of which is :

$$(2.3) \quad \mathcal{L} = c k_2 - \omega \left( 1 - \left( c \frac{k_1}{\omega} \right)^2 \right)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

Our aim is to approximate  $u_+$  by the solution of a partial differential equation, suitable for computation. We hence have to approximate the symbol  $\mathcal{L}$  by rational functions in  $\omega$  and  $k$ . This is done by approximating the function

$$(2.4) \quad f(X) = (1 - X)^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

by polynomial or rational functions in  $X = c \frac{k_1}{\omega}$ .

The term  $c \frac{k_1}{\omega}$  in (2.3) represents the sine of the angle between the direction of propagation of the harmonic plane wave and the  $x_2$  direction :  $c \frac{k_1}{\omega} = \sin \theta$ .

Many applications are concerned with a narrow range of wave vectors, so that this angle remains small. Thus the classical approach was to approximate  $f(X)$  for small values of  $X$ .

A first-Taylor approximation to  $f$  :

$$f(X) = 1 - \frac{1}{2} X + O(X^2)$$

yields the following approximation to  $\mathcal{L}$

$$c k_2 - \omega \left( 1 - \frac{1}{2} \left( c \frac{k_1}{\omega} \right)^2 \right)$$

Multiplying by  $\omega$  leads to the quadratic polynomial

$$(2.5) \quad c k_2 \omega - \omega^2 + \frac{1}{2} c^2 k_1^2$$

which is the symbol of the so-called parabolic or 15° approximation (1.1) (for details see [1]) :

$$(2.6) \quad \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t \partial x_2} - \frac{c}{2} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x_1^2} = 0$$

A first Padé approximation :

$$f(X) = \frac{1 - \frac{3}{4} X}{1 - \frac{1}{4} X} + O(X^3)$$

leads to the symbol

$$(2.7) \quad -\omega^3 + c k_2 \omega^2 + \frac{3}{4} c^2 k_1^2 \omega - \frac{1}{4} c^3 k_2 k_1^2$$

of the so-called 45° approximation (1.3) :

$$(2.8) \quad \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial^3 u}{\partial t^3} + \frac{\partial^3 u}{\partial t^2 \partial x_2} - \frac{3}{4} c \frac{\partial^3 u}{\partial t \partial x_1^2} - \frac{c^2}{4} \frac{\partial^3 u}{\partial x_2 \partial x_1^2} = 0$$

A generalization to any order, by means of continued fractions (corresponding to three diagonals of the Padé-table) has been used in [8] for absorbing boundary conditions. They are defined by :



$$(2.9) \quad \begin{cases} g_N(X) = 1 - \frac{X}{1 + g_{N-1}(X)} \\ g_1(X) = 1 \end{cases}$$

These functions are rational fractions in  $X$ , and they have been shown in [2] to have the important approximation property :

$$\|g_N - f\|_{L^\infty([0,1])} = \frac{1}{N}$$

From  $g_N$  can be derived partial differential operator of order  $N$ . The high order of derivative makes the practical use of these equations more difficult. An other way of writing the equations has been found independently by the authors [9] and Zhang Guan-Quan [16], and had been used previously to design absorbing boundary conditions in [11]. It is based on the remark that a rational fraction can be split up into a sum of prime fractions. For example, the first Padé approximation is also equal to :

$$f(X) = 1 - \frac{\frac{1}{2}X}{1 - \frac{1}{4}X} + O(X^3) .$$

A natural generalization of the approximation (2.9) is then

$$(2.10) \quad f_n(X) = 1 - \beta X - \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{\beta_k X}{1 - \gamma_k^2 X}$$

The coefficients  $\beta$ ,  $\beta_k$  and  $\gamma_k$  are such that :

$$(2.11) \quad 0 < \gamma_n < \dots < \gamma_1 < 1$$

$$(2.12) \quad \beta \geq 0 ; \beta_k > 0 , 1 \leq k \leq n .$$

This generalization is justified by the fact that the Padé approximations  $g_N$  can be written in the form (2.10). More precisely, the results are the following :

(i)  $g_{2n+1}(x) = f_n(x)$

with 
$$\begin{cases} \beta = 0 \\ \beta_k = \frac{2}{2n+1} \sin^2 \frac{k\pi}{2n+1} \\ \gamma_k = \cos \frac{k\pi}{2n+1} \end{cases}$$

(ii)  $g_{2n}(x) = f_{n-1}(x)$

with 
$$\begin{cases} \beta = \frac{1}{2n} \\ \beta_k = \frac{1}{n} \sin^2 \frac{k\pi}{2n} \\ \gamma_k = \cos \frac{k\pi}{2n} \end{cases}$$

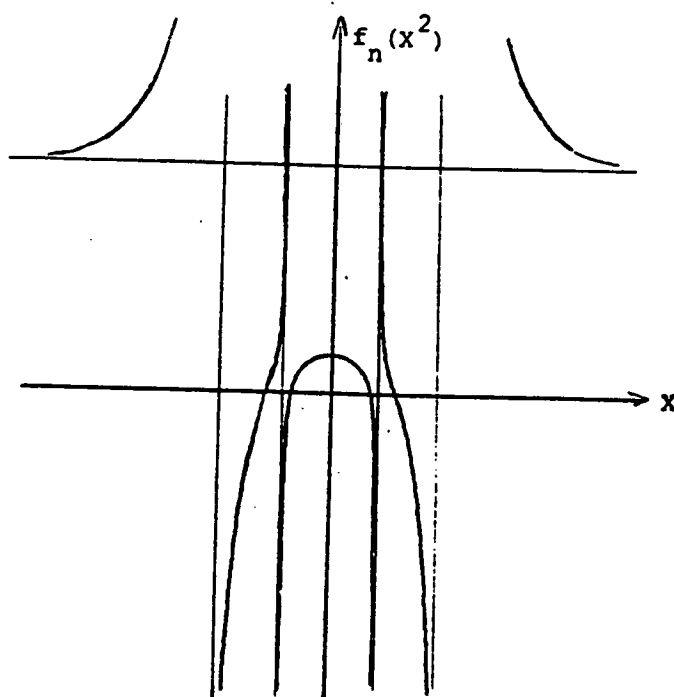


Figure 2.1 : Variations of  $f_n$  for  $\beta = 0$

The constraints (2.11) are natural. They express that  $f_n$  is continuous on  $[0,1]$ . The constraints (2.12) on  $\beta$  and  $\beta_k$  ensure the hyperbolicity of the corresponding operator, as will be discussed below.

REMARK 2.1 : The choice of the coefficients  $\gamma_k, \beta, \beta_k$  depends on the applications. In many areas, one is concerned with thin beams, and hence the family  $g_N$  will be chosen. For other purposes, one could for instance compute them to get a  $L^\infty$  approximation to  $f$  (for a more complete discussion see [14]).

The decomposition (2.10) of the function  $f_n$  enables us to write the approximate equation in a very convenient form. If  $u$  is a solution, its Fourier transform  $\hat{u}$  satisfies

$$(2.13) \quad \left[ c k_2 - \omega f_n \left( \left( c \frac{k_1}{\omega} \right)^2 \right) \right] \hat{u} = 0$$

which implies, if  $\beta = 0$  :

$$(2.14) \quad c k_2 \hat{u} - \omega \hat{u} + \omega \sum_{k=1}^n \beta_k \frac{c^2 k_1^2}{\omega^2 - \gamma_k^2 c^2 k_1^2} \hat{u} = 0$$

We define  $n$  function  $\varphi_k, 1 \leq k \leq n$ , by their Fourier transforms :

$$(2.15) \quad \hat{\varphi}_k = \frac{c^2 k_1^2}{\omega^2 - \gamma_k^2 c^2 k_1^2} \hat{u}$$

so that equation (2.14) can be rewritten as :

$$(2.16) \quad c k_2 \hat{u} - \omega \hat{u} + \omega \sum_{k=1}^n \beta_k \hat{\varphi}_k = 0 .$$

When the inverse Fourier transform is applied, the equations (2.15) and (2.16) lead to the following system of equations :

$$(2.17) \quad \begin{cases} \frac{\partial u}{\partial t} + c \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_2} - \sum_{k=1}^n \beta_k \frac{\partial \varphi_k}{\partial t} = 0 \\ \frac{\partial^2 \varphi_k}{\partial t^2} - c^2 \gamma_k^2 \frac{\partial^2 \varphi_k}{\partial x_1^2} = c^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x_1^2} ; \quad 1 \leq k \leq n \end{cases}$$

This is a system of  $(n + 1)$  linear equations : one transport equation in the  $x_2$  direction and  $n$  one dimensional wave equation in the  $x_1$ -direction. For  $\beta \neq 0$ , we get the system :

$$(2.18) \quad \begin{cases} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} + c \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t \partial x_2} - \beta c^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x_1^2} - \sum_{k=1}^n \beta_k \frac{\partial^2 \varphi_k}{\partial t^2} = 0 \\ \frac{\partial^2 \varphi_k}{\partial t^2} - c^2 \gamma_k^2 \frac{\partial^2 \varphi_k}{\partial x_1^2} = c^2 \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x_1^2} \end{cases}$$

This formulation is useful in three ways. It is easy to derive a priori estimates, it can be extended to heterogeneous media, and it is convenient for numerical computations.

**REMARK 2.2** : In order to solve the Cauchy problems for (2.17) and (2.18), additional initial data are required for the functions  $\varphi_k$  and  $\frac{\partial \varphi_k}{\partial t}$ .

## 2.2 PROPAGATION PROPERTIES OF THE OPERATOR

In this section, we shall only consider the case  $\beta = 0$ . If  $\beta \neq 0$ , the results are somewhat different, but the techniques are the same [3].

The propagation properties depend only on the determinant of the system, i.e. the approximate operator  $\mathcal{L}_n$  the symbol of which is

$$-c \frac{k_2}{\omega} + f_n \left( \left( c \frac{k_1}{\omega} \right)^2 \right)$$

or, after clearing the denominator :

$$(2.19) \quad \mathcal{L}_n(\omega, k) = (c k_2 - \omega) \prod_{k=1}^n (\omega^2 - c^2 \gamma_k^2 k_1^2) \\ - c^2 \omega^2 k_1^2 \sum_{k=1}^n \beta_k \prod_{\substack{j=1 \\ j \neq k}}^n (\omega^2 - c^2 \gamma_j^2 k_1^2)$$

$\mathcal{L}_n$  is a homogeneous operator of global order  $2n + 1$ , and of order 1 in  $x_2$ . It is clear from (2.17) that the equation is hyperbolic. Let us make this precise.

**DEFINITION [10]** : The operator  $\mathcal{L}$  is hyperbolic in time if  $\mathcal{L}(1,0) \neq 0$  (i.e. time is not characteristic for  $\mathcal{L}$ ) and if  $\mathcal{L}(\omega, k)$  has only real roots  $\omega$  for  $k \in \mathbb{R}^2 - \{0,0\}$ . If, in addition, the roots are simple,  $\mathcal{L}$  is strictly hyperbolic.

**LEMMA 2.1** : The operator  $\mathcal{L}_n$  is hyperbolic in time, but not strictly hyperbolic : the  $x_2$  direction is characteristic.

**PROOF** :  $k$  being fixed, the number of roots of  $\mathcal{L}_n$  is the number of solutions  $Z$  (finite or not) to the system :

$$\begin{cases} y = f_n(Z^2) \\ y = -\frac{k_2}{k_1} Z \end{cases}$$

It is now easy to check that the number of intersection points is  $2n + 1$ . In particular, if  $k_1 = 0$ ,  $\omega = -k_2$  is the only simple root of  $\mathcal{L}_n$ , and  $\omega = 0$  is a root of multiplicity  $2n$ : the axis  $x_2$  is characteristic for  $\mathcal{L}_n$ .

The theory of hyperbolic operators (cf [10]) ensures that  $\mathcal{L}_n$  has an unique fundamental solution  $E_n$ , defined for  $t > 0$ . Its support can be given explicitly. We define a subset  $\mathcal{D}_n$  of  $\mathbb{R}^3$  as the component of  $(1,0,0)$  in the set  $\{(\omega, k), \mathcal{L}_n(\omega, k) \neq 0\}$ . Then ([10]) the support  $\mathcal{E}_n$  of  $E_n$  is included in the closed convex cone with vertex at 0, dual of  $\mathcal{D}_n$  in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ , but in no smaller closed convex cone with vertex at 0. In our case we can write an explicit formula :

THEOREM 2.1 : The support  $\mathcal{E}_n(t)$  of the fundamental solution at time  $t$  is the domain of  $\mathbb{R}^2$  bounded by the  $x_1$  axis and the curve

$$(2.20) \quad \Gamma_n^0(t) = \begin{cases} x_1 = 2 \lambda f'_n(\lambda^2) x_2 \\ ct = [f_n(\lambda^2) - 2 \lambda^2 f'_n(\lambda^2)] x_2 \end{cases} \quad x_2 \geq 0, |\lambda| \leq \frac{1}{c\gamma_1}$$

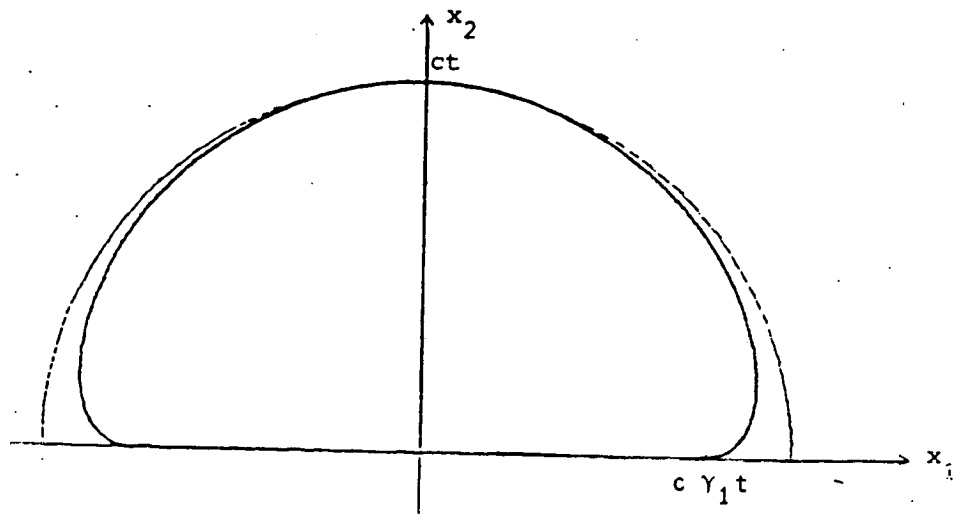


Figure 2.2 : Support of the fundamental solution

The form of the fundamental solution provides important informations concerning the propagation of the solutions of  $\mathcal{L}_n$ . Every solution of equation  $\mathcal{L}_n u = 0$  propagates in the positive  $x_2$  direction, with a velocity  $V \leq c$ . This is formulated precisely in the following theorem.

THEOREM 2.2 : *If the initial values are of compact support in  $\mathcal{K}$ , at any time  $t$  one has*

$$\text{supp } u \subset \mathcal{K} + \mathcal{E}_n^+(t)$$

Theorem 2.2 proceeds directly from Theorem 2.1. Theorem 2.1 is achieved by writing explicitly the equation of  $\mathcal{D}_n$ , and then the equation of the dual. For more details see [3].

It is more difficult to study the singular support than the support of the fundamental solution, since  $\mathcal{L}_n$  is not strictly hyperbolic. Let us first recall that the singular support of a distribution  $u$  is the smallest closed domain where  $u$  is not  $\mathcal{C}^\infty$ . One can use the notion of wave front set (WFS) which provides additional informations on the singularities [10]. We restrict ourselves here to giving the singular support of  $E_n$ .

THEOREM 2.3 : *The singular support of  $E_n$  at time  $t$  consists of two parts : the curve defined by :*

$$(2.21) \quad \Gamma_n^1(t) = \begin{cases} x_1 = 2 \lambda f'_n(\lambda^2) x_2 \\ ct = [f_n(\lambda^2) - 2 \lambda^2 f'_n(\lambda^2)] x_2 \end{cases} \quad x_2 \geq 0, \lambda \in \mathbb{R}$$

and the segment  $\{x, |x_1| \leq \gamma_1 ct, x_2 = 0\}$ .

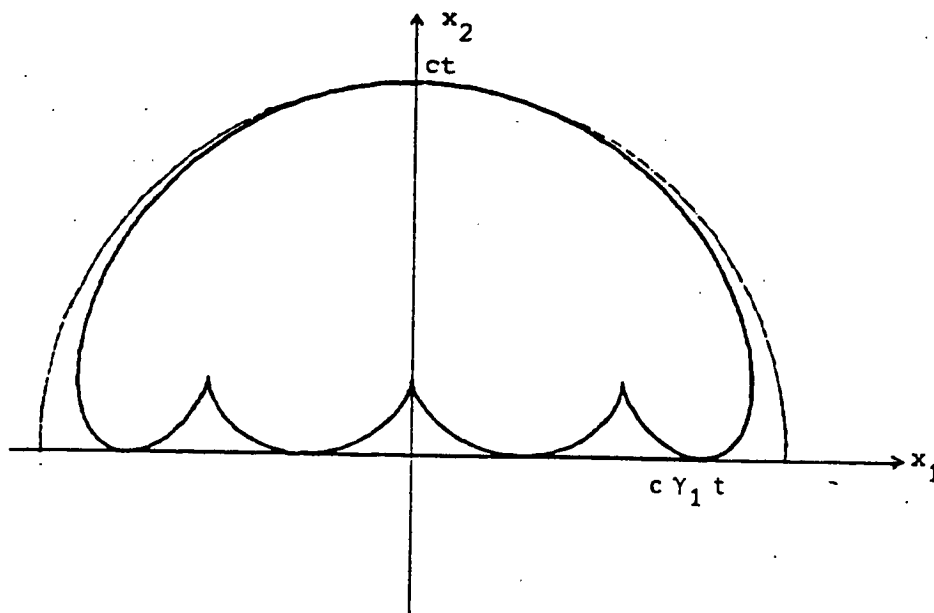


Figure 2.3 : Singular support of the fundamental solution

The proof is technical and will be omitted here. It is given in [3]. Let us only point out that, for a strictly hyperbolic operator the wave front set is the set  $\Gamma_n^1(t)$  of nullbicharacteristics passing through the origin. When the operator is no longer strictly hyperbolic, the wave front set contains in addition the lines making the set convex (see [7]).

Since the operator  $\mathcal{L}_n$  is hyperbolic, it follows in standard fashion that the Cauchy problem is well-posed. Moreover, the form of the support of the fundamental solution enables us to conclude that the initial boundary value problem in the half-space  $x_2 > 0$  is well-posed (for details see [10]).

We now turn to an approximation result. All the calculations are formal, but will be fully justified by the regularity results given in section 3.



2.3. AN ERROR ESTIMATE

In practice we wish to approximate the problem in the half-space

$$\mathbb{R}_+^2 = \{x, x_2 \geq 0\}$$

$$(2.22) \quad \begin{cases} \frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} - \Delta u = 0 & x \in \mathbb{R}_+^2, t \geq 0 \\ u(t, x) = 0 & x \in \mathbb{R}_+^2, t \leq 0 \\ u(t, x_1, 0) = g(t, x_1) & x_1 \in \mathbb{R}, t \geq 0 \end{cases}$$

by the problem :

$$(2.23) \quad \begin{cases} \mathcal{L}_n u_n = 0 & x \in \mathbb{R}_+^2, t \geq 0 \\ u_n(t, x) = 0 & x \in \mathbb{R}_+^2, t \leq 0 \\ u_n(t, x_1, 0) = g(t, x_1) & x_1 \in \mathbb{R}, t \geq 0 \end{cases}$$

We shall make the following assumptions on the boundary value  $g$  :

$$(2.24) \quad g \in L^2(\mathbb{R}_+ \times \mathbb{R})$$

$$(2.25) \quad S = \text{supp } \hat{g} \subset \left\{ (\omega, k), \left| c \frac{k_1}{\omega} \right| < 1 \right\}$$

where  $\hat{g}$  is the Fourier transform of  $g$  with respect to  $t$  and  $x_1$ . The first assumption is only a smoothness assumption, and the second one ensures that  $g$  and  $u$  contain only propagating modes. This hypothesis is essential for obtaining any approximation result.

THEOREM 2.4 : If the boundary data  $g$  satisfies assumptions (2.24) and (2.25) and if  $\mathcal{L}_n$  is such that  $f_n$  approximates  $f$  uniformly on  $[0, 1]$  then  $u_n$  converges to  $u$  in the following sense :

$$(2.26) \quad \forall X_2 \in [0, +\infty[ \quad \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|u - u_n\|_{L^\infty([0, X_2]; L^2(\mathbb{R}^+ \times \mathbb{R}))} = 0 .$$

Let us recall that  $f_n$  approximates  $f$  uniformly on  $[0,1]$  means that  $\|f_n - f\|_{L^\infty([0,1])}$  tends to 0 when  $n$  tends to infinity. The sequence  $g_N$  of Padé approximants introduced in (2.9) satisfies this assumption.

PROOF : The analysis is similar to the one given for the absorbing boundary conditions in [8]. The Fourier transforms in  $t$  and  $x_1$  of  $u$  and  $u_n$  can be written as :

$$\tilde{u}(\omega, k_1, x_2) = \hat{g}(\omega, k_1) \exp - i\omega \left(1 - \left(c \frac{k_1}{\omega}\right)^2\right)^{\frac{1}{2}} x_2$$

$$\tilde{u}_n(\omega, k_1, x_2) = \hat{g}(\omega, k_1) \exp - i\omega f_n \left(\left(c \frac{k_1}{\omega}\right)^2\right) x_2$$

Using Parseval's theorem, the  $L^2$  norm of the error is given at every point  $x_2$  by :

$$\|u - u_n\|^2 = \iint_S |\tilde{u} - \tilde{u}_n|^2 d\omega dk_1$$

The integral on  $S$  is handled in the following way :

$$\begin{aligned} \iint_S |\tilde{u} - \tilde{u}_n|^2 d\omega dk_1 &\leq \iint_S |\hat{g}|^2 |\exp - i\omega x_2 f \left(\left(c \frac{k_1}{\omega}\right)^2\right) \\ &\quad - \exp - i\omega x_2 f_n \left(\left(c \frac{k_1}{\omega}\right)^2\right)| d\omega dk_1 \end{aligned}$$

Lebesgue's theorem ensures this term to converge to zero if  $f_n$  tends uniformly to  $f$ .

REMARK 2.3 : Hypothesis (2.25) is restrictive, and can be removed by expressing  $g$  as the solution of the wave equation on  $[-L,0]$  with  $g$  given at  $x_2 = -L$ .  $L$  can then be chosen such that (2.26) holds for any datum at  $-L$  (for details see [3]).

### 3 - NEW HIGHER ORDER EQUATIONS IN HETEROGENEOUS MEDIA

The purpose in this section is the same as for the extension of the parabolic approximation to heterogeneous media [1]. We wish to generalize the equations (2.17) and (2.18) in such a way that :

- (i) The Cauchy problem and the initial boundary value problem are well-posed.
  - (ii) It is a good approximation of the wave equation for heterogeneous media with small velocity variations.
  - (iii) It has good continuity properties with respect to material interfaces.
- The precise definitions are given in [1], and we shall come back to the last two points below.

For the parabolic approximation

$$\frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} + \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t \partial x_2} - \frac{c}{2} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial x_1^2} = 0$$

we introduced unknown functions  $\zeta$ ,  $\xi$ ,  $\chi$  of  $c$  and determined them so that the equation

$$\frac{1}{c^2} \frac{\partial^2 u}{\partial t^2} + \frac{1}{c\zeta(c)} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_2} (\zeta(c) \frac{\partial u}{\partial t}) - \frac{1}{2\chi(c)\xi(c)} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} (\chi(c) \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} (\xi(c)u)) = 0$$

satisfied (i), (ii) and (iii). The resulting equation had the form :

$$\frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t^2} \left( \frac{u}{\sqrt{c}} \right) + \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t \partial x_2} \left( \frac{u}{\sqrt{c}} \right) - \frac{1}{2} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \left( c \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \left( \frac{u}{\sqrt{c}} \right) \right) = 0$$

It is of course tempting to apply the same method to higher order equations, but it seems to be practically very difficult. We therefore restrict ourselves to transforming the terms  $\frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_1^2}$  in (2.17) and (2.18) as we did it for the parabolic approximation.

We set

$$(3.1) \quad v = c^{-\frac{1}{2}} u ; \quad \psi_k = c^{-\frac{1}{2}} \varphi_k$$

and we introduce the new systems of equations :

$$(3.2a) \quad \left\{ \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial v}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial x_2} - \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{c} \beta_k \frac{\partial \psi_k}{\partial t} = 0 \right.$$

$$(3.2b) \quad \left. \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial^2 \psi_k}{\partial t^2} - \gamma_k^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \left( c \frac{\partial \psi_k}{\partial x_1} \right) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \left( c \frac{\partial v}{\partial x_1} \right) \quad ; \quad 1 \leq k \leq n \right.$$

if  $\beta = 0$ , and

$$(3.3a) \quad \left\{ \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial t^2} + \frac{\partial^2 v}{\partial t \partial x_2} - \beta \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \left( c \frac{\partial v}{\partial x_1} \right) - \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{1}{c} \beta_k \frac{\partial^2 \psi_k}{\partial t^2} = 0 \right.$$

$$(3.3b) \quad \left. \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial^2 \psi_k}{\partial t^2} - \gamma_k^2 \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \left( c \frac{\partial \psi_k}{\partial x_1} \right) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \left( c \frac{\partial v}{\partial x_1} \right) \quad ; \quad 1 \leq k \leq n \right.$$

if  $\beta \neq 0$ . We shall see that these equations have the properties we expected and we begin with the well-posedness.

### 3.1. ANALYSIS OF THE WELL-POSEDNESS

We shall prove the well-posedness for the system (3.2), and we only state the results for system (3.3). We define the initial value problem for system (3.2) as :  
Find  $(v, \varphi_k)_{1 \leq k \leq n} : \mathbb{R}^2 \times [0, T] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , solutions of (3.2) with the initial data

$$(3.2c) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} v(x, 0) = v^0 \\ \varphi_k(x, 0) = \varphi_k^0 \\ \frac{\partial \varphi_k}{\partial t}(x, 0) = \varphi_k^1 \end{array} \right. \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^2$$

**THEOREM 3.1** : Assume that the initial values (3.2c) have the regularity :

$$v^0, \psi_k^0, \psi_k^1, \frac{\partial v^0}{\partial x_2}, \frac{\partial v^0}{\partial x_1} + \gamma_k^2 \frac{\partial \psi_k^0}{\partial x_1} \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^2) \quad 1 \leq k \leq n .$$

The problem (3.2) then has a unique weak solution, with the regularity :

$$v, \psi_k \in W^{1,\infty}(0,T ; L^2(\mathbb{R}^2)) \cap W^{2,\infty}(0,T ; H^{-1}(\mathbb{R}^2)) \quad 1 \leq k \leq n$$

$$\frac{\partial v}{\partial x_1} + \gamma_k^2 \frac{\partial \psi_k}{\partial x_1} \in L^\infty(0,T ; L^2(\mathbb{R}^2)) \quad 1 \leq k \leq n$$

$$\frac{\partial v}{\partial x_2} \in L^\infty(0,T ; L^2(\mathbb{R}^2))$$

Moreover the following energy is constant as a function of time :

$$(3.4) \quad E(t) = \frac{1}{2} \iint_{\mathbb{R}^2} \frac{1}{c} \left| \frac{\partial v}{\partial t} \right|^2 dx + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^n \beta_k \gamma_k^2 \iint_{\mathbb{R}^2} \frac{1}{c} \left| \frac{\partial \psi_k}{\partial t} \right|^2 dx \\ + \frac{1}{c} \sum_{k=1}^n \beta_k \iint_{\mathbb{R}^2} c \left| \frac{\partial v}{\partial x_1} + \gamma_k^2 \frac{\partial \psi_k}{\partial x_1} \right|^2 dx$$

For a definition of the Sobolev spaces  $H^k$  and  $W^{m,p}$ , see [12].

**PROOF** : The well-posedness follows in standard fashion from the energy estimate using the Galerkin method. We derive the latter in four steps :

(i) We differentiate (3.2a) with respect to  $t$ , multiply by  $\frac{\partial v}{\partial t}$  and integrate over  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . We then have :

$$(3.5) \quad \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \left[ \iint_{\mathbb{R}^2} \frac{1}{c} \left| \frac{\partial v}{\partial t} \right|^2 dx \right] = \sum_{k=1}^n \beta_k \iint_{\mathbb{R}^2} \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial^2 \psi_k}{\partial t^2} \frac{\partial v}{\partial t} dx$$

(ii) We multiply (3.2b) by  $\frac{\partial v}{\partial t} + \gamma_k^2 \frac{\partial \psi_k}{\partial t}$  and integrate over  $\mathbb{R}^2$ . We get :

$$(3.6) \quad \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \left[ \gamma_k^2 \iint_{\mathbb{R}^2} \frac{1}{c} \left| \frac{\partial \psi_k}{\partial t} \right|^2 dx + \iint_{\mathbb{R}^2} c \left| \frac{\partial v}{\partial x_1} + \gamma_k^2 \frac{\partial \psi_k}{\partial x_1} \right|^2 dx \right] \\ + \iint_{\mathbb{R}^2} \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial^2 \psi_k}{\partial t^2} \frac{\partial v}{\partial t} dx = 0$$

(iii) We multiply (3.6) by  $\beta_k$  and add the resulting identities for  $1 \leq k \leq n$ . This yields :

$$(3.7) \quad \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{dt} \left[ \sum_{k=1}^n \beta_k \gamma_k^2 \iint_{\mathbb{R}^2} \frac{1}{c} \left| \frac{\partial \psi_k}{\partial t} \right|^2 dx + \sum_{k=1}^n \beta_k \iint_{\mathbb{R}^2} c \left| \frac{\partial v}{\partial x_1} + \gamma_k^2 \frac{\partial \psi_k}{\partial x_1} \right|^2 dx \right] \\ + \sum_{k=1}^n \beta_k \iint_{\mathbb{R}^2} \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial^2 \psi_k}{\partial t^2} \frac{\partial v}{\partial t} dx = 0$$

(iv) We eventually add (3.5) and (3.7), and we obtain

$$\frac{d}{dt} E(t) = 0 \quad .$$

REMARK 3.1 : Since the coefficients do not depend on time, the regularity in time of the solution only depends on the regularity of the data. The regularity in space is limited by the regularity of  $c$ , even if the data are smooth.

REMARK 3.2 : As a consequence of the energy estimate, a continuity result of the solution with respect to the velocity can be stated (see [3]).

For the case  $\beta \neq 0$ , we need to specify an other initial value :

$$(3.8) \quad v^1(x) = \frac{\partial v}{\partial t}(x, 0)$$

The result is then the following :

THEOREM 3.2 : Assume that the initial values have the regularity :

$$v^0, \frac{\partial v^0}{\partial x_1}, v^1 \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^2) \\ \psi_k^0, \frac{\partial \psi_k^0}{\partial x_1}, \psi_k^1 \in L^2(\mathbb{R}^2) ; \quad 1 \leq k \leq n$$

The Cauchy problem for  $\beta \neq 0$  then has a unique weak solution, with the regularity :

$$v, \psi_k \in W^{1,\infty}(0, T ; L^2(\mathbb{R}^2)) \cap W^{2,\infty}(0, T ; H^{-1}(\mathbb{R}^2)) ; \quad 1 \leq k \leq n$$

$$\frac{\partial v}{\partial x_1}, \frac{\partial \psi_k}{\partial x_1} \in L^\infty(0, T; L^2(\mathbb{R}^2)) \quad ; \quad 1 \leq k \leq n$$

Moreover this solution satisfies the identity  $E(t) = E(0)$  a.e. in  $[0, T]$ , where the energy  $E(t)$  is given by :

$$(3.9) \quad E(t) = \frac{1}{2} \iint_{\mathbb{R}^2} \frac{1}{c} \left| \frac{\partial v}{\partial t} \right|^2 dx + \frac{\beta}{2} \iint_{\mathbb{R}^2} c \left| \frac{\partial v}{\partial x_1} \right|^2 dx \\ + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^n \beta_k \gamma_k^2 \iint_{\mathbb{R}^2} \frac{1}{c} \left| \frac{\partial \psi_k}{\partial x_2} \right|^2 dx \\ + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^n \beta_k \iint_{\mathbb{R}^2} c \left| \frac{\partial v}{\partial x_1} + \gamma_k^2 \frac{\partial \psi_k}{\partial x_1} \right|^2 dx$$

The proof is similar to the one for Theorem 3.1 above (see [3]).

REMARK 3.3 : Remarks 3.1 and 3.2 are still valid.

We shall now define the initial boundary value problem for (3.2) in the half-space  $\mathbb{R}_+^2$  :

$$(3.10) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Find } (v, \psi_k) : \mathbb{R}_+^2 \times [0, T] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \text{ solutions of (3.2), with initial} \\ \text{data } v^0, \psi_k^0, \psi_k^1 : \mathbb{R}_+^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \text{ and a boundary value at } x_2 = 0 : \\ v(x_1, 0, t) = g(x_1, t) \quad \text{on } \mathbb{R} \times [0, T] . \end{array} \right.$$

THEOREM 3.3 : Assuming the data have the regularity :

$$\cdot \quad v^0, \psi_k^0, \psi_k^1, \frac{\partial v^0}{\partial x_2}, \frac{\partial v^0}{\partial x_1} + \gamma_k^2 \frac{\partial \psi_k^0}{\partial x_1} \in L^2(\mathbb{R}_+^2) \quad ; \quad 1 \leq k \leq n \\ \cdot \quad g \in H^1(0, T; L^2(\mathbb{R})) \quad ,$$

the initial boundary value problem (3.2), (3.10) has a unique weak solution with the regularity :

$$v, \psi_k \in W^{1,\infty}(0,T;L^2(\mathbb{R}_+^2)) \cap W^{2,\infty}(0,T;H^{-1}(\mathbb{R}_+^2)) \quad ; \quad 1 \leq k \leq n$$

$$\frac{\partial v}{\partial x_1} + \gamma_k^2 \frac{\partial \psi_k}{\partial x_1} \in L^\infty(0,T;L^2(\mathbb{R}_+^2)) \quad ; \quad 1 \leq k \leq n$$

$$\frac{\partial v}{\partial x_2} \in L^\infty(0,T;L^2(\mathbb{R}_+^2))$$

Moreover the following energy identity holds :

$$(3.11) \quad E(t) = E(0) + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{R}} \left| \frac{\partial g}{\partial t}(x_1, s) \right|^2 dx_1 ds \quad ,$$

The energy  $E(t)$  being given by :

$$(3.12) \quad E(t) = \frac{1}{2} \iint_{\mathbb{R}_+^2} \frac{1}{c} \left| \frac{\partial v}{\partial t} \right|^2 dx + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^n \beta_k \gamma_k^2 \iint_{\mathbb{R}_+^2} \frac{1}{c} \left| \frac{\partial \psi_k}{\partial t} \right|^2 dx \\ + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^n \beta_k \iint_{\mathbb{R}_+^2} c \left| \frac{\partial v}{\partial x_1} + \gamma_k^2 \frac{\partial \psi_k}{\partial x_1} \right|^2 dx$$

PROOF : The energy estimate is obtained exactly in the same way as for the Cauchy problem. Only step (i) is modified since a boundary term appears. The well-posedness is proved using a Galerkin method.

REMARK 3.4 : We required here a strong regularity for the datum on the boundary. It can actually be removed and weaker solutions can be found [3].

In the case  $\beta \neq 0$ , we get a similar result, with the same differences as stated in Theorem 3.2 (see [3]).

### 3.2. PROPAGATION PROPERTIES

We restrict ourselves to the case where  $\beta = 0$ , i.e to the solution of problem (3.2). We intend to generalize the propagation properties for homogeneous medium. The results are similar to those stated in [1] for the parabolic approximation and the technique is again based on energy estimates.



Theorems 3.4 and 3.5 express in different ways that the solution propagates only in the positive  $x_2$  direction, even in heterogeneous medium. Theorem 3.6 specifies an upper bound for the propagation speed.

THEOREM 3.4 : Under the assumptions of Theorem 3.1, and if

$$\text{supp } v^0 \cup \left( \bigcup_{k=1}^n (\text{supp } \psi_k^0 \cup \text{supp } \psi_k^1) \right) \subset \mathbb{R}_+^2$$

then, at any time  $t > 0$ , one has :

$$\text{supp } v(\cdot, t) \cup \left( \bigcup_{k=1}^n \text{supp } \psi_k(\cdot, t) \right) \subset \mathbb{R}_+^2$$

THEOREM 3.5 : Let  $(v_1^0, (\psi_k^0)_1, (\psi_k^1)_1, c_1)$  and  $(v_2^0, (\psi_k^0)_2, (\psi_k^1)_2, c_2)$  be two families of data, satisfying the assumptions of Theorem 3.1, and defining two solutions of problem (3.2)  $(v_1, (\psi_k)_1)$  and  $(v_2, (\psi_k)_2)$ . Suppose also that the data are equal in  $\mathbb{R}_-^2$  :

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} v_1^0 = v_2^0 \\ (\psi_k^0)_1 = (\psi_k^0)_2 \\ (\psi_k^1)_1 = (\psi_k^1)_2 \\ c_1 = c_2 \end{array} \right. \quad \text{a.e. in } \mathbb{R}_-^2$$

then, at any time  $t > 0$ , the solutions are equal in  $\mathbb{R}_-^2$  :

$$v_1(\cdot, t) = v_2(\cdot, t) \quad \text{a.e. in } \mathbb{R}_-^2$$

$$(\psi_k)_1(\cdot, t) = (\psi_k)_2(\cdot, t) \quad \forall k, 1 \leq k \leq n, \quad \text{a.e. in } \mathbb{R}_-^2$$

where  $\mathbb{R}_-^2 = \{x, x_2 < 0\}$

PROOFS : as in [1], both results follow from an a priori estimate in a half-space :

LEMMA 3.1 : The solution of the problem (3.2) has the regularity

$v(\cdot, x_2, \cdot) \in L^\infty(\mathbb{R}; H^1(0, T; L^2(\mathbb{R})))$ , and satisfies the energy estimate in the half-space  $\Omega_{X_2} = \{x, x_2 \leq X_2\}$  :

$$\begin{aligned}
 (3.13) \quad & \frac{1}{2} \iint_{\Omega_{X_2}} \frac{1}{c} \left| \frac{\partial v}{\partial t} \right|^2 dx + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^n \beta_k \gamma_k^2 \iint_{\Omega_{X_2}} \frac{1}{c} \left| \frac{\partial \psi_k}{\partial t} \right|^2 dx \\
 & + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^n \beta_k \iint_{\Omega_{X_2}} c \left| \frac{\partial v}{\partial x_1} + \gamma_k^2 \frac{\partial \psi_k}{\partial x_1} \right|^2 dx \\
 & + \frac{1}{2} \int_0^t \int_{\mathbb{R}} \left| \frac{\partial v}{\partial t}(x_1, X_2, s) \right|^2 dx_1 ds = \\
 & \frac{1}{2} \iint_{\Omega_{X_2}} \left| \frac{\partial v^0}{\partial x_1} - \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{\beta_k}{c} \psi_k^1 \right|^2 dx + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^n \beta_k \gamma_k^2 \iint_{\Omega_{X_2}} \frac{1}{c} \left| \psi_k^1 \right|^2 dx \\
 & + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^n \beta_k \iint_{\Omega_{X_2}} c \left| \frac{\partial v^0}{\partial x_1} + \gamma_k^2 \frac{\partial \psi_k^0}{\partial x_1} \right|^2 dx
 \end{aligned}$$

The energy estimate is achieved by the same technique as in Theorem 3.3. To get the Theorem 3.4, we apply the Lemma to  $(v, \psi_k)$ , and to get the Theorem 3.5, we apply it to  $(v_1 - v_2, (\psi_k)_1 - (\psi_k)_2)$ .

In order to describe the last result, we introduce some notations :

$c^*$  is the maximum of  $c$  on  $\mathbb{R}^2$

$$c^* = \max_{x \in \mathbb{R}^2} c(x)$$

$(\mathcal{E})$  denotes the curve

$$y = f_n(x^2) = 1 - \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{\beta_k x^2}{1 - \gamma_k^2 x^2}$$

and  $(\mathcal{E}_0)$  is the part of  $(\mathcal{E})$  included in the slab  $\gamma_1 |x| \leq 1$ .

$\mathcal{E}^*(t)$  denotes the support at time  $t$  of the fundamental solution in homogeneous medium with velocity  $c^*$ . Let us recall (section 2) that the boundary of  $\mathcal{E}^*(t)$  is the dual of  $c^*t \times \mathcal{C}_0$ .

For any  $\theta \in ]-\pi, \pi[$ ,  $D_\theta$  is the line  $x_2 = x_1 \cotg \theta$ .  $P(\theta)$  is the intersection point of  $D_\theta$  with  $\mathcal{C}_0$ , and  $M(\theta)$  is the point of  $D_\theta$  such that  $|OP(\theta)| \cdot |OM(\theta)| = 1$ . When  $\theta$  varies,  $M$  varies on the set of group velocity vectors. A velocity is then defined by :

$$(3.14) \quad v^*(\theta) = c^*|OM(\theta)|$$

where  $| \cdot |$  denotes the length of the segment  $OM$ .

The theorem below gives an upper bound for the propagation velocity of the solution  $(v, \psi_k)$  to problem (3.2).

THEOREM 3.6 : *If the initial values for (3.2) are of compact support  $\mathcal{K}$*

$$\mathcal{K} = \text{supp } v^0 \cup \left( \bigcup_{k=1}^n \text{supp } \psi_k^0 \right) \cup \left( \bigcup_{k=1}^n \text{supp } \psi_k^1 \right)$$

*then at any time  $t$ ,  $(v, \psi_k)$  is compactly supported and*

$$\text{supp } v(\cdot, t) \cup \left( \bigcup_{k=1}^n \text{supp } \psi_k(\cdot, t) \right) \subset \mathcal{K} + \mathcal{E}^*(t)$$

PROOF : The proof is based on an energy estimate in a moving domain. As in [1] we first assume that the data are smooth, and  $\mathcal{K}$  is the disc centered in 0 and of radius  $R$ . We define the half-plane  $\Omega_\theta^t$  by :

$$\Omega_\theta^t = \left\{ x \in \mathbb{R}^2, (x - (R + Vt)\vec{\theta}) \cdot \vec{\theta} > 0 \right\}$$

for a fixed value of  $V$ .  $\Gamma_\theta^t$  is the  $\Omega_\theta^t$  boundary, and  $d\sigma$  is the measure on  $\Gamma_\theta^t$ .

We shall actually prove that for any  $\theta$  the energy in  $\Omega_\theta^t$  is a decreasing function of time if  $V \geq V^*(\theta)$ . This will give the first part of the theorem. The energy is denoted by  $E(v, \psi_k, \Omega_\theta^t, t)$  and is given by :

$$(3.15) \quad E(v, \psi_k, \Omega_\theta^t, t) = \frac{1}{2} \iint_{\Omega_\theta^t} \frac{1}{c} \left| \frac{\partial v}{\partial t} \right|^2 dx + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^n \beta_k \gamma_k^2 \iint_{\Omega_\theta^t} \frac{1}{c} \left| \frac{\partial \psi_k}{\partial t} \right|^2 dx \\ + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=1}^n \beta_k \iint_{\Omega_\theta^t} \left| \frac{\partial v}{\partial x_1} + \gamma_k^2 \frac{\partial \psi_k}{\partial x_1} \right|^2 dx$$

By a Green formula, the energy can be expressed as

$$(3.16) \quad \frac{d}{dt} E(v, \psi_k, \Omega_\theta^t, t) + \frac{1}{2} \int_{\Gamma_\theta^t} \frac{1}{c} \phi \, d\sigma = 0$$

where  $\phi$  can be written as a quadratic form in  $\frac{\partial v}{\partial t}$ ,  $\left(\frac{\partial \psi_k}{\partial t}\right)_{1 \leq k \leq n}$ ,  $\left(\frac{\partial v}{\partial x_1} + \gamma_k^2 \frac{\partial \psi_k}{\partial x_1}\right)_{1 \leq k \leq n}$  :

$$(3.17) \quad \phi = (V - \cos \theta) \left| \frac{\partial v}{\partial t} \right|^2 + \sum_{k=1}^n \beta_k \gamma_k^2 V \left| \frac{\partial \psi_k}{\partial t} \right|^2 \\ + 2c^2 \sin \theta \sum_{k=1}^n \beta_k \left( \frac{\partial v}{\partial x_1} + \gamma_k^2 \frac{\partial \psi_k}{\partial x_1} \right) \left( \frac{\partial v}{\partial t} + \gamma_k^2 \frac{\partial \psi_k}{\partial t} \right) \\ + c^2 V \sum_{k=1}^n \beta_k \left| \frac{\partial v}{\partial x_1} + \gamma_k^2 \frac{\partial \psi_k}{\partial x_1} \right|^2$$

In order to determine the sign of  $\phi$ , we now perform a Gauss decomposition of  $\phi$  :

$$\phi = \sum_{k=1}^n \beta_k \gamma_k^2 V \left[ \frac{\partial \psi_k}{\partial t} + \frac{c^2}{V} \sin \theta \left( \frac{\partial v}{\partial x_1} + \gamma_k^2 \frac{\partial \psi_k}{\partial x_1} \right) \right]^2 \\ + V \sum_{k=1}^n \beta_k (1 - \gamma_k^2 \frac{c^2}{V^2} \sin^2 \theta) \left[ c \left( \frac{\partial v}{\partial x_1} + \gamma_k^2 \frac{\partial \psi_k}{\partial x_1} \right) + \frac{c}{V} \frac{\sin \theta}{1 - \gamma_k^2 \frac{c^2}{V^2} \sin^2 \theta} \frac{\partial v}{\partial t} \right]^2 \\ + V \left[ f_n \left( \left( \frac{c}{V} \sin \theta \right)^2 \right) - \frac{c}{V} \cos \theta \right] \left| \frac{\partial v}{\partial t} \right|^2$$

It is easy to see under which conditions  $\phi$  is positive, and to conclude that, for any value of  $V$  such that  $V \geq V^*(\theta)$  the energy in  $\Omega_\theta^t$  is decreasing as a function of time. This proves the first part of the Theorem. The second part is then derived by taking the intersection of all the half-spaces  $\Omega_\theta^t$  for  $V = V^*(\theta)$ , when  $\theta$  varies. By translation, linearity and continuity, the result is extended to any support, and to discontinuous data.

### 3.3. REFLECTION AND TRANSMISSION AT A LINEAR INTERFACE

As for the parabolic approximation, we consider two homogeneous half-spaces  $\Omega^-$  and  $\Omega^+$ , with a velocity  $c^-$  and  $c^+$  respectively, separated by an interface  $\Gamma(\alpha)$ . The unit normal and tangent vectors to the interface are denoted by  $\nu$  and  $\tau$  respectively :

$$(3.18) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \tau = (\cos \alpha, \sin \alpha) \quad ; \quad \nu = (-\sin \alpha, \cos \alpha) \\ \Gamma(\alpha) = \{x, x \cdot \nu = 0\} \\ \Omega^-(\alpha) = \{x, x \cdot \nu < 0\} \\ \Omega^+(\alpha) = \{x, x \cdot \nu > 0\} \end{array} \right.$$

It is easy to derive the transmission conditions at the interface for the equations written on the form (3.2), (3.3).

. If  $\alpha = 0$

$$(3.19) \quad [v] = 0$$

. If  $\alpha \neq 0$

Equation (3.2) :

$$(3.20) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} [v] = 0 \\ [\psi_k] = 0 \\ [c \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} (\gamma_k^2 \psi_k + v)] = 0 \end{array} \right. \quad ; \quad \begin{array}{l} 1 \leq k \leq n \\ 1 \leq k \leq n \end{array}$$

Equation (3.3) :

$$(3.21) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} [v] = 0 \\ [\psi_k] = 0 \\ [c \frac{\partial v}{\partial x}] = 0 \\ [c \frac{\partial \psi_k}{\partial x}] = 0 \end{array} \right. ; \quad \begin{array}{l} 1 \leq k \leq n \\ 1 \leq k \leq n \end{array}$$

Again the cases of oblique interfaces and horizontal interfaces are very different. The latter produces no reflected wave and one transmitted wave, while the former gives rise to  $n$  reflected waves and  $(n + 1)$  transmitted waves (equation 3.2) or  $(n + 1)$  reflected waves and  $(n + 1)$  transmitted waves (equation 3.3).

We first recall some basic definitions and notations :

$u_I$  is the incident wave in  $\Omega^-$  :

$$(3.22) \quad u_I(x,t) = \exp i(\omega t - k \cdot x)$$

where  $\omega$  and  $k$  are related by the dispersion relation in  $\Omega^-$  :

$$(3.23) \quad c^- \frac{k_2}{\omega} = f_n \left( \left( c^- \frac{k_1}{\omega} \right)^2 \right)$$

(For simplicity, the vector  $k$  defined here is such that  $\frac{k_2}{\omega} > 0$ ).

We define the incident slowness vector :

$$(3.24) \quad K = \frac{k}{\omega}$$

and the group velocity vector :

$$(3.25) \quad V_G(K) = \nabla_K \omega$$

The group velocity vector is said to be "ingoing" (in the interface) in  $\Omega^-$  if :  $V_G \cdot \nu > 0$ , "outgoing" otherwise.

All throughout the remainder of this paper, we assume that  $|c^- K_1| \leq \frac{1}{\gamma_1}$ , that is to say that the vector  $K$  belongs to the "parabolic" branch of the dispersion curve.

(i) REFLECTION

When the interface is horizontal, there is no reflected wave.

When it is oblique, the reflected slowness vectors are defined to have the same projection as  $K$  on the interface, and such that their group velocity vectors are outgoing in  $\Omega^-$ . The number of such vectors is  $n$  and they are denoted by  $\zeta^i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ ,  $\zeta_1^i < \zeta_1^{i+1}$ .

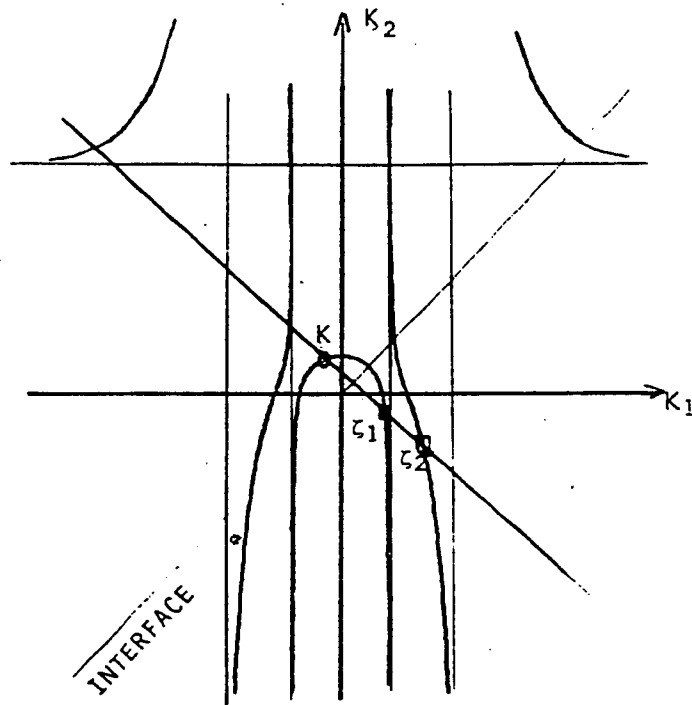


Figure 3.1 : Reflected slowness vectors ( $n = 2$ )

The following lemma gives the behaviour of  $\zeta^1, \dots, \zeta^k$  when  $\alpha$  tends to 0 :

LEMMA 3.4 : When  $\alpha$  tends to 0, the reflected slowness vectors are such that :

$$(3.26) \quad \begin{cases} \zeta_1^i = \frac{1}{c^- \gamma_i} - \mu_i \alpha + O(\alpha^2) \\ \zeta_2^i = \frac{1}{\alpha} (K_1 - \frac{1}{c^- \gamma_i} + \nu_i \alpha + O(\alpha^2)) \end{cases} \quad 1 \leq i \leq n$$

where  $\mu_i$  and  $\nu_i$  are given by :

$$(3.27) \quad \begin{cases} \mu_i = \frac{\beta_i}{2c^{-2}\gamma_i^3(-K_1 + \frac{1}{c^{-}\gamma_i})} \\ v_i = K_2 + \mu_i \end{cases} \quad 1 \leq i \leq n$$

PROOF OF LEMMA 3.4 : It is clear that  $\zeta_1^i$  tends to  $\frac{1}{c^{-}\gamma_i}$  and  $\zeta_2^i$  tends to infinity when  $\alpha$  tends to zero. We then seek the expansion of  $\zeta^i$  in the form :

$$\begin{cases} \zeta_1^i = \frac{1}{c^{-}\gamma_i} - \mu_i \alpha + O(\alpha^2) \\ \zeta_2^i = \frac{1}{\alpha} (\rho_i + v_i \alpha + O(\alpha^2)) \end{cases}$$

where the coefficients  $\mu_i, v_i, \rho_i$  are to be determined.

We first write that  $K$  and  $\zeta^i$  have the same projection on the interface :

$$K_1 \cos \alpha + K_2 \sin \alpha = \zeta_1^i \cos \alpha + \zeta_2^i \sin \alpha$$

and we expand the equality in terms of  $\alpha$ .

We thus get :

$$\begin{cases} \rho_i = K_1 - \frac{1}{c^{-}\gamma_i} \\ v_i = \mu_i + K_2 \end{cases}$$

We then write the dispersion relation for  $\zeta^i$  :

$$\zeta_2^i = \frac{1}{c^{-}} \left( 1 - \sum_{k=1}^n \frac{\beta_k (c^{-}\zeta_1^i)^2}{1 - \gamma_k^2 (c^{-}\zeta_1^i)^2} \right)$$

When  $\alpha$  tends to zero, we have :

$$\zeta_2^i \sim -\frac{\beta_i}{c^{-}} \frac{(c^{-}\zeta_1^i)^2}{1 - \gamma_i^2 (c^{-}\zeta_1^i)^2} \sim -\frac{\beta_i}{c^{-}} \frac{1}{2c^{-}\gamma_i^2 \mu_i} \times \frac{1}{\alpha}$$

which gives a third relation between the three unknowns :

$$-\frac{\beta_i}{2c^{-2}\gamma_i^3 \mu_i} = K_1 - \frac{1}{c^{-}\gamma_i}$$

The three equations then define  $\mu_i, \rho_i$  and  $v_i$ .



(ii) TRANSMISSION

We choose here  $c^- \leq c^+$ .

When the interface is horizontal (i.e.  $\alpha = 0$ ), there is one transmitted slowness vector  $\eta^*$  such that :

$$(3.28) \quad \begin{cases} \eta_1^* = K_1 \\ c^+ \eta_2^* = f_n((c^+ \eta_1^*)^2) \end{cases}$$

When  $\alpha \neq 0$  there are  $n + 1$  transmitted vectors  $\eta^0, \dots, \eta^n$ ,  $\eta^0$  belonging to the "parabolic" branch of the dispersion curve, i.e.

$$|\eta_1^0| \leq \frac{1}{c^+ \gamma^1}$$

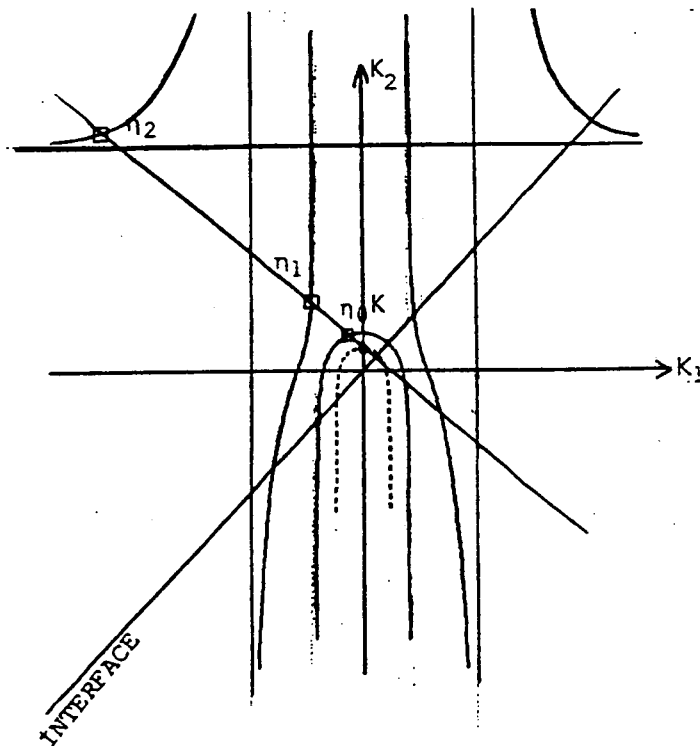


Figure 3.2 : Transmitted slowness vectors

Again we give the behaviour of  $\eta^i$  when  $\alpha$  tends to 0 :

LEMMA 3.5 : When  $\alpha$  tends to 0, the transmitted slowness vectors have the expansion :

$$(3.29) \quad \begin{cases} \eta_1^0 = K_1 + (K_2 - \eta_2^*) \alpha + O(\alpha^2) \\ \eta_1^i = -\frac{1}{c^+ \gamma_i} - \lambda_i \alpha + O(\alpha^2) \\ \eta_2^i = \frac{1}{\alpha} \left( K_1 + \frac{1}{c^+ \gamma_i} + \rho_2 \alpha + O(\alpha^2) \right) \end{cases} \quad \begin{matrix} \\ 1 \leq i \leq n \\ 1 \leq i \leq n \end{matrix}$$

where  $\lambda_i$  and  $\rho_i$  are given by :

$$(3.30) \quad \begin{cases} \lambda_i = \frac{\beta_i}{2(c^+)^2 \gamma_i^3 \left( K_1 + \frac{1}{c^+ \gamma_i} \right)} \\ \rho_i = \lambda_i + K_2 \end{cases} \quad 1 \leq i \leq n$$

The proof is similar to that of Lemma 3.4.

### (iii) REFLECTION AND TRANSMISSION COEFFICIENTS

We start with the case of horizontal interface. There is no reflected wave and one transmitted wave :

$$(3.31) \quad u_T = T^* \exp i \omega (t - \eta^* \cdot x) .$$

When the interface is oblique, the reflected wave is :

$$(3.32) \quad u_R = \sum_{j=1}^n R_j(\alpha) \exp i \omega (t - \zeta^j \cdot x)$$

and the transmitted wave is :

$$(3.33) \quad u_T = \sum_{j=0}^n T_j(\alpha) \exp i \omega (t - \eta^j \cdot x)$$

The main result of this part is the following theorem, which shows that the equation has the properties we aimed for.

THEOREM 3.7 : When  $\alpha = 0$ , the transmission coefficient  $T^*$  is :

$$(3.34) \quad T^* = \sqrt{\frac{c^+}{c^-}}$$

When  $\alpha \neq 0$ , one has :

$$(3.35) \quad \begin{cases} \lim_{\alpha \rightarrow 0} R_j(\alpha) = \lim_{\alpha \rightarrow 0} T_j(\alpha) = 0 & 1 \leq j \leq n \\ \lim_{\alpha \rightarrow 0} T_0(\alpha) = T^* . \end{cases}$$

The coefficients have the following form :

$$(3.36) \quad \begin{cases} R_i(\alpha) \sim \frac{\beta_i}{2} \frac{(c^+ - c^-) K_1}{(1 + \gamma_i c^- K_1)^2 (1 - \gamma_i c^+ K_1)} \alpha & ; 1 \leq i \leq n \\ T_i(\alpha) \sim -\frac{\beta_i}{2} \frac{(c^+ - c^-) K_1}{(1 + \gamma_i c^- K_1)(1 + \gamma_i c^+ K_1)^2} \alpha & ; 1 \leq i \leq n \end{cases}$$

PROOF : We seek the solution  $u$  of (3.2) in the following form :

$$\begin{aligned} u &= u_I + u_R & \text{in } \Omega^- \\ u &= u_T & \text{in } \Omega^+ \end{aligned}$$

If  $\alpha = 0$ ,  $T^*$  is easily obtained from the transmission condition  $[c^{-\frac{1}{2}}u] = 0$ .

If  $\alpha \neq 0$ , the transmission conditions (3.20) provide a  $(2n + 1) \times (2n + 1)$

system of equations the solution of which is  $(R_1, \dots, R_n, T_0, T_1, \dots, T_n)$  :

$$\left\{ \begin{aligned} \frac{1}{\sqrt{c^-}} \left( 1 + \sum_{i=1}^n R_i \right) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{c^+}} \sum_{i=0}^n T_i \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{c^-}} \left( \frac{1}{1 - \gamma_k c^- K_1} + \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{R_i}{1 - \gamma_k c^- \zeta_1^i} \right) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{c^+}} \sum_{i=0}^n \frac{T_i}{1 - \gamma_k c^+ \eta_1^i} ; & 1 \leq k \leq n \\ \frac{1}{\sqrt{c^-}} \left( \frac{1}{1 + \gamma_k c^- K_1} + \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{R_i}{1 + \gamma_k c^- \zeta_1^i} \right) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{c^+}} \sum_{i=0}^n \frac{T_i}{1 + \gamma_k c^+ \eta_1^i} ; & 1 \leq k \leq n \end{aligned} \right.$$

The solution of this system is given by the following formulae (using a Gauss determinant).

$$R_k = - \prod_{\substack{1 \leq j \leq n \\ j \neq k}} \frac{\zeta_1^j - K_1}{\zeta_1^j - \zeta_1^k} \prod_{0 \leq j \leq n} \frac{c^+ \eta_1^j - c^- K_1}{c^+ \eta_1^j - c^- \zeta_1^k}$$

$$\prod_{1 \leq j \leq n} \frac{1 - (c^- \gamma_j \zeta_1^k)^2}{1 - (c^- \gamma_j K_1)^2}$$

$$T_k = \sqrt{\frac{c^+}{c^-}} \prod_{1 \leq j \leq n} \frac{c^- (\zeta_1^j - K_1)}{c^- \zeta_1^j - c^+ \eta_1^k} \prod_{\substack{0 \leq j \leq n \\ j \neq k}} \frac{c^+ \eta_1^j - c^- K_1}{c^+ (\eta_1^j - \eta_1^k)}$$

$$\prod_{1 \leq j \leq n} \frac{1 - (c^+ \gamma_j \eta_1^k)^2}{1 - (c^- \gamma_j K_1)^2}$$

We now apply Lemmas 3.4 and 3.5 to each term of the product which finishes the proof of the Theorem.

REMARK 3.5 :  $\eta^0$  appears to be the approximation to the exact transmitted wave, while  $\eta^1, \dots, \eta^n$  can be considered as "parasitic" transmitted waves.

#### 4 - NUMERICAL EXPERIMENTS

In order to illustrate our theoretical results, we present here numerical experiments implemented by F. Collino at IFP. The results correspond to two equations of the family (3.2) obtained by the continued fractions expansion (2.8) for  $N = 3$  and  $N = 5$ , i.e :

$$(4.1a) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} v = c^{-\frac{1}{2}} u \quad ; \quad \psi = c^{-\frac{1}{2}} \varphi \end{array} \right.$$

$$(4.1b) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial v}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial x_2} - \frac{1}{2c} \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial t} = 0 \end{array} \right.$$

$$(4.1c) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial^2 \psi}{\partial t^2} - \frac{1}{4} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \left( c \frac{\partial \psi}{\partial x_1} \right) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \left( c \frac{\partial v}{\partial x_1} \right) \end{array} \right.$$

$$(4.2a) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} v = c^{-\frac{1}{2}} u \quad ; \quad \psi_1 = c^{-\frac{1}{2}} \varphi_1 \quad ; \quad \psi_2 = c^{-\frac{1}{2}} \varphi_2 \end{array} \right.$$

$$(4.2b) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial v}{\partial t} + \frac{\partial v}{\partial x_2} - \frac{2}{5c} \left( \sin^2 \frac{\pi}{5} \frac{\partial \psi_1}{\partial t} + \sin^2 \frac{2\pi}{5} \frac{\partial \psi_2}{\partial t} \right) = 0 \end{array} \right.$$

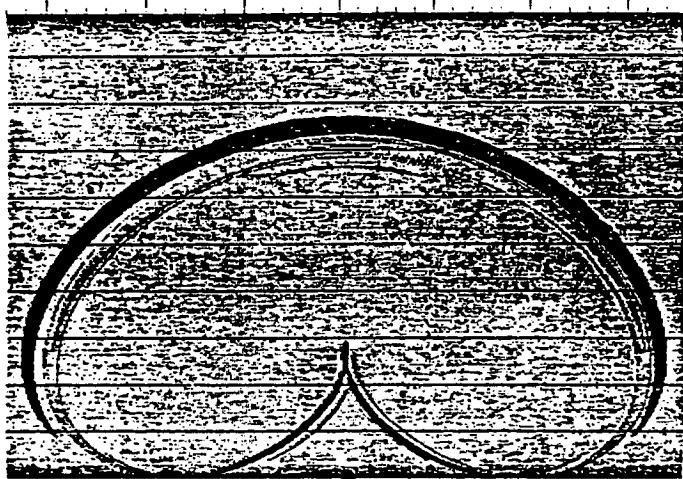
$$(4.2c) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial^2 \psi_1}{\partial t^2} - \cos^2 \frac{\pi}{5} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \left( c \frac{\partial \psi_1}{\partial x_1} \right) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \left( c \frac{\partial v}{\partial x_1} \right) \end{array} \right.$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \frac{1}{c} \frac{\partial^2 \psi_2}{\partial t^2} - \cos^2 \frac{2\pi}{5} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \left( c \frac{\partial \psi_2}{\partial x_1} \right) = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_1} \left( c \frac{\partial v}{\partial x_1} \right) \end{array} \right.$$

The way the equations are written enables to use a splitting method. As in [1], the time dependence in the equations (4.1a) and (4.1b) is handled by Fourier transform. The equations are then semi-discretized in  $x_1$  by  $P_1$  finite elements. A Crank-Nicolson scheme is finally used in the  $x_2$  direction. For further details and properties about these numerical schemes see [6]. Each of the figures we present here are snapshots of the solution at a given time. This gives an image of the solution in the  $(x_1, x_2)$  plane (this representation is commonly used by geophysicists). The areas where the solution is positive are darker, the ones where it is negative are lighter.

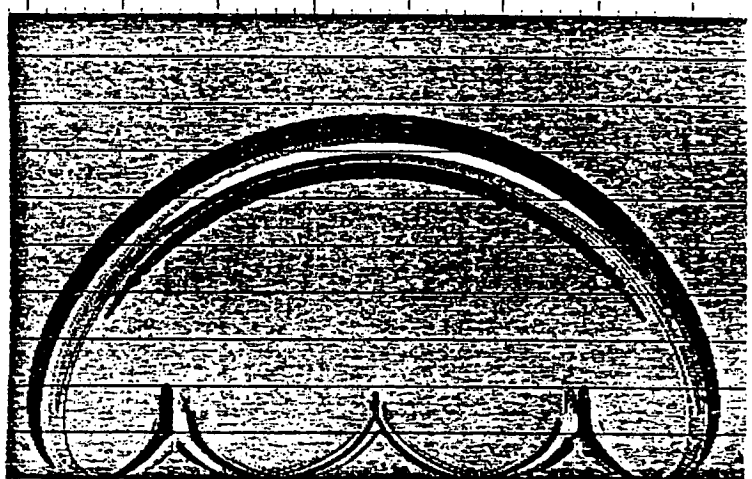
For each simulation, the source is quasi punctual, i.e. its support is very small. Its position is indicated on the figures by the point S. Its time dependence is given by the second derivative of a gaussian function (Ricker source in Geophysics).

In Figure 4.1 are plotted the fundamental solutions of the paraxial approximations for (4.1) and (4.2). We can easily see that the support of the solution tends to the ideal semi-disk and that the number of parasitic branches increases with N.



S

Equation (4.1)



S

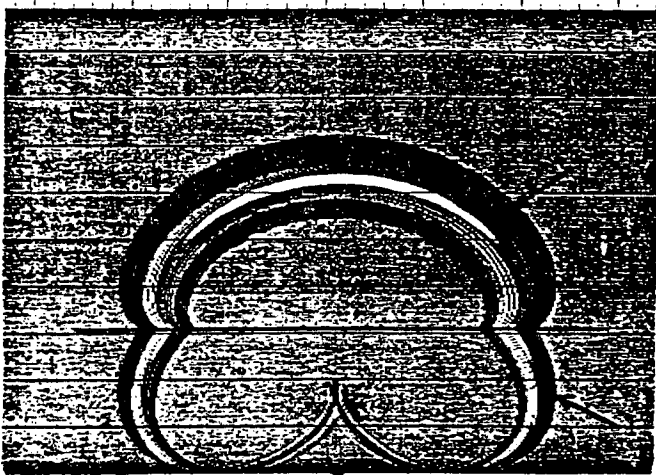
Equation (4.2)

Figure 4.1 : Fundamental solutions

We now consider the specific heterogeneous medium we studied in section 3 (see 3.18). This medium consists of two homogeneous half-spaces  $\Omega^-$  (with velocity  $c^-$ ) and  $\Omega^+$  (with velocity  $c^+$ ) separated by an interface  $\Gamma(\alpha)$  whose angle with the horizontal  $x_1$  direction is equal to  $\alpha$ . The ratio  $\frac{c^+}{c^-}$  is equal to 2 and the source is located in the medium  $\Omega^-$ .

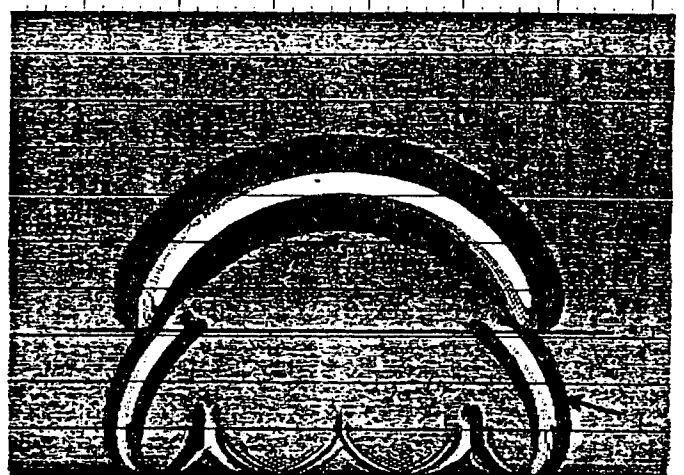
Figure 4.2 is a snapshot of the solution when the interface is horizontal (i.e.  $\alpha = 0$ ). In each case we easily distinguish, as indicated, the incident wave

and the unique transmitted one. Note that the parasitic waves have not yet reached the interface at the time we consider. Also it is interesting to remark that for equation (4.2) the wave front, although it is not, seems to be discontinuous along the interface. In fact such a discontinuity occurs for the full wave equation if one does not consider the reflected waves : the head wave connects the reflected wave and the transmitted one.



S

Equation (4.1)



S

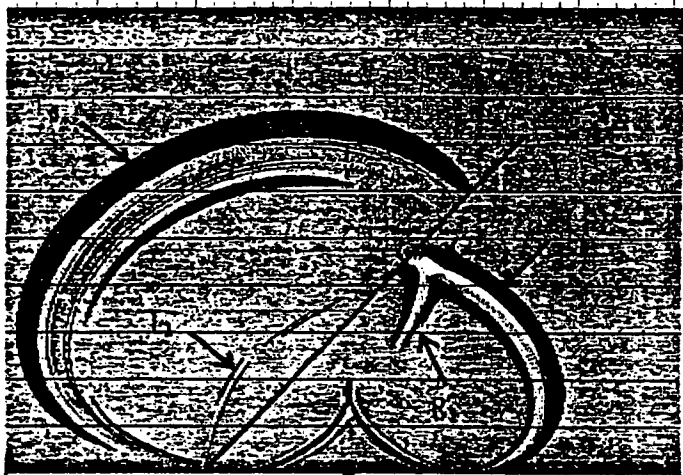
Equation (4.2)

Figure 4.2 : Horizontal interface

In Figure 4.3 we give the results when  $\alpha = \frac{\pi}{4}$ . For equation (4.1) one clearly sees the reflected wave  $R_1$  (whose amplitude is rather strong) and the two transmitted ones  $T_0$  and  $T_1$ . Note the curious shape of the second transmitted wave front, which is the parasitic one. Its amplitude is much less important than the one of the first transmitted wave. For equation (4.2), the two reflected waves  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  are clearly visible but we can only distinguish two transmitted waves (denoted by  $T_0$  and  $T_1$  in the Figure). The slowest transmitted wave (which would be  $T_2$ ) is too weak to be visible. We can also remark the existence of a second

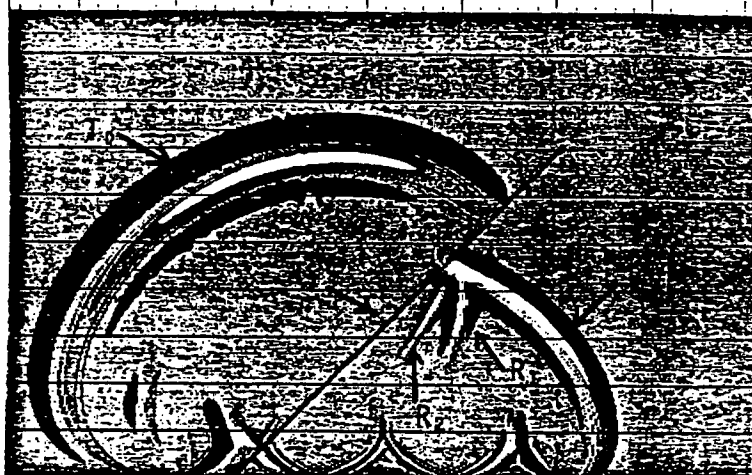
family of reflected and transmitted waves which are due to the first parasitic arch of the incident wave which reached the interface.

Finally we notice in both cases the existence in the medium  $\Omega^-$  of a head-wave connecting the first transmitted wave to the first reflected one.



S

Equation (4.1)



S

Equation (4.2)

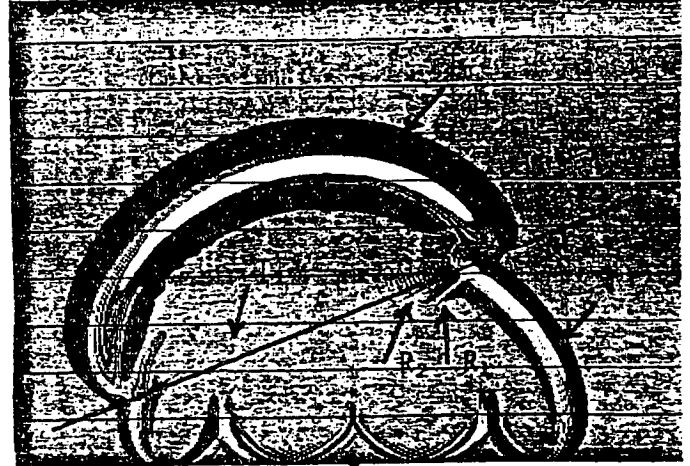
Figure 4.3 :  $\alpha = \frac{\pi}{4}$

In Figure 4.4 the angle  $\alpha$  is equal to  $\frac{\pi}{8}$ . The involved phenomena are qualitatively the same as for  $\alpha = \frac{\pi}{4}$ . It is moreover interesting to notice that the reflected and parasitic transmitted waves are much weaker, as the theory predicts, than for  $\alpha = \frac{\pi}{4}$ .





Equation (4.1)



Equation (4.2)

Figure 4.4 :  $\alpha = \frac{\pi}{8}$

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