

On the fast approximation of Green's functions in MPIE formulations for planar layered media

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The numerical implementation of the complex image approach for the Green's function of a mixed-potential integral-equation formulation is examined and is found to be limited to low values of κ_0/ρ (in this context $\kappa_0/\rho = 2\pi/\rho\lambda_0$, where ρ is the distance between the source and the field points of the Green's function and λ_0 is the free space wavelength). This is a clear limitation for problems of large dimension or high frequency where this limit is easily exceeded. This paper examines the various strategies and proposes a hybrid method whereby most of the above problems can be avoided. An efficient integral method that is valid for large κ_0/ρ is combined with the complex image method in order to take advantage of the relative merits of both schemes. It is found that a wide overlapping region exists between the two techniques allowing a very efficient and consistent approach for accurately calculating the Green's functions. In this paper, the method developed for the computation of the Green's function is used for planar structures containing both lossless and lossy media.

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