



Presented at the COMSOL Conference 2008 Hannover

## Acoustics Session

Wed 5 November 2008, 13:00 – 15:40.

# Improved Perfectly Matched Layers for Acoustic Radiation and Scattering Problems

Mario Zampolli,<sup>\*,1</sup> Nils Malm,<sup>2</sup> Alessandra Tesei<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*NURC NATO Research Centre, La Spezia (Italy)*

<sup>2</sup>*COMSOL AB, Stockholm (Sweden)*

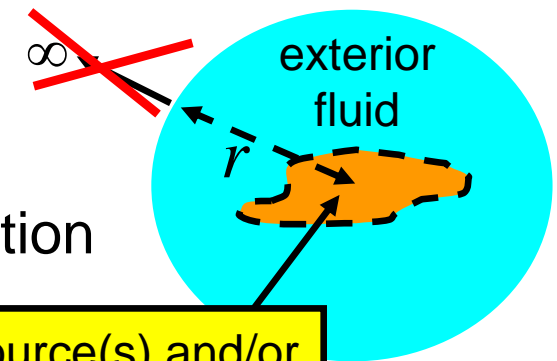
# Overview

- The Sommerfeld Radiation Condition and Perfectly Matched Layers (PML's).
- Problems caused by the steep decay of evanescent waves at low frequencies.
- Improved PML formulation:
  - (i) Improved accuracy in the presence of evanescent waves at low frequencies.
  - (ii) Stability of the mesh with respect to frequency.
- Real-life application: loudspeaker design.
- Conclusions and further development.

- In an unbounded medium [ $\exp(+i \omega t)$ ,  $k = \omega / c$ ] :

$\nabla^2 p + k^2 p = 0$  Helmholtz equation describing the acoustic pressure.

$\frac{\partial p}{\partial r} + ik p = o\left(\frac{1}{r}\right), \quad r \rightarrow \infty$  Sommerfeld radiation condition



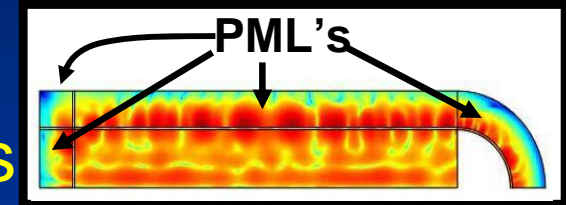
source(s) and/or scatterer(s)

- In a computer model, r must be finite.

The Sommerfeld condition must be approximated numerically.

- An (efficient!) technique for approximating the Sommerfeld BC.

J.-P. Bérenger, "A perfectly matched layer for the absorption of electromagnetic waves," *Journal of Computational Physics*, Vol. 114, pp. 185—200 (1994).

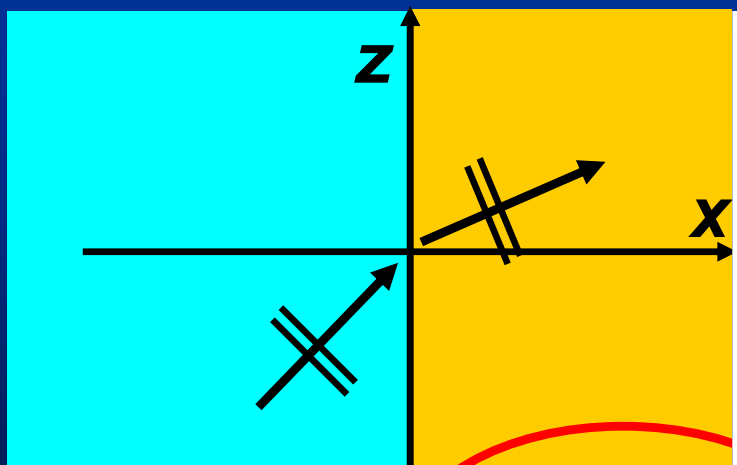


- Can be easily adapted to CONVEX geometries
- Straightforward implementation via complex coordinate scaling.

F. Collino, P. Monk, "The perfectly matched layer in curvilinear coordinates," *SIAM J. Sci. Comput.*, Vol. 19(6), pp. 2061 – 2090 (1998).

F. Ihlenburg, *Finite Element Analysis of Acoustic Scattering*, Springer-Verlag (1998).

M. Zampolli, A. Tesei, F.B. Jensen, N. Malm, J.B. Blottman, *J. Acoust. Soc. Am.* 122, 1472 – 1485 (2007).



Fluid Domain  
(physical)

PML  
(non-physical)

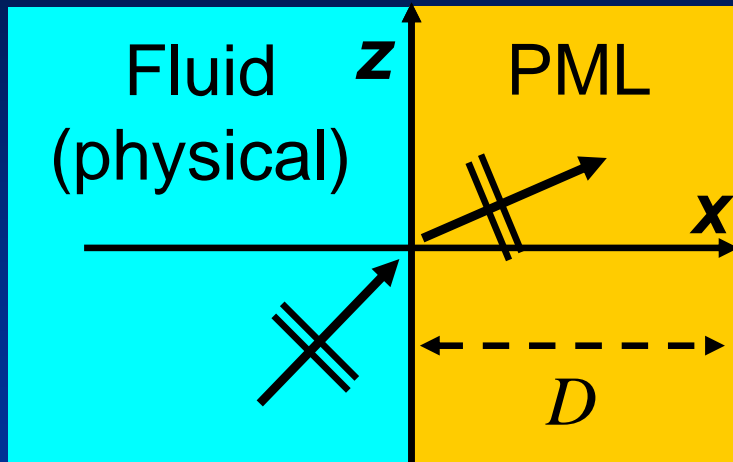
**Perturbed** Helmholtz Equation (PML):

$$\frac{i\omega}{i\omega + \sigma(x)} \frac{\partial}{\partial x} \left( \frac{i\omega}{i\omega + \sigma(x)} \cdot \frac{\partial p}{\partial x} \right) + \frac{\partial^2 p}{\partial z^2} + k^2 p = 0$$

Reflections  
are negligible.

$$\frac{\partial^2 p}{\partial \tilde{x}^2} + \frac{\partial^2 p}{\partial z^2} + k^2 p = 0$$

Complex coordinate  
→ Damping only in the x-direction.



PDE in the PML:

$$\frac{\partial^2 p}{\partial \tilde{x}^2} + \frac{\partial^2 p}{\partial z^2} + k^2 p = 0$$

PML scaled coordinate:

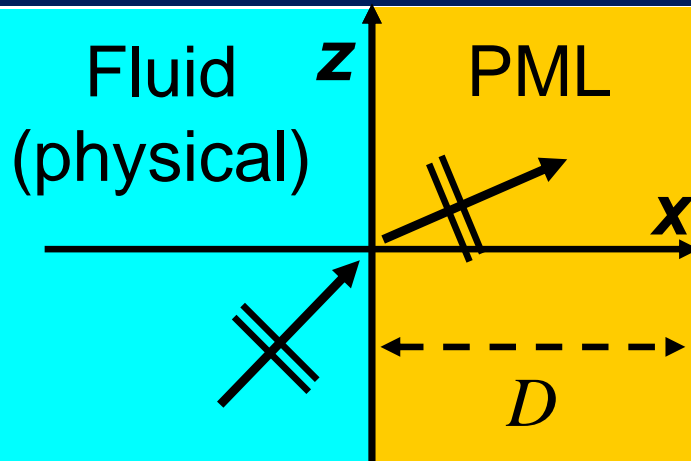
$$\tilde{x} = (1 - i) \lambda (x / D)^n$$

- Normalizing the scaled coordinate w.r.t. the wavelength  $\lambda$   
 $\rightarrow$  no need to adjust the mesh density in the PML in x-direction as the frequency varies  $\rightarrow$  Mesh stability.
- The **scaled coordinate** is a **polynomial**, with equal power  $n$  in the **real part** and in the **imaginary part**.
- The **real** and the **imaginary part** of the **scaled coordinate** each have different effects, depending on whether the **incident wave is propagating or evanescent**.

Wave Type	PML scaled coordinate	
	Real Part	Imaginary Part
Propagating	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Resolution of the oscillatory components in the PML, no damping.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Damping</i> in the PML.</li> <li>Rapidly growing <i>imaginary part</i> → good damping.</li> </ul>
Evanescent	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Damping (Decay)</i> of the evanescent wave in the PML.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Spurious anti-causal waves, which are absorbed by the PML.</li> </ul>


 Problems at **very low frequencies**, where the evanescent field decays steeply: the PML **“over-damps”** an already steeply decaying wave → **PML accuracy problems.**

# Improved PML Scaling



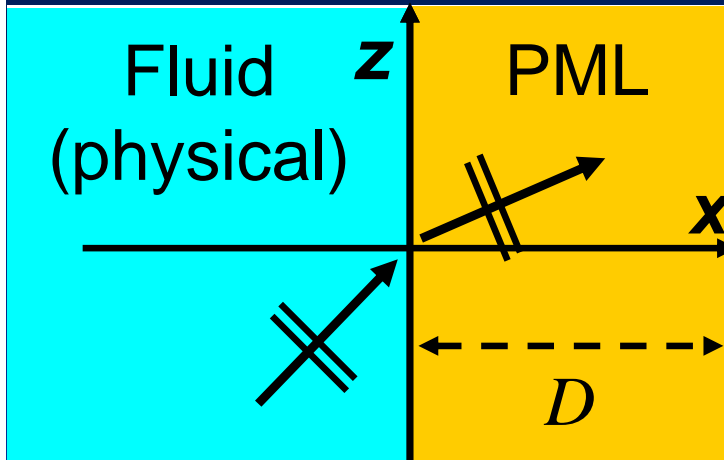
$$\tilde{x} = A \lambda \left( (x/D)^{n_r} + i \log_2 \left( 1 - (x/D)^{n_i} \right) \right)$$

parameter ~0.25  
sensitivity  
→ convergence

$$n_i = \begin{cases} 1 - \log_{10} \frac{ka}{10}, & ka < 10 \\ 1, & ka \geq 10 \end{cases}$$

- At **high frequencies**  $ka > 10$  : rapidly growing  $\log(1-x/D)$  scaling of the imaginary part → **good damping of propagating waves.**
- **At low frequencies:**  $\log(1-(x/D)^{n_i})$  with exponent of  $n_i > 1$  in the imaginary part
  - imaginary coordinate grows more slowly near the interface with the physical domain,
  - **element size compressed near the interface,**
  - **good resolution** of the **phase** of the **decaying wave.**

# Improved PML Scaling



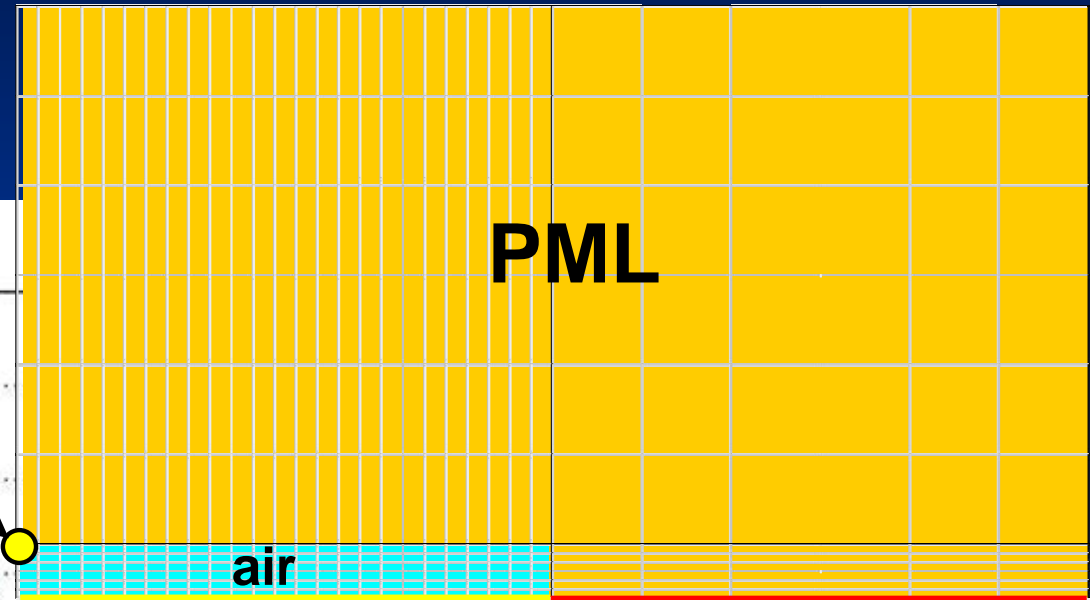
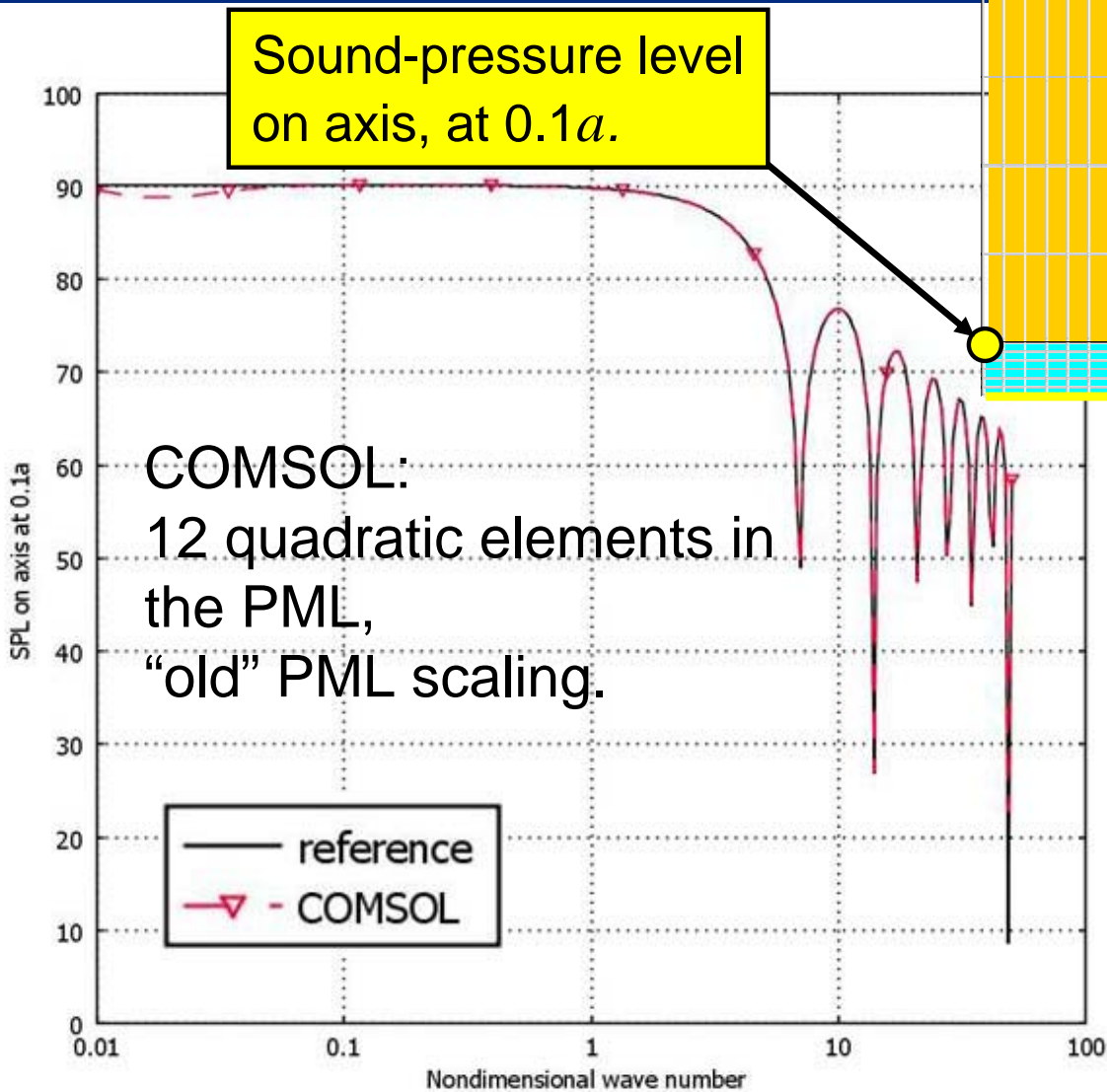
$$\tilde{x} = A \lambda \left( (x/D)^{n_r} + i \log_2 \left( 1 - (x/D)^{n_i} \right) \right)$$

$$n_r = \begin{cases} 1 - \log_{10} ka, & ka < 1 \\ 1, & ka \geq 1 \end{cases}$$

- At **low frequencies**: real part grows slowly near the boundary
  - element size compressed near the interface,
  - rapidly decaying evanescent waves are better resolved by the PML near the interface with the physical domain,
  - **improved accuracy.**



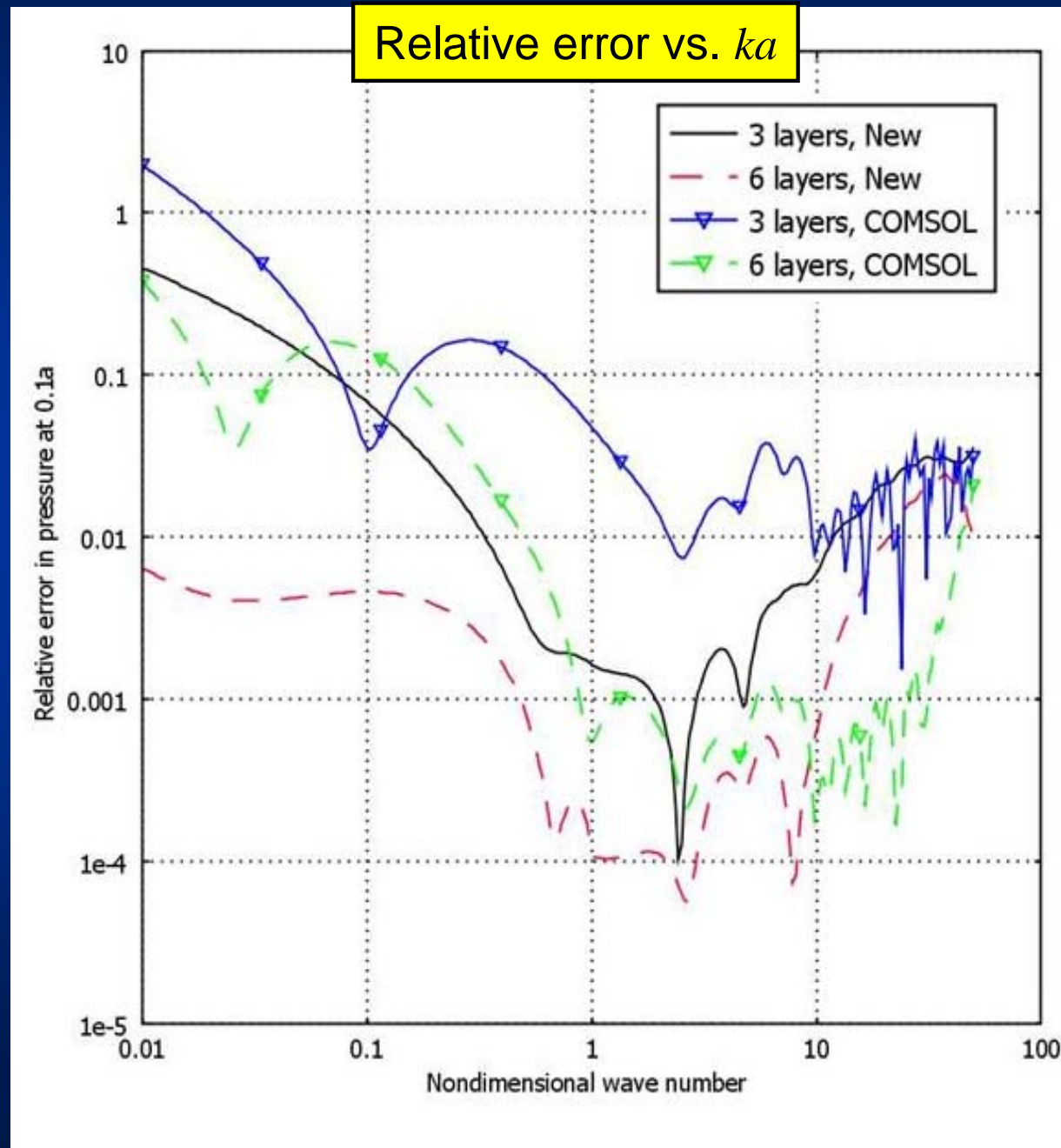
# Example: Circular Piston Radiation



- prescribed constant normal velocity.
- Piston radius =  $a$ .

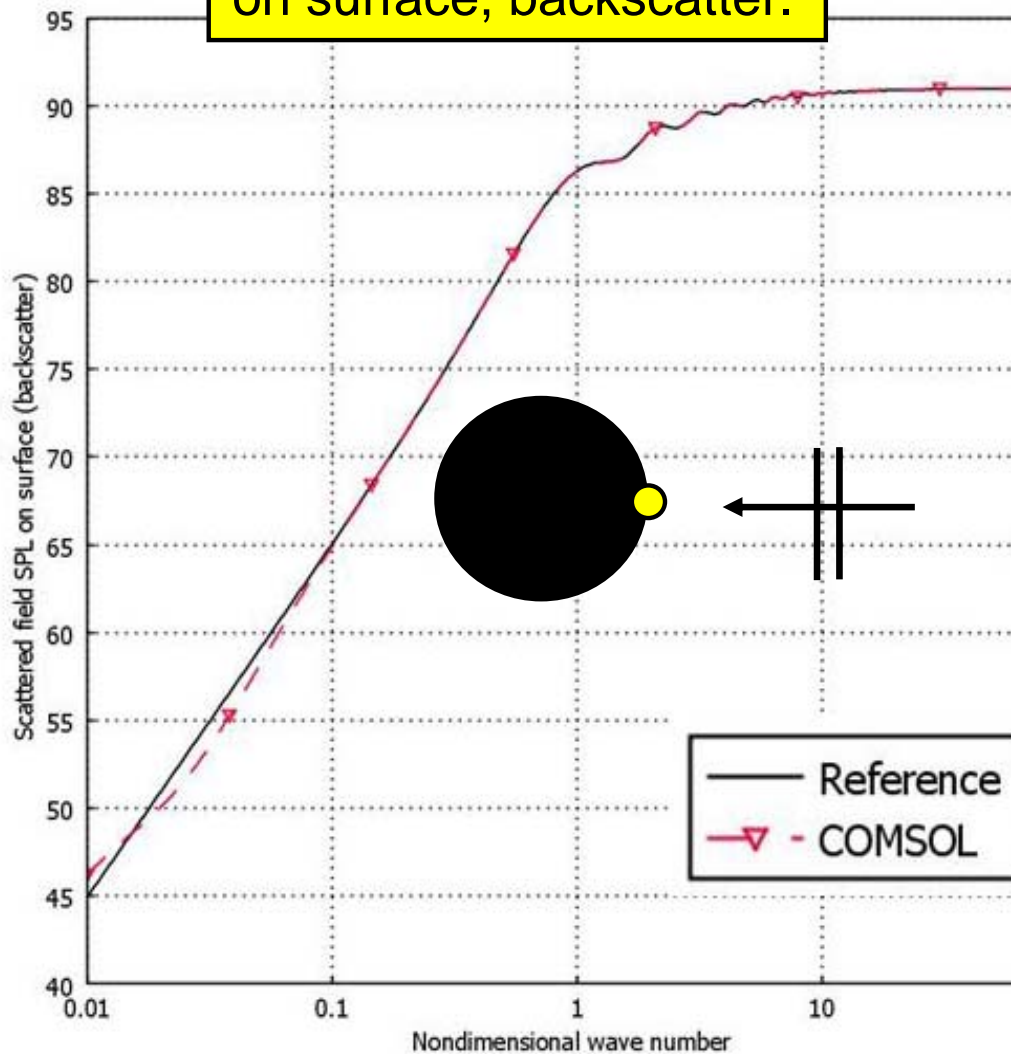
Errors at low frequency in the solution with the "old" PML scaling.

# Comparison: “old” vs Improved Scaling

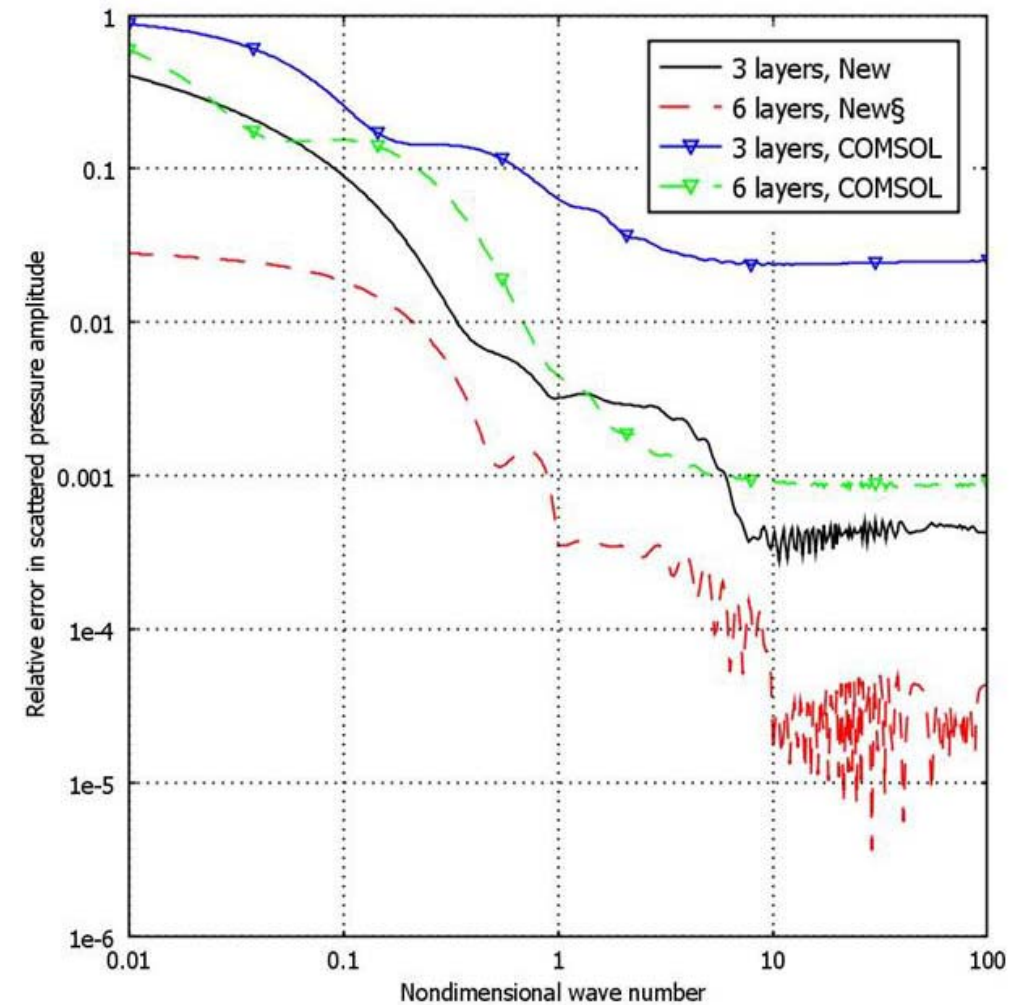


# Plane-wave Scattering from a Hard Sphere

Scattered pressure level on surface, backscatter.

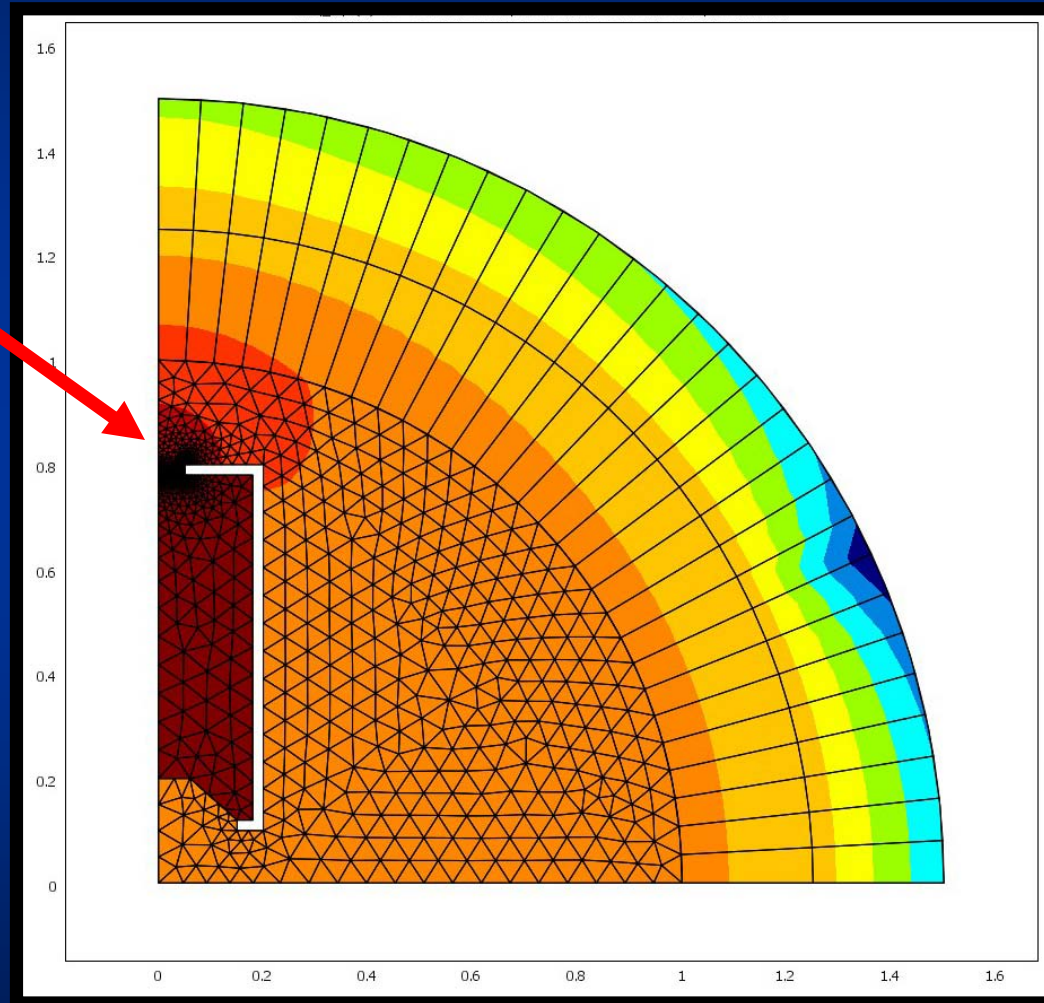


Relative error vs.  $ka$



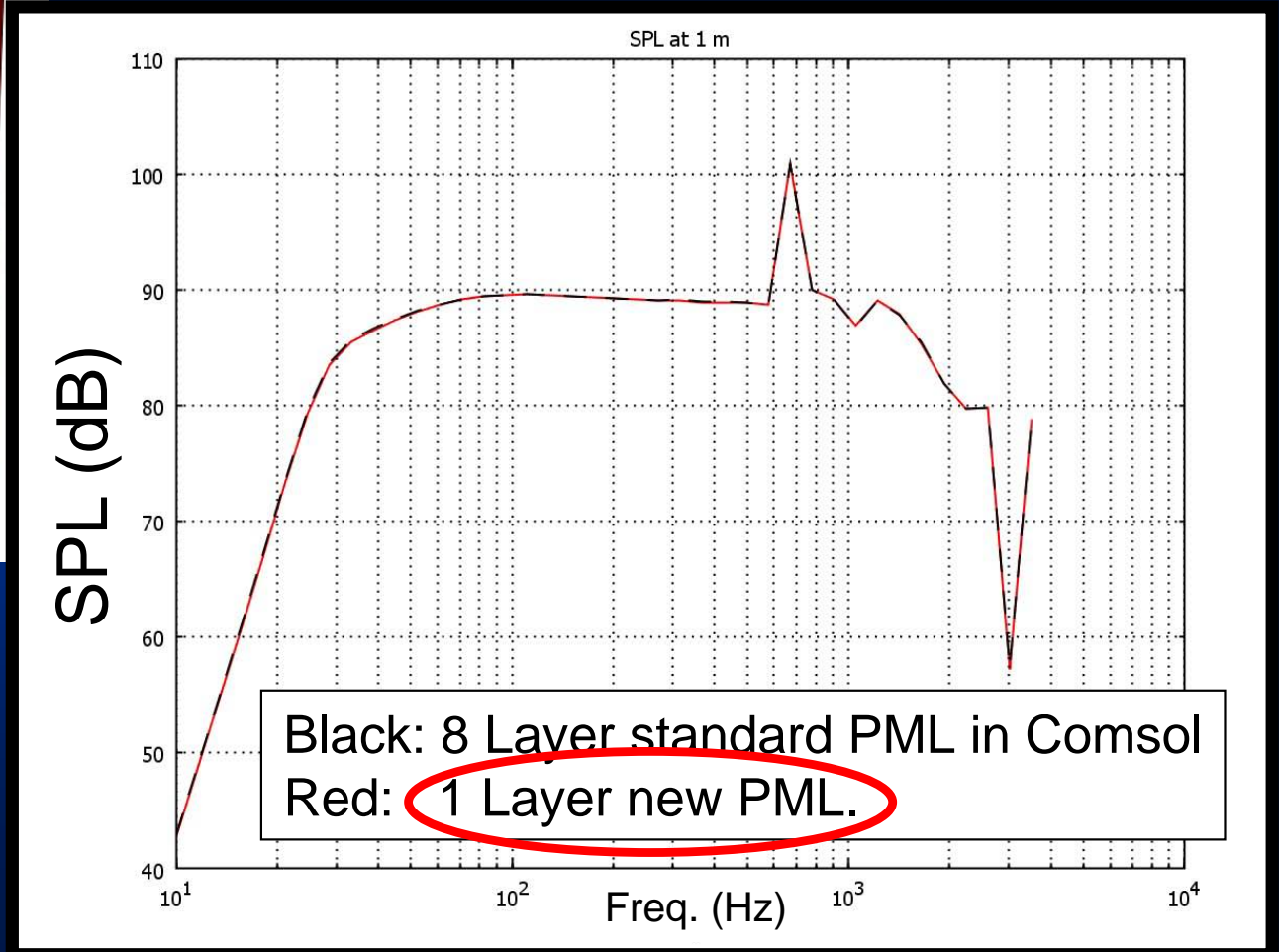
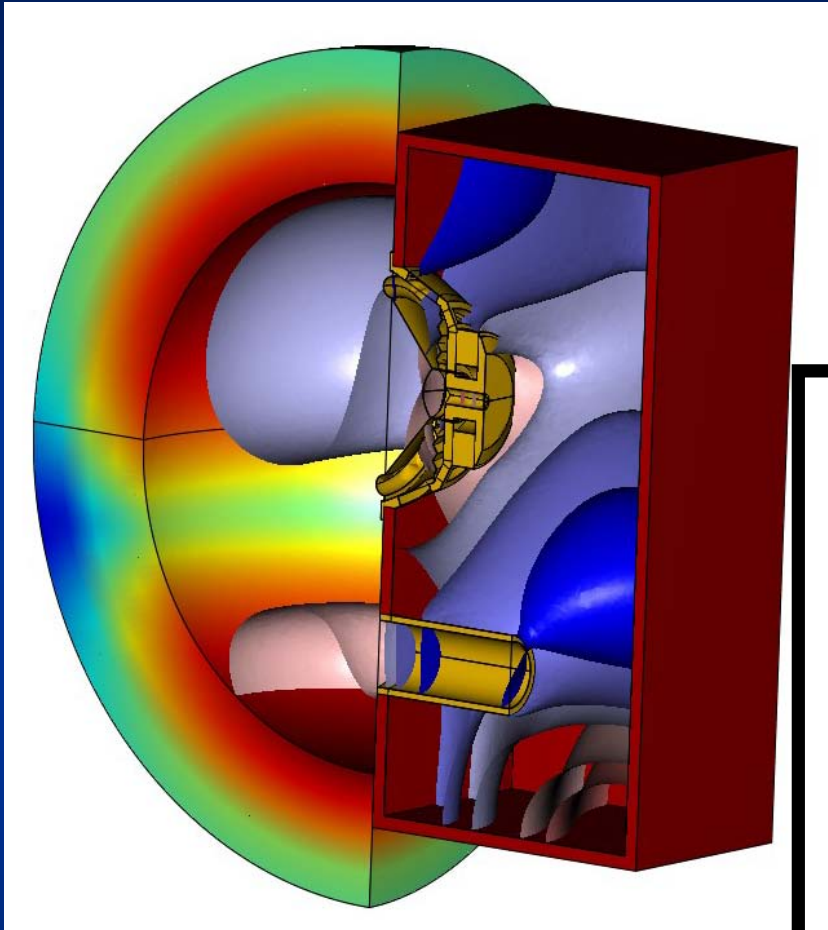
## Cylindrical Sub-woofer

Helmholtz resonator  
 → Evanescent field  
 at the opening.



Accurate solution with 4-layer modified PML,  
 compared to 16-layer standard PML.





# Conclusions and Further Development

- The real and imaginary parts of the PML coordinate scaling affect evanescent and propagating wave components in different ways.
- Modified scaling strategy proposed:
  - (i) improves the performance at low frequencies, where evanescent waves dominate.
  - (ii) mesh stability with respect to frequency, from  $ka = 1/100$  to  $ka = 100$ .
- Increasing error at high frequencies observed in radiation problems → To be addressed.
- What is  $a$  in  $ka$ ? → Problem dependence?  
→ A measure of the smallest wave scales of the problem?