

# An Alternating Direction Implicit Finite Difference Method For Second Order Hyperbolic Equations

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**Abstract**—In recent years, much attention has been given in the literature to the development, analysis, and implementation of finite difference schemes for the numerical solution of hyperbolic equations, which can describe physical phenomenons of vibrating string, elastic film and three-dimensional elastomers. In most of the cases, we use explicit difference schemes or implicit difference schemes to find numerical solutions of hyperbolic equations. The formers are suitable for parallel computation but it has limitations of stability. The latters are generally stable, but it is necessary to solve different linear systems at each level of time, which leads to more computational cost and time. In this paper, a two-level Crank-Nicolson alternating direction implicit (ADI) difference scheme is derived for solving the second order hyperbolic equations with variable coefficients by introducing the auxiliary variable. Convergence and stability analysis of the ADI scheme are given by the energy method. Finally, numerical examples are presented to illustrate the efficiency of the ADI difference scheme.

**Keywords**-implicit difference; alternating-direction; variable substitution; convergence; stability

## I. INTRODUCTION

A large number of physical problems are modeled by the hyperbolic equations. For example, hyperbolic wave equations can describe physical phenomenons of vibrating string, elastic film and three-dimensional elastomers. In addition, the exploration of earth quake can be explained by some models related to non-linear hyperbolic equations. In recent years, much attention has been given to the development, analysis, and implementation of finite difference schemes for the numerical solution of second-order hyperbolic equations. In [1]-[4], Mohanty has proposed some three level implicit unconditionally stable difference schemes for the one-, two- and three-dimensional linear hyperbolic equations with constant and variable coefficients. Using nonpolynomial cubic spline in space and finite difference in time directions, Rashidinidia[5] constructed implicit three level difference schemes. In 2006, Gao[6] developed unconditionally

stable difference schemes for the special one-dimensional second-order hyperbolic equation.

As is well known, the explicit difference schemes are suitable for parallel computation but it has limitations of stability. The implicit difference schemes are generally stable, but it is necessary to solve different linear systems at each level of time, which leads to more computational cost and time. In this paper, we propose a two-level alternating direction implicit difference scheme[7] for the following initial and boundary value problems of two-dimensional hyperbolic equation:

$$\begin{cases} u_{tt} - \nabla \cdot (a(x, y, t) \nabla u) = f(x, y, t) \\ (x, y, t) \in \Omega \times (0, T] \\ u(x, y, 0) = \varphi(x, y)(x, y) \in \Omega \\ u_t(x, y, 0) = \phi(x, y)(x, y) \in \Omega \\ u(x, y, t) = 0(x, y) \in \Omega \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

where  $\Omega$  is a bounded domain in  $R^2$  plane and  $\Omega$  represents its boundary.  $T$  is constant.  $\nabla = \{\frac{\partial}{\partial x}, \frac{\partial}{\partial y}\}$ . We

suppose that there exist two constants  $a_* > 0$  and  $a^* > 0$  such that

$$a_* \leq a(x, y, t) \leq a^* \quad (2)$$

and

$$a \in C^3(\overline{\Omega \times (0, T]}), u \in C^6(\overline{\Omega \times (0, T]}) \quad (3)$$

The alternating direction implicit (ADI) methods were first introduced by Douglas, Peaceman, and Rachford, which have an advantage of no increase in dimension of the coefficient matrices corresponding matrix equations. There are many extensions and a great variety of applications of ADI based on the finite difference or the finite element methods[8]-[12]. The energy method[13], which was first used for related theoretical analysis of alternating-direction scheme in [14], will be applied to the proofs of convergence and stability in this paper.

Somenumerical examples will show that the proposed alternating-direction implicit scheme is stable and with an accuracy of second order.

## II. FORMULATION OF THE DIFFERENCE SCHEME

Assume  $\Omega = (0, 1) \times (0, 1)$  and let  $\Delta x = \Delta y = h = 1/J$ ,  $\Delta t = \tau = T/N$ , where  $J, N$  are positive integers.  $\Delta x, \Delta y$  denote the grid spacing and  $\Delta t$  denotes the time step.  $x_i = ih, y_j = jh$ ,  $i, j = 0, 1, 2, \dots, J$ .  $t^n = n\tau$ ,  $n = 0, 1, 2, \dots, N$ . For convenience, we shall adopt the following notations

$$u^n = u_{ij}^n = u(x_i, y_j, t^n), \partial_t^2 u^n = \frac{u^{n+1} - 2u^n + u^{n-1}}{\tau^2},$$

$$\partial_t u^n = \frac{u^{n+1} - u^n}{\tau}, \partial_{\bar{t}} u^n = \frac{u^n - u^{n-1}}{\tau}, \partial_{\bar{t}} u^n = \frac{u^{n+1} - u^{n-1}}{2\tau},$$

$$\delta_x^2 u_{ij} = \delta_{\bar{x}} \delta_x u_{ij} = \frac{u_{i+1,j} - 2u_{ij} + u_{i-1,j}}{h^2}$$

$$\delta_x u_{ij} = \frac{u_{i+1,j} - u_{ij}}{h}, \delta_{\bar{x}} u_{ij} = \frac{u_{ij} - u_{i-1,j}}{h}, \delta_{\bar{x}} u_{ij} = \frac{u_{i+1,j} - u_{i-1,j}}{2h}$$

$$\bar{a}^{(1)}(w_{ij}^n) = \frac{1}{2} [a(w_{i+1,j}^n) + a(w_{ij}^n)],$$

$$\delta_{\bar{x}}(a^{(1)}(w) \delta_x u_{ij}^n) = \frac{1}{h^2} [\bar{a}^{(1)}(w_{ij}^n)(u_{i+1,j}^n - u_{ij}^n) - \bar{a}^{(1)}(w_{i-1,j}^n)(u_{ij}^n - u_{i-1,j}^n)]$$

$$\nabla_h \cdot (a(w) \nabla_h u)_{ij}^n = \delta_{\bar{x}}(a^{(1)}(w) \delta_x u)_{ij}^n + \delta_{\bar{y}}(a^{(1)}(w) \delta_y u)_{ij}^n$$

$$\nabla_h = \{\delta_x, \delta_y\}, \Delta_h = \delta_x^2 + \delta_y^2, \bar{\nabla}_h = \{\delta_{\bar{x}}, \delta_{\bar{y}}\}$$

$$\delta_y u_{ij}, \delta_{\bar{y}} u_{ij}, \delta_{\bar{y}}^2 u_{ij}, \delta_y^2 u_{ij}, \delta_{\bar{y}}(a^{(2)}(w) \delta_y u)_{ij}^n \text{ can be defined}$$

in a similar way. Let  $u_t = v$  and the first equation of (1) can be rewritten as

$$\begin{cases} v_t - \nabla \cdot (a \nabla u) = f \\ u_t = v \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

We obtain the Crank-Nicolson scheme(the subscripts are omitted)

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t V^n - \nabla_h \cdot (a^{n+\frac{1}{2}} \nabla_h \frac{U^{n+1} + U^n}{2}) = f^{n+\frac{1}{2}} \\ \partial_t U^n = \frac{1}{2}(V^{n+1} + V^n) \end{cases} \quad (5)$$

the following equation can be obtained by eliminating  $U^{n+1}$ :

$$\partial_t V^n - \frac{\tau}{2} \nabla_h \cdot (a^{n+\frac{1}{2}} \nabla_h \frac{V^{n+1} + V^n}{2}) = f^{n+\frac{1}{2}} + \nabla_h \cdot (a^{n+\frac{1}{2}} \nabla_h U^n) \quad (6)$$

Finally, we obtained the alternating-direction difference scheme based on Peaceman-Rachford scheme:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{V^{n+\frac{1}{2}} - V^n}{\tau/2} - \frac{\tau}{2} \delta_{\bar{x}}(\bar{a}^{(1)n+\frac{1}{2}} \delta_x V^{n+\frac{1}{2}}) - \frac{\tau}{2} \delta_{\bar{y}}(\bar{a}^{(2)n+\frac{1}{2}} \delta_y V^n) = f^{n+\frac{1}{2}} + \nabla_h \cdot (a^{n+\frac{1}{2}} \nabla_h U^n) \\ \frac{V^{n+1} - V^{n+\frac{1}{2}}}{\tau/2} - \frac{\tau}{2} \delta_{\bar{x}}(\bar{a}^{(1)n+\frac{1}{2}} \delta_x V^{n+\frac{1}{2}}) - \frac{\tau}{2} \delta_{\bar{y}}(\bar{a}^{(2)n+\frac{1}{2}} \delta_y V^{n+1}) = f^{n+\frac{1}{2}} + \nabla_h \cdot (a^{n+\frac{1}{2}} \nabla_h U^n) \\ \partial_t U^n = \frac{1}{2}(V^{n+1} + V^n) \end{cases} \quad (7)$$

## III. THE ANALYSIS OF CONVERGENCE AND STABILITY

For convenience, we define the following inner products and related norms:

$$(u, v) = \sum_{i=1}^{J-1} \sum_{j=1}^{J-1} u_{ij} v_{ij} h^2, \|u\|^2 = (u, u)$$

$$[\nabla_h u, \nabla_h v] = \sum_{i=0}^{J-1} \sum_{j=1}^{J-1} \delta_x u_{ij} \delta_y v_{ij} h^2 + \sum_{i=1}^{J-1} \sum_{j=0}^{J-1} \delta_x u_{ij} \delta_y v_{ij} h^2,$$

$$|u|_1^2 = [\nabla_h u, \nabla_h v]$$

$$(u, v)_{1x} = \sum_{i=0}^{J-1} \sum_{j=0}^{J-1} \delta_x u_{ij} \delta_x v_{ij} h^2,$$

$$|u|_{1x}^2 = (u, v)_{1x}$$

$$(u, v)_{1y} = \sum_{i=0}^{J-1} \sum_{j=0}^{J-1} \delta_y u_{ij} \delta_y v_{ij} h^2,$$

$$|u|_{1y}^2 = (u, v)_{1y}$$

$$\|\nabla_h u\|^2 = |u|_{1x}^2 + |u|_{1y}^2,$$

$$\|u\|_{\infty} = \max_{0 \leq i, j \leq J} |u_{ij}|$$

$$(u, v)_2 = \sum_{i=0}^{J-1} \sum_{j=0}^{J-1} \delta_x \delta_y u_{ij} \delta_x \delta_y v_{ij} h^2, |u|_2^2 = (u, u)_2$$

It is easy to show that the following two lemmas hold:

### Lemma 1.

$$\forall (x_i, y_j) \in \Omega, u_{ij} = v_{ij} = 0 \Rightarrow$$

$$\begin{cases} \sum_{i=1}^{J-1} \sum_{j=1}^{J-1} \delta_{\bar{x}}(a^{(1)} \delta_x u_{ij}) \cdot v_{ij} \cdot h^2 = - \sum_{i=0}^{J-1} \sum_{j=1}^{J-1} a_{i+\frac{1}{2},j} \cdot \delta_x u_{ij} \cdot \delta_x v_{ij} \cdot h^2 \\ \sum_{i=1}^{J-1} \sum_{j=1}^{J-1} \delta_{\bar{y}}(a^{(2)} \delta_y u_{ij}) \cdot v_{ij} \cdot h^2 = - \sum_{i=1}^{J-1} \sum_{j=0}^{J-1} a_{i,j+\frac{1}{2}} \cdot \delta_y u_{ij} \cdot \delta_y v_{ij} \cdot h^2 \end{cases} \quad (8)$$

### Lemma 2.

$$\begin{cases} \delta_x(u_{ij} \cdot v_{ij}) = u_{ij} \cdot \delta_x v_{ij} + \delta_x u_{ij} \cdot v_{i+1,j} \\ \delta_x \delta_y(u_{ij} \cdot v_{ij}) = u_{ij} \cdot \delta_x \delta_y v_{ij} + \delta_x u_{ij} \cdot \delta_y v_{i+1,j} + \delta_y u_{ij} \cdot \delta_x v_{i,j+1} + \delta_x \delta_y u_{ij} \cdot v_{i+1,j+1} \end{cases} \quad (9)$$

**Theorem 1.** (Convergence) Let  $u$  be the exact solution of (1) and  $U$  be the approximate solution of (7). If (2) and (3) are satisfied, then there exists a constant  $K$  such that

$$\|v^k - V^k\|^2 + \|\nabla_h(u^k - U^k)\|^2 \leq K(\tau^4 + h^4) \quad (10)$$

$$k \in Z^+, K \in R^+$$

Proof. We can obtain the following system of equations from (7) by eliminating  $V^{n+\frac{1}{2}}$

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t V^n - \nabla_h \cdot (a^{n+\frac{1}{2}}) \nabla_h \frac{U^{n+1} + U^n}{2} + \\ \frac{\tau^3}{16} \delta_{\bar{x}}(\bar{a}^{(1)} \delta_x) \delta_{\bar{y}}(\bar{a}^{(2)} \delta_y) (V^{n+1} - V^n) = f^{n+\frac{1}{2}} \\ \partial_t U^n = \frac{1}{2} (V^{n+1} + V^n) \end{cases} \quad (11)$$

From (4) we have

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t v^n - \nabla_h \cdot (a^{n+\frac{1}{2}}) \nabla_h \frac{u^{n+1} + u^n}{2} + \\ \frac{\tau^3}{16} \delta_{\bar{x}}(\bar{a}^{(1)} \delta_x) \delta_{\bar{y}}(\bar{a}^{(2)} \delta_y) (v^{n+1} - v^n) = f^{n+\frac{1}{2}} + R_1 \\ \partial_t u^n = \frac{1}{2} (v^{n+1} + v^n) + R_2 \end{cases} \quad (12)$$

where

$$\begin{aligned} R_1 &= \partial_t v^n - v_t^{n+\frac{1}{2}} + \nabla_h \cdot (a^{n+\frac{1}{2}} \nabla_h u^{n+\frac{1}{2}}) - \nabla_h \cdot (a^{n+\frac{1}{2}} \nabla_h \frac{u^{n+1} + u^n}{2}) \\ &\quad + \frac{\tau^3}{16} \delta_{\bar{x}}(\bar{a}^{(1)} \delta_x) \delta_{\bar{y}}(\bar{a}^{(2)} \delta_y) (v^{n+1} - v^n) \\ R_2 &= \partial_t u^n - u_t^{n+\frac{1}{2}} + v^{n+\frac{1}{2}} - \frac{1}{2} (v^{n+1} + v^n) \end{aligned}$$

Let  $e^n = u^n - U^n$  and  $\theta^n = v^n - V^n$ . From (11) and (12), we can obtain the error equations

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t \theta^n - \nabla_h \cdot (a^{n+\frac{1}{2}} \nabla_h \frac{e^{n+1} + e^n}{2}) + \\ \frac{\tau^3}{16} \delta_{\bar{x}}(\bar{a}^{(1)} \delta_x) \delta_{\bar{y}}(\bar{a}^{(2)} \delta_y) (\theta^{n+1} - \theta^n) = R_1 \\ \partial_t e^n = \frac{1}{2} (\theta^{n+1} + \theta^n) + R_2 \end{cases} \quad (13)$$

Taking the inner product  $(\cdot, \cdot)$  on both sides of the first error equation with  $(\theta^{n+1} + \theta^n)\tau$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} &(\theta^{n+1} - \theta^n, \theta^{n+1} + \theta^n) - (\nabla_h \cdot (a^{n+\frac{1}{2}} \nabla_h (e^{n+1} + e^n)), e^{n+1} - e^n) \\ &\quad + \frac{\tau^4}{16} (\delta_{\bar{x}}(\bar{a}^{(1)} \delta_x) \delta_{\bar{y}}(\bar{a}^{(2)} \delta_y) (\theta^{n+1} - \theta^n), \theta^{n+1} + \theta^n) \\ &= (\nabla_h \cdot (a^{n+\frac{1}{2}} \nabla_h (e^{n+1} + e^n)), R_2)\tau + (R_1, \theta^{n+1} + \theta^n)\tau \end{aligned} \quad (14)$$

Applying the operator  $\nabla_h$  to both sides of the second equation of (13) and taking the inner product  $(\cdot, \cdot)$  on both sides of (13) with  $\nabla_h(\theta^{n+1} + \theta^n)$ , gives

$$\begin{aligned} &(\nabla_h \partial_t e^n, \nabla_h(\theta^{n+1} + \theta^n)) = \frac{1}{2} (\nabla_h(\theta^{n+1} + \theta^n), \nabla_h(\theta^{n+1} + \theta^n)) \\ &\quad + (\nabla_h R_2, \nabla_h(\theta^{n+1} + \theta^n)) \end{aligned} \quad (15)$$

Notice that  $(\theta^{n+1} + \theta^n) = 2\partial_t e^n - 2R_2$ , we obtain from (14)

$$\begin{aligned} \|\nabla_h(\theta^{n+1} + \theta^n)\|^2 &= 4\|\nabla_h \partial_t e^n\|^2 - 8(\nabla_h \partial_t e^n, \nabla_h R_2) \\ &\quad + 4\|\nabla_h R_2\|^2 \end{aligned} \quad (16)$$

We will estimate the left-hand side terms of (14) term by term. The first item is

$$(\theta^{n+1} - \theta^n, \theta^{n+1} + \theta^n) = \|\theta^{n+1}\|^2 - \|\theta^n\|^2 \quad (17)$$

The second inner product can be rewritten as the sum of two terms and the part in  $x$ -direction is as follows (note that the boundary value of  $e^n$  is zero), so does in  $y$ -direction.

$$\begin{aligned} &-(\delta_{\bar{x}}(\bar{a}^{(1)} \delta_x) (e^{n+1} + e^n), e^{n+1} - e^n) \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^{J-1} \sum_{j=0}^{J-1} a^{n+\frac{1}{2}} (\delta_x e_{ij}^{n+1})^2 h^2 - \sum_{i=0}^{J-1} \sum_{j=0}^{J-1} a^{n-\frac{1}{2}} (\delta_x e_{ij}^n)^2 h^2 \\ &= -\sum_{i=0}^{J-1} \sum_{j=0}^{J-1} \frac{a^{n+\frac{1}{2}} - a^{n-\frac{1}{2}}}{\tau} (\delta_x e_{ij}^n)^2 h^2 \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

The third inner product is decomposed into four items by using Lemma 1 and Lemma 2,

$$\begin{aligned} &\frac{\tau^4}{16} (\delta_{\bar{x}}(\bar{a}^{(1)} \delta_x) \delta_{\bar{y}}(\bar{a}^{(2)} \delta_y) (\theta^{n+1} - \theta^n), \theta^{n+1} + \theta^n) \\ &= \frac{\tau^4}{16} \sum_{i,j=0}^{J-1} a_{i,j+\frac{1}{2}} \cdot \delta_x \delta_y (\theta_{ij}^{n+1} - \theta_{ij}^n) \cdot a_{i+\frac{1}{2},j} \cdot \delta_y \delta_x (\theta_{ij}^{n+1} + \theta_{ij}^n) \cdot h^2 \\ &\quad + \frac{\tau^4}{16} \sum_{i,j=0}^{J-1} a_{i,j+\frac{1}{2}} \cdot \delta_x \delta_y (\theta_{ij}^{n+1} - \theta_{ij}^n) \cdot \delta_y a_{i+\frac{1}{2},j} \cdot \delta_x (\theta_{i,j+1}^{n+1} + \theta_{i,j+1}^n) \cdot h^2 \\ &\quad + \frac{\tau^4}{16} \sum_{i,j=0}^{J-1} \delta_x a_{i,j+\frac{1}{2}} \cdot \delta_y (\theta_{i+1,j}^{n+1} - \theta_{i+1,j}^n) \cdot a_{i+\frac{1}{2},j} \cdot \delta_y \delta_x (\theta_{ij}^{n+1} + \theta_{ij}^n) \cdot h^2 \\ &\quad + \frac{\tau^4}{16} \sum_{i,j=0}^{J-1} \delta_x a_{i,j+\frac{1}{2}} \cdot \delta_y (\theta_{i+1,j}^{n+1} - \theta_{i+1,j}^n) \cdot \delta_y a_{i+\frac{1}{2},j} \cdot \delta_x (\theta_{i,j+1}^{n+1} + \theta_{i,j+1}^n) \cdot h^2 \end{aligned} \quad (19)$$

For convenience, the four items of the right-hand side of the above equation will be denoted by B1, B2, B3, and B4, respectively. Similar to (18),

$$B_1 = \frac{\tau^4}{16} \left\{ \sum_{i=0}^{J-1} \sum_{j=0}^{J-1} A^{n+\frac{1}{2}} (\delta_x \delta_y \theta_{ij}^{n+1})^2 h^2 - \sum_{i=0}^{J-1} \sum_{j=0}^{J-1} A^{n-\frac{1}{2}} (\delta_x \delta_y \theta_{ij}^n)^2 h^2 - \right. \quad (20)$$

$$\left. \sum_{i=0}^{J-1} \sum_{j=0}^{J-1} \frac{A^{n+\frac{1}{2}} - A^{n-\frac{1}{2}}}{\tau} (\delta_x \delta_y \theta_{ij}^n)^2 h^2 \right\}$$

where  $A^{n+\frac{1}{2}} = a_{i+\frac{1}{2},j}^{n+\frac{1}{2}} \cdot a_{i,j+\frac{1}{2}}^{n+\frac{1}{2}}$ . Assume  $K$  be a generic constant, which maybe different at different places. Based on the boundedness of  $a$  and (16), we have

$$\begin{aligned} -B_2 &\leq K\tau^4(|\theta^{n+1}|_2^2 + |\theta^n|_2^2)\tau + K(\|\nabla_h e^{n+1}\|^2 + \|\nabla_h e^n\|^2)\tau + K\tau^5 \\ -B_3 &\leq K\tau^4(|\theta^{n+1}|_2^2 + |\theta^n|_2^2)\tau + K(\|\nabla_h e^{n+1}\|^2 + \|\nabla_h e^n\|^2)\tau + K\tau^5 \\ -B_4 &\leq K(\|\nabla_h e^{n+1}\|^2 + \|\nabla_h e^n\|^2)\tau + K\tau^5 \end{aligned} \quad (21)$$

The estimates of right-hand side terms of (14) are similar to that of left-hand side and we have

$$\begin{aligned} (\nabla_h \cdot (a^{n+\frac{1}{2}} \nabla_h (e^{n+1} + e^n)), R_2) \tau &\leq K(\|\nabla_h e^{n+1}\|^2 + \|\nabla_h e^n\|^2)\tau + K\tau^5 \\ (R_1, \theta^{n+1} + \theta^n) \tau &\leq K\tau^4(|\theta^{n+1}|_2^2 + |\theta^n|_2^2)\tau + K(\|\nabla_h e^{n+1}\|^2 + \|\nabla_h e^n\|^2)\tau + \\ &\quad (\|\theta^{n+1}\|^2 + \|\theta^n\|^2)\tau + K\tau^5 + Kh^4\tau \end{aligned} \quad (22)$$

Substituting the estimates (17)-(22) into (14) and summing for  $n=0$  to  $n=k-1$ , we obtain the following inequation

$$\begin{aligned} &\|\theta^k\|^2 + \tau^4 |\theta^k|_2^2 + \|\nabla_h e^k\|^2 \\ &\leq K \left( \sum_{n=0}^{k-1} \|\theta^n\|^2 \tau + \tau^4 \sum_{n=0}^{k-1} |\theta^n|_2^2 \tau + \sum_{n=0}^{k-1} \|\nabla_h e^n\|^2 \tau + (\tau^4 + h^4) \right) \end{aligned} \quad (23)$$

By using the Gronwall's Lemma, the error estimate is followed:

$$\|v^k - V^k\|^2 + \|\nabla_h (u^k - U^k)\|^2 \leq K(\tau^4 + h^4) \quad (24)$$

By using similar arguments as those in the proofs of Theorem 1, we obtain the following stability estimate Theorem 2. Stability

$$\|V^k\|^2 + \|\nabla_h U^k\|^2 \leq K(\|V^0\|^2 + |V^0|_2^2 + \|\nabla_h U^0\|^2 + \sum_{n=0}^k \left\| f^{n+\frac{1}{2}} \right\|^2 \tau) \quad (25)$$

$$k \in \mathbb{Z}^+, K \in \mathbb{R}^+$$

## IV. NUMERICAL RESULTS

We will use our scheme for solving some hyperbolic equations.  $u(x, y, t) = 1/4 \sin(xy(1-x)(1-y))(3/2 + \cos(2t))$

is the exact solution of (1), where  $a = u + 1/2$ . Then  $u_t$  is replaced by  $v$  and  $v(x, y, t) = -1/2 \sin(xy(1-x)(1-y)) \sin(2t)$ . MATLAB program based on the corresponding alternating-direction scheme (7) is performed and the difference solution is obtained. The comparison between the exact solution and the approximate solution show that our scheme is effective. Table 1 displays the errors and shows that the convergence rate of the proposed ADI scheme is second order, where  $\gamma = (\tau, h)$ ,  $\gamma_0 = (0.1, 1/8)$ . The 3th, 5th and 7th column are the relative errors to corresponding norms and the 4th, 6th and 8th are convergence rates to corresponding norms. Three figures illustrate the numerical solution(left) and the exact solution(right) at different times at  $t = 10, \tau = 0.05, h = 1/16$ .

TABLE I. ERRORS AND CONVERGENCE RATE

t	$\gamma$	$\ e\  / \ u\ $	rate	$\ e\ _\infty / \ u\ _\infty$	rate	$ e _1 /  u _1$	rate
5	$\gamma_0$	9.5811e-3		1.0487e-2		9.5355e-3	
	$\gamma_0 / 2$	2.2036e-3	2.2472	2.2743e-3	2.3323	2.1931e-3	2.2388
	$\gamma_0 / 4$	5.4115e-4	2.0877	5.5083e-4	2.1077	5.3961e-4	2.0828
10	$\gamma_0$	5.5985e-3		6.2752e-3		5.5916e-3	
	$\gamma_0 / 2$	1.0139e-3	2.3862	1.0546e-3	2.4944	1.0090e-3	2.3830
	$\gamma_0 / 4$	2.2356e-4	2.1442	2.5508e-4	2.0107	2.2299e-4	2.1387
15	$\gamma_0$	1.2432e-2		1.2751e-2		1.2384e-2	
	$\gamma_0 / 2$	2.8721e-3	2.1901	2.9591e-3	2.1839	2.8584e-3	2.1829
	$\gamma_0 / 4$	7.0004e-4	2.0772	7.4577e-4	2.0290	6.9558e-4	2.0774

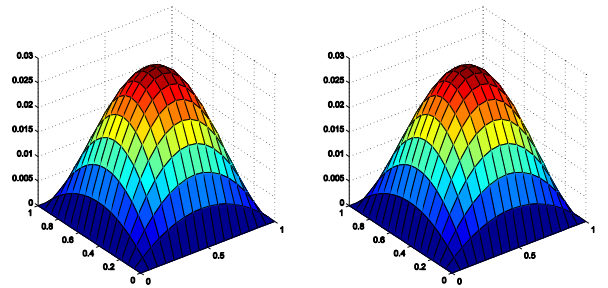


Figure 1. The profile of numerical solution(left) and the exact solution(right) when  $\Omega = (0,1) \times (0,1)$

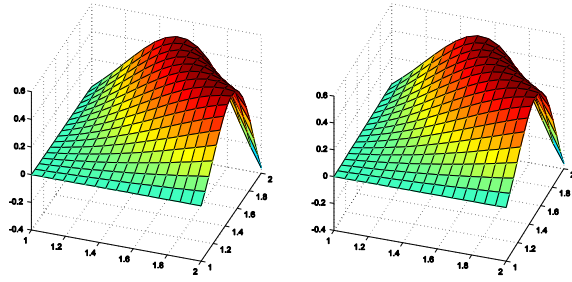


Figure 2. The profile of numerical solution(left) and the exact solution(right) when  $\Omega = (1, 2) \times (1, 2)$

## V. CONCLUSION

A two-level Crank-Nicolson alternating direction implicit difference scheme is derived for solving the second order hyperbolic equations with variable coefficients by introducing the auxiliary variable  $v$ . Convergence and stability analysis show that the ADI scheme is absolutely stable and have a convergence rate of order  $O(\tau^2 + h^2)$ . Numerical experiment indicates that the proposed scheme is easy for parallel computing, stable, and effective.

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