

# On the Numerical Solution of 3D Inverse Obstacle Scattering Problems

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# Outline

- 1 operator formulation of the inverse problem
- 2 numerical solution of the forward problem
- 3 preconditioned Newton method
- 4 numerical results

## forward scattering problem

Let  $K \subset \mathbb{R}^3$ : be a compact, smooth, simply connected obstacle and  $u_i(x) := \exp(ikx \cdot d)$  an incident wave with wave number  $k > 0$  and direction  $d \in \mathcal{S}^2$ .

**forward scattering problem:** Find the scattered wave  $u_s$  such that the total field  $u := u_i + u_s$  satisfies:

- the Helmholtz equation

$$\Delta u + k^2 u = 0 \quad \text{in } \mathbb{R}^3 \setminus K$$

- the Dirichlet (“sound-soft”) boundary condition

$$u = 0 \quad \text{on } \Gamma := \partial K$$

- the Sommerfeld radiation condition

$$r \left( \frac{\partial u_s}{\partial r} - iku_s \right) \rightarrow 0 \quad r = |x| \rightarrow \infty.$$

# far field pattern and inverse problem

The Sommerfeld radiation condition implies that  $u_S$  has the asymptotic behavior

$$u_S(x) = \frac{e^{i\kappa|x|}}{|x|} \left\{ u_\infty\left(\frac{x}{|x|}\right) + \mathcal{O}\left(\frac{1}{|x|}\right) \right\}, \quad |x| \rightarrow \infty.$$

The function  $u_\infty : S^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  is called the **far field pattern** of  $u_S$ .

**inverse problem:** Given  $u_\infty$  and  $u_j$ , find the obstacle  $K$ !

# parametrizations

Let  $\Gamma_{\text{ref}}$  be a smooth closed reference surface of the same genus as  $\Gamma$ . We parametrize  $\Gamma$  by a  $C^1$ -mapping

$$\Psi : \Gamma_{\text{ref}} \rightarrow \Gamma$$

which is one-to-one, preserves orientation, and the derivative  $D\Psi(x) : T_x \rightarrow T_{\Psi(x)}$  is one-to-one for all  $x \in \Gamma_{\text{ref}}$ .

## definition of the forward operator

Let

$$\mathbb{D}(F) := \left\{ \Psi \in H^s(\Gamma_{\text{ref}}; \mathbb{R}^3) : \begin{array}{l} \Psi \text{ one-to-one, orient.-preserving,} \\ \text{and } \det(D\Psi(x)) \neq 0 \text{ for all } x \in \Gamma_{\text{ref}} \end{array} \right\}$$

with  $s > 2$  be the set of admissible parametrizations, and let

$$\begin{aligned} F &: \mathbb{D}(F) \rightarrow L^2(\mathcal{S}^2), & \Psi &\mapsto u_\infty \\ & & \Psi &\rightarrow u_\infty \end{aligned}$$

denote the forward solution operator. Then the inverse problem can be formulated as operator equation

$$F(\Psi) = u_\infty.$$

Note that  $F$  is not one-to-one since the representation of  $\Gamma$  by  $\Psi$  is not unique.

# forward operator for star-shaped domains

If  $K$  is star-shaped with respect to the origin, there exists a positive function  $r$  on  $S^2$  such that

$$\Gamma = \{r(\hat{x})\hat{x} : \hat{x} \in S^2\}.$$

$\Gamma$  is uniquely represented by  $r$ , and we can define the forward operator  $F_* : r \mapsto u_\infty$  on the domain

$$\mathbb{D}(F_*) := \{r \in H^s(S^2, \mathbb{R}) : r > 0\}.$$

# differentiability of $F$

**Theorem (Hohage 1999):** The operator  $F$  is analytic even for rough (e.g. fractal) obstacles  $K$ .

The derivative  $F'[\Psi]\mathbf{V}$  of  $F$  at  $\Psi$  in direction  $\mathbf{V}$  is the far field pattern of a radiating solution  $u'$  to the Helmholtz equation. On smooth parts of  $\Gamma$ ,  $u'$  satisfies the boundary condition

$$u'|_{\Gamma} = -(\mathbf{V} \cdot \mathbf{n}) \frac{\partial u}{\partial \mathbf{n}}$$

where  $\mathbf{n}$  denotes the outward pointing unit normal vector.

see also [Simon, Kirsch, Potthast, Hettlich](#)

# characterization of the adjoint $F'[\Psi]$

The derivative  $F'[\Psi]$  has the factorization  $F'[\Psi] = G_\Psi A_\Psi J_S$  where

- $J_S : H^s(\Gamma; \mathbb{R}^3) \hookrightarrow L^2(\Gamma; \mathbb{R}^3)$  is the embedding operator
- $A_\Psi : L^2(\Gamma_{\text{ref}}; \mathbb{R}^3) \rightarrow L^2(\Gamma; \mathbb{C})$  is defined by

$$(A_\Psi \mathbf{V})(y) := -\frac{\partial u}{\partial \mathbf{n}}(y) \mathbf{V}(\Psi^{-1}(y)) \cdot \mathbf{n}(y), \quad y \in \Gamma.$$

- $G_\Psi : L^2(\Gamma; \mathbb{C}) \rightarrow L^2(\mathcal{S}^2; \mathbb{C})$  is the operator which maps Dirichlet data  $f \in L^2(\Gamma)$  to the far field pattern  $v_\infty$  of the radiating solution  $v$  to the Helmholtz equation satisfying the Dirichlet condition  $v = f$  on  $\Gamma$ .

Hence,  $F'[\Psi]^* = J_S^* A_\Psi^* G_\Psi^*$ .

# characterization of the adjoint $F'[\Psi]$

- Let

$$v_i^g(y) := \frac{1}{4\pi} \int_{S^2} e^{-i\kappa \hat{x} \cdot y} g(\hat{x}) d\sigma_{\hat{x}}, \quad y \in \mathbb{R}^3$$

denote the **Herglotz wave function** with kernel  $g \in L^2(S^2)$ , and let  $v_g$  be the total field corresponding to  $v_i^g$  as incident field, i.e.  $v^g = v_i^g + v_s^g$  where  $v = 0$  on  $\Gamma$  and  $v_s^g$  is a radiating solution to the Helmholtz equation. Then

$$G_{\Psi}^* g = \overline{\frac{\partial v^g}{\partial \mathbf{n}}}.$$

- The adjoint of  $A_{\Psi}$  applied to a function  $f \in L^2(\Gamma; \mathbb{C})$  is given by

$$(A_{\Psi}^* f)(x) = -\Re \left( f(y) \cdot \overline{\frac{\partial u}{\partial \mathbf{n}}(y)} \right) \mathbf{n}(y) \det(D\Psi(x)), \quad x \in \Gamma_{\text{ref}}$$

where  $y := \Psi(x)$ .

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# boundary integral operators

Let  $E(x, y) = \frac{e^{i\kappa\|x-y\|}}{4\pi\|x-y\|}$  denote the fundamental solution. We define the boundary integral operators

$$(S\rho)(x) := \int_{\Gamma} E(x, y)\rho(y) d\sigma_y, \quad x \in \Gamma,$$

$$(\mathcal{D}'\rho)(x) := \int_{\Gamma} \frac{\partial E(x, y)}{\partial \mathbf{n}(x)} \rho(y) d\sigma_y, \quad x \in \Gamma,$$

$$(\mathcal{D}\rho)(x) := \int_{\Gamma} \frac{\partial E(x, y)}{\partial \mathbf{n}(y)} \rho(y) d\sigma_y, \quad x \in \Gamma.$$

# evaluation of $F$

The total field  $u$  satisfies

$$u(x) + \int_{\Gamma} \frac{\partial u(y)}{\partial \mathbf{n}} E(x, y) d\sigma_y = u_i(x), \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^3 \setminus K.$$

Letting  $x$  tend to  $\Gamma$  in this equation and taking the normal derivative, we find that the Neumann-data  $\frac{\partial u}{\partial \mathbf{n}}$  of the total field satisfy the integral equation

$$\left( \frac{1}{2}I + \mathcal{D}' - i\eta\mathcal{S} \right) \frac{\partial u}{\partial \mathbf{n}} = \frac{\partial u_i}{\partial \mathbf{n}} - i\eta u_i \quad \text{on } \Gamma$$

for any  $\eta > 0$ . The far field pattern is given by

$$u_{\infty}(\hat{x}) = -\frac{1}{4\pi} \int_{\Gamma} e^{-i\kappa \hat{x} \cdot y} \frac{\partial u}{\partial \mathbf{n}}(y) d\sigma_y, \quad \hat{x} \in \mathbb{S}^2.$$

# evaluation of $F'[\Psi]$

The ansatz

$$u'(x) = \int_{\Gamma} \left( \frac{\partial E(x, y)}{\partial \mathbf{n}(y)} - i\eta E(x, y) \right) \rho(y) d\sigma_y \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^3 \setminus \bar{\Omega}.$$

leads to the boundary integral equation

$$\left( \frac{1}{2}I + \mathcal{D} - i\eta\mathcal{S} \right) \rho = -(\mathbf{V} \cdot \mathbf{n}) \frac{\partial u}{\partial \mathbf{n}}.$$

Then

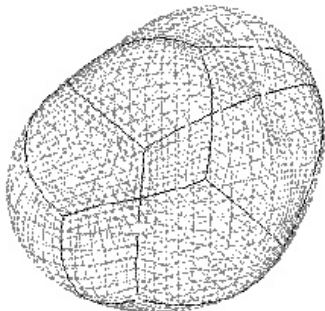
$$(F'[\Psi]\mathbf{V})(\hat{x}) = \frac{1}{4\pi} \int_{\Gamma} e^{-i\kappa\hat{x}\cdot y} (-i\kappa(\mathbf{n}(y) \cdot \hat{x}) - i\eta) \rho(y) d\sigma_y, \quad \hat{x} \in \mathbb{S}^2.$$

# partitioning of the surface

Let  $\square := [0, 1]^2$  denote the unit square. We assume that the manifold  $\Gamma \subset \mathbb{R}^3$  can be partitioned into a finite number of patches  $\Gamma_i$

$$\Gamma = \bigcup_{i=1}^M \Gamma_i, \quad \Gamma_i = \gamma_i(\square), \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, M,$$

where each  $\gamma_i : \square \rightarrow \Gamma_i$  defines a diffeomorphism of  $\square$  onto  $\Gamma_i$ .



# wavelet boundary element method

- Subdivide the unit square into  $4^j$  subsquares and consider the nodal basis  $\{\psi_{j,k}\}$  of the space  $V_j \subset L^2(\Gamma)$  of piecewise bilinear functions.
- Galerkin approximation of the boundary integral equation  $Au = f$ : Find  $u_j \in V_j$  such that

$$\langle Au_j, v_j \rangle_{L^2(\Gamma)} = \langle f, v_j \rangle_{L^2(\Gamma)} \quad \text{for all } v_j \in V_j.$$

- The matrix representation w.r.t. the nodal basis is dense (usual BEM). However, the matrix w.r.t. the **biorthogonal spline wavelets** is quasi-sparse, i.e. it can be approximated by a sparse matrix up to the order of the discretization error.

## features, discussion

- The method is 4th order accurate, i.e.  
$$\|F(\Psi) - F_{h_j}(\Psi)\|_{L^2} = \mathcal{O}(h_j^4) \text{ as } j \rightarrow \infty.$$
- Compared to **multipole or panel clustering** methods, the computation of the matrix (which is avoided by those methods) is expensive, but matrix-vector multiplication are then very cheap.
- **Hence, wavelet-BEM is particularly attractive in the context of inverse problems** where the same integral equation must be solved for many right hand sides in each step of a Newton method.

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# ill-posed nonlinear operator equations

We consider a nonlinear ill-posed operator equation

$$F(\Psi) = u_\infty$$

in real Hilbert spaces  $X$  and  $Y$ . The operator  $F : D(F) \rightarrow Y$  is assumed to be Fréchet-differentiable on its domain  $D(F) \subset X$ . We assume that there exists a unique **solution**  $\Psi^\dagger$  to the operator equation for exact data  $u_\infty$ .

The **measured data**  $u_\infty^\delta$  are perturbed by noise and satisfy an error bound

$$\|u_\infty^\delta - u_\infty\| \leq \delta$$

for some known **noise level**  $\delta > 0$ .

# Tikhonov regularized Newton methods

**Levenberg-Marquardt algorithm:** Compute update  $\mathbf{V}_n$  by solving the minimization problem

$$\|F'[\Psi_n^\delta]\mathbf{V} + F(\Psi_n^\delta) - u_\infty^\delta\|_Y^2 + \gamma_n\|\mathbf{V}\|_X^2 = \min! \quad \mathbf{V} \in X.$$

**Iteratively Regularized Gauss-Newton Method (IRGNM):**  
Compute update  $\mathbf{V}_n$  by solving the minimization problem

$$\|F'[\Psi_n^\delta]\mathbf{V} + F(\Psi_n^\delta) - u_\infty^\delta\|_Y^2 + \gamma_n\|\mathbf{V} + \Psi_n^\delta - \Psi_0\|_X^2 = \min! \quad \mathbf{V} \in X.$$

**choice of regularization parameters:**  $\gamma_n = \gamma_0\rho^n$  for some  $\rho \in (0, 1)$ .

## an additional penalty term

Often some parametrizations  $\Psi$  of the same obstacle are preferable to others since they lead to better grids. Hence, we introduce an additional penalty term involving an operator  $G : \mathbb{D}(F) \rightarrow Z$ :

$$\begin{aligned} & \|F'[\Psi_n]\mathbf{V} + F(\Psi_n) - u^\delta\|^2 + \alpha_n \|\mathbf{V} + \Psi_n - \Psi_0\|^2 \\ & + \alpha_n \|G'[\Psi_n]\mathbf{V} + G(\Psi_n)\|^2 = \min! \end{aligned}$$

For example,

$$(G(\Psi))(x) := D\Psi(x)^\dagger, \quad x \in \Gamma_{\text{ref}}.$$

# need of a preconditioner

In each step of the IRGNM and the Levenberg-Marquardt algorithm we have to solve a linear operator equation of the form

$$(F'[\Psi_n]^* F'[\Psi_n] + \gamma_n I) \mathbf{V}_n = \mathbf{g}_n \quad (1)$$

where the regularization parameter satisfy  $\gamma_n \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .  
We have

$$\text{cond}(F'[\Psi_n]^* F'[\Psi_n] + \gamma_n I) = \frac{\|F'[\Psi_n]\|^2}{\gamma_n} \rightarrow \infty, \quad n \rightarrow \infty.$$

Hence, the number of CG steps to solve (1) will explode as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

# conjugate gradient method

$$\underbrace{(F'[\Psi_m]^* F'[\Psi_m] + \gamma_n I)}_{=: A_n} \mathbf{V}_n = \mathbf{g}_n, \quad m \leq n$$

**inner iteration:**

$$k = 0; \mathbf{V}_n^0 = \mathbf{0}; r_0 = \mathbf{g}_n;$$

while ( $\|r_k\| > \epsilon \gamma_n \|\mathbf{V}_n^k\|$ )

$$k = k + 1;$$

$$\text{if } (k = 1) \mathbf{p}^1 = r^0;$$

else

$$\beta_k = \|r_{k-1}\|^2 / \|r_{k-2}\|^2;$$

$$\mathbf{p}_k = r_{k-1} + \beta_k \mathbf{p}_{k-1};$$

$$\alpha_k = \|r_{k-1}\|^2 / \langle \mathbf{p}_k, A_n \mathbf{p}_k \rangle;$$

$$\mathbf{V}_n^k = \mathbf{V}_n^{k-1} + \alpha_k \mathbf{p}_k;$$

$$r_k = r_{k-1} - \alpha_k A_n \mathbf{p}_k;$$

$$\mathbf{V}_n^k \approx \mathbf{V}_n$$

Recall that the residuals  $r_j = \mathbf{g}_n - A_n \mathbf{V}_n^j$  are orthogonal:  $\langle r_j, r_l \rangle = 0$  for  $j \neq l$

**Proposition:** After termination of the inner iteration we have

$$\|\mathbf{V}_n^k - \mathbf{V}_n\| \leq \frac{\epsilon}{1 - \epsilon} \|\mathbf{V}_n\|.$$

# Lanczos method

$$A_n R = R B^T B + \text{rem}$$

$$B := \begin{bmatrix} \sqrt{\frac{1}{\alpha_1}} & -\sqrt{\frac{\beta_1}{\alpha_1}} & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \sqrt{\frac{1}{\alpha_2}} & \ddots & \vdots \\ & \ddots & \ddots & \ddots \\ \vdots & & \ddots & \ddots \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & -\sqrt{\frac{\beta_{k-2}}{\alpha_{k-2}}} \\ & & & \sqrt{\frac{1}{\alpha_{k-1}}} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$R := \left[ \frac{r^0}{\|r^0\|}, \dots, \frac{r^{k-1}}{\|r^{k-1}\|} \right] \text{ is isometric.}$$

If  $\text{rem} = 0$  and  $B^T B = V D V^T$  with  $D$  diagonal and  $V$  orthogonal, then

$$A_n (R V) = (R V) D,$$

i.e. the columns of  $R V$  are eigenvectors of  $A_n$ , and the diagonal elements of  $D$  are eigenvalues.

# construction of a preconditioner

Preconditioned equation:  $C_n^{-1} A_n C_n^{-1} \tilde{\mathbf{v}}_n = C_n^{-1} \mathbf{g}_n$ ,  
 $\tilde{\mathbf{v}}_n = C_n \mathbf{h}_n$ . Recall that  $A_n := F'[\Psi_m]^* F'[\Psi_m] + \gamma_n I$ .

Let  $F'[\Psi_m]^* F'[\Psi_m] \mathbf{v}_j = \lambda_j \mathbf{v}_j$ , and assume that the largest  $K$  eigenvalues and -vectors are known. Define

$$C_n^{-2} \mathbf{a} := \mathbf{a} + \sum_{j=1}^K \left( \frac{\gamma_n}{\gamma_n + \lambda_j} - 1 \right) \langle \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{v}_j \rangle \mathbf{v}_j.$$

Then  $C_n^{-1} A_n C_n^{-1} \mathbf{v}_k = \gamma_n \mathbf{v}_k$  for  $k \leq K$  and  $C_n^{-1} A_n C_n^{-1} \mathbf{v}_k = A_n \mathbf{v}_k$  else. Consequently,

$$\sigma(C_n^{-1} A_n C_n^{-1}) = \{\gamma_n\} \cup \{\gamma_n + \lambda_{K+1}, \gamma_n + \lambda_{K+2}, \dots\}$$

$$\text{cond}(C_n^{-1} A_n C_n^{-1}) = 1 + \frac{\lambda_{K+1}}{\gamma_n};$$

# the algorithm

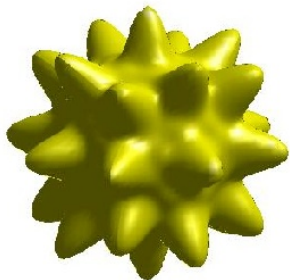
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Compute  $F(\Psi_0)$ ;  
 $n = 0$ ;  
while ( $\|F(\Psi_n) - u_\infty^\delta\| \geq \tau\delta$ );  
  if ( $\sqrt{n+1} \in \mathbb{N}$ )  
     $m = n$ ;  
    Solve  $A_n \mathbf{V}_n = g_n$  by CG;  
    Compute largest eigenvalues and -vectors of  $F'[\Psi_*]^* F'[\Psi_*]$ ;  
  else  
    Solve  $C_n^{-1} A_n C_n^{-1} (C_n \mathbf{V}_n) = C_n^{-1} g_n$  by CG;  
   $\Psi_{n+1} = \Psi_n + \mathbf{V}_n$ ;  
   $n = n + 1$ ;  
  Compute  $F(\Psi_n)$ ;  
end!!!
```

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# 6 incident waves, wave number $k=1$

original



reconstruction



noise level: 5 %

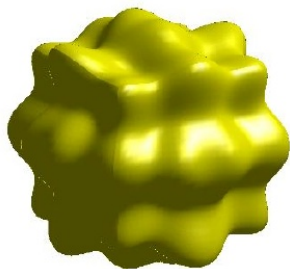
geometry represented by spherical harmonics of degree  $\leq 20$

## 6 incident waves, wave number $k=2$

original



reconstruction

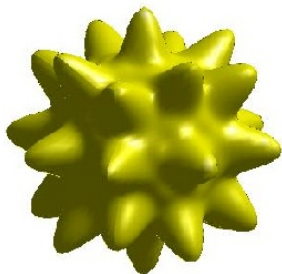


noise level: 5 %

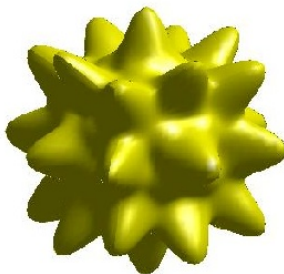
geometry represented by spherical harmonics of degree  $\leq 20$

# 6 incident waves, wave number $k=4$

original



reconstruction



noise level: 5 %

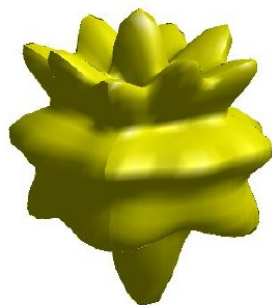
geometry represented by spherical harmonics of degree  $\leq 20$

# 1 incident wave from top, wave number $k=4$

original



reconstruction



noise level: 2 %

geometry represented by spherical harmonics of degree  $\leq 20$

parameter values:  
6 incident waves  
wave number  $k=8$   
1% noise  
spherical harmonics  
of degree  $\leq 20$

top: reconstruction  
bottom: original

