

Inverse problems for time-harmonic Maxwell equations

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Outline

1. Inverse problem for Maxwell equations
2. Matrix Schrödinger equation
3. Complex geometrical optics
4. Partial data

Calderón problem

Conductivity equation

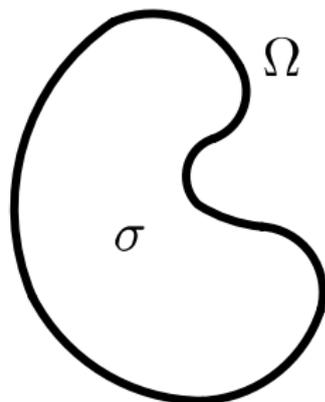
$$\begin{cases} \operatorname{div}(\sigma(x)\nabla u) = 0 & \text{in } \Omega, \\ u = f & \text{on } \partial\Omega \end{cases}$$

where $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ bounded Lipschitz domain, $\sigma \in L^\infty(\Omega)$ positive scalar function (electrical conductivity).

Boundary measurements given by *Dirichlet-to-Neumann (DN) map*

$$\Lambda_\sigma : f \mapsto \sigma \nabla u \cdot \nu|_{\partial\Omega}.$$

Inverse problem: given Λ_σ , determine σ .



Maxwell equations

Consider (elliptic) Maxwell equations in $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^3$,

$$\begin{cases} \nabla \times E = i\omega\mu H, \\ \nabla \times H = -i\omega\varepsilon E. \end{cases}$$

Here Ω is a bounded C^∞ domain and

- ▶ $E, H : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^3$ are electric and magnetic fields
- ▶ $\omega > 0$ is a fixed (non-resonant) frequency
- ▶ $\varepsilon, \mu \in C^\infty(\overline{\Omega}, \mathbb{C})$ and $\operatorname{Re}(\varepsilon), \operatorname{Re}(\mu) > 0$

Boundary measurements (*admittance map*)

$$\Lambda_{\varepsilon, \mu} : E_{\tan}|_{\partial\Omega} \mapsto H_{\tan}|_{\partial\Omega}.$$

Inverse problem: given $\Lambda_{\varepsilon, \mu}$, determine ε, μ .

Relation to Calderón problem

Maxwell equations with real μ_0, ε_0 and conductivity σ :

$$\begin{cases} \nabla \times E = i\omega\mu_0 H, \\ \nabla \times H = -i\omega(\varepsilon_0 + \frac{i}{\omega}\sigma)E. \end{cases}$$

Formal limit as $\omega \rightarrow 0$:

$$\begin{cases} \nabla \times E = 0, \\ \nabla \times H = \sigma E. \end{cases}$$

From first equation get $E = \nabla u$, then second equation implies the *conductivity equation*

$$\nabla \cdot \sigma \nabla u = 0.$$

Also $\Lambda_{\varepsilon, \mu} \rightsquigarrow \Lambda_{\sigma}$ as $\omega \rightarrow 0$ [Lassas 1997].

Maxwell inverse problem

Results (mostly for scalar ε, μ):

uniqueness	$\varepsilon, \mu \in C^3$	Ola-Päivärinta-Somersalo 1993
	$\varepsilon, \mu \in C^1$	Caro-Zhou 2014
log stability	$\varepsilon, \mu \in C^2$	Caro 2010
partial data	under	Caro-Ola-S 2009
	various	Brown-Marletta-Reyes 2016
	conditions	Chung-Ola-S-Tzou 2016
matrix ε, μ		Kenig-S-Uhlmann 2011

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Elliptization

Maxwell equations in $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^3$,

$$\begin{cases} \nabla \times E = i\omega\mu H, \\ \nabla \times H = -i\omega\varepsilon E. \end{cases}$$

This is a 6×6 system, not elliptic as it is written! Since $\operatorname{div} \circ \operatorname{curl} = 0$, obtain constituent equations

$$\begin{cases} \nabla \cdot (\mu H) = 0, \\ \nabla \cdot (\varepsilon E) = 0. \end{cases}$$

Elliptization ([Herz/Sommerfeld potentials](#), [[Picard 1984](#)], [[Ola-Somersalo 1996](#)]): adding two equations requires adding two extra unknowns, the scalar fields Φ and Ψ .

Elliptization

Maxwell equations become the 8×8 system

$$\left[\begin{array}{cccc} * & \nabla \cdot & 0 & * \\ * & 0 & \nabla \times & * \\ * & \nabla \times & 0 & * \\ * & 0 & \nabla \cdot & * \end{array} \right] + V(x) \begin{bmatrix} \Phi \\ E \\ H \\ \Psi \end{bmatrix} = 0$$

where V is an 8×8 matrix function. Here $(E \ H)^t$ will solve Maxwell iff $(0 \ E \ H \ 0)^t$ solves the above system (that is, *need $\Phi = \Psi = 0$ in order to solve Maxwell*).

We are free to choose the $*$ entries so that the new system becomes elliptic. How to do this?

Geometric setup

Let (M, g) compact 3D Riemannian manifold with boundary.
Maxwell equations

$$\begin{cases} *dE = i\omega\mu H, \\ *dH = -i\omega\varepsilon E \end{cases}$$

Here

- ▶ E, H complex 1-forms on M
- ▶ ε, μ smooth functions in M with $\operatorname{Re}(\varepsilon), \operatorname{Re}(\mu) > 0$
- ▶ d *exterior derivative*
- ▶ $*$ *Hodge star* in (M, g) , maps k -forms to $(3 - k)$ -forms

The adjoint of d is the *codifferential* $\delta = \pm * d*$. Recall that

d and δ act as $\pm \text{grad} / \text{curl} / \text{div}$.

Elliptization

The previous 8×8 system may be rewritten as

$$\left[\begin{array}{c} \left[\begin{array}{cccc} * & \delta & 0 & * \\ * & 0 & d & * \\ * & d & 0 & * \\ * & 0 & \delta & * \end{array} \right] + V(x) \end{array} \right] \left[\begin{array}{c} \Phi \\ E \\ *H \\ *\Psi \end{array} \right] = 0.$$

where Φ, Ψ are 0-forms and E, H are 1-forms. The vector $(\Phi \ E \ *H \ *\Psi)^t$ identifies with the *graded differential form*

$$X = \Phi + E + *H + *\Psi.$$

There is a natural elliptic operator, the *Hodge Dirac operator*, acting on graded forms:

$$D = d + \delta.$$

Elliptization

Reduce Maxwell equations to a *Dirac equation* (8×8 system)

$$(D + V)X = 0$$

where $X = \Phi + E + *H + *\Psi$ is a graded differential form, and

$$D = d + \delta.$$

Here $D^2 = \Delta_g$ is the *Hodge Laplacian* acting on graded forms. For functions, Δ_g is the Laplace-Beltrami operator

$$\Delta_g u = \sum_{j,k=1}^n \frac{1}{\sqrt{\det g}} \frac{\partial}{\partial x_j} \left(\sqrt{\det g} g^{jk} \frac{\partial u}{\partial x_k} \right),$$

where $g = (g_{jk})$, $g^{-1} = (g^{jk})$.

Calderón problem

Recall the steps to solve the Calderón problem:

1. Substitute $u = \gamma^{-1/2}v$, conductivity equation $\operatorname{div}(\gamma \nabla u) = 0 \iff$ Schrödinger equation $(-\Delta + q)v = 0$.
2. Integral identity: for any u_j solving $(-\Delta + q_j)u_j = 0$,

$$\int_{\Omega} (q_1 - q_2) u_1 u_2 \, dx = 0.$$

3. Insert *complex geometrical optics* solutions

$$u_j = e^{\rho_j \cdot x} (1 + r_j), \quad \rho \in \mathbb{C}^n, \quad \rho \cdot \rho = 0$$

to integral identity, recover Fourier transform of q .

Want to use a similar strategy for Maxwell equations.

Strategy [Ola-Somersalo (1996) in \mathbb{R}^3]

1. Reduce Maxwell equations to Dirac equation
 $(D + V)X = 0$.
2. Rescale by $\varepsilon^{1/2}$ and $\mu^{1/2}$, obtain rescaled Dirac equation
 $(D + W)Y = 0$.
3. Reduce to Schrödinger equation $(-\Delta_g + Q)Z = 0$ by squaring.
4. Construct *complex geometrical optics* solutions Z .
5. Obtain solutions to Maxwell by showing that $\Phi = \Psi = 0$
(need *uniqueness notion* for complex geometrical optics).
6. Insert solutions to an integral identity.
7. Recover ε and μ from nonlinear differential expressions by unique continuation.

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Complex geometrical optics

Recall exponential solutions for $\rho \in \mathbb{C}^n$ [Calderón 1980]

$$\Delta u = 0, \quad u = e^{\rho \cdot x}, \quad \rho \cdot \rho = 0.$$

If $q \in L^\infty(\Omega)$, CGO solutions [Sylvester-Uhlmann 1987]

$$(-\Delta + q)u = 0, \quad u = e^{\rho \cdot x}(1 + r),$$

where $\|r\|_{L^2} \rightarrow 0$ as $|\rho| \rightarrow \infty$.

If $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^3$ and ε, μ are scalar, matrix Schrödinger equation becomes

$$((-\Delta)I_{8 \times 8} + Q)Z = 0.$$

Can use Sylvester-Uhlmann approach with *uniqueness notion* to produce CGO solutions with $\Phi = \Psi = 0$.

Complex geometrical optics

For *matrix* ε , μ or *partial data* need a new method, leading to:

Theorem (Kenig-S-Uhlmann 2011)

Let ε and μ be matrices conformal to

$$A(x_1, x') = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & g_0(x')^{-1} \end{pmatrix}$$

where g_0 is a simple metric¹. Then $\Lambda_{\varepsilon, \mu}$ determines ε and μ .

Here, matrices ε and μ are *conformal* if

$$\varepsilon(x) = \alpha(x)\mu(x), \quad \alpha \text{ positive scalar function.}$$

¹e.g. a small perturbation of the identity matrix 

Dynamic Maxwell equations

Theorem (Kurylev-Lassas-Somersalo 2006)

Knowledge of $\Lambda_{\varepsilon,\mu}$ for **all frequencies** $\omega > 0$ determines any conformal real matrices ε, μ uniquely up to diffeomorphism.

(Reduces to an inverse problem for hyperbolic Maxwell equations.)

If ε, μ are not conformal, many open questions in both elliptic and hyperbolic cases:

- ▶ [Krupchyk-Kurylev-Lassas 2010] Recover Betti numbers of the domain Ω from $\Lambda_{\varepsilon,\mu}$ for all frequencies

Complex geometrical optics

If $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^3$, Sylvester-Uhlmann obtain CGO solutions with *uniqueness notion* by *extending to \mathbb{R}^3* and *fixing decay at ∞* .

If (M, g) is compact and

$$g(x_1, x') = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & g_0(x') \end{pmatrix},$$

get CGO solutions with *uniqueness notion* by *extending to a cylinder* and *requiring decay at ends + zero boundary values*.



Complex geometrical optics

Let $T = \mathbb{R} \times M_0$, $g = e \oplus g_0$, where (M_0, g_0) is a compact manifold with boundary. Write $x = (x_1, x')$, and define

$$\begin{aligned}\|f\|_{L^2_\delta(T)} &= \|\langle x_1 \rangle^\delta f\|_{L^2(T)}, \\ H^1_\delta(T) &= \{f \in L^2_\delta(T); df \in L^2_\delta(T)\}, \\ H^1_{\delta,0}(T) &= \{f \in H^1(T); f|_{\partial T} = 0\}.\end{aligned}$$

Theorem (Kenig-S-Uhlmann 2011)

Let $\delta > 1/2$. If $|\tau| \geq 1$ and $\tau^2 \notin \text{Spec}(-\Delta_{g_0})$, then for any $f \in L^2_\delta(T)$ there is a unique solution $u \in H^1_{-\delta,0}(T)$ of

$$\begin{aligned}e^{\tau x_1}(-\Delta_g)e^{-\tau x_1}u &= f \quad \text{in } T, \\ \|u\|_{L^2_{-\delta}(T)} &\leq \frac{C}{|\tau|} \|f\|_{L^2_\delta(T)}.\end{aligned}$$

Proof of norm estimates

Here $\text{Spec}(-\Delta_{g_0}) = \{\lambda_l\}_{l=1}^{\infty}$ are Dirichlet eigenvalues of the Laplacian in (M_0, g_0) , with eigenfunctions $\{\phi_l\}_{l=1}^{\infty}$ forming an orthonormal basis of $L^2(M_0)$:

$$-\Delta_{g_0}\phi_l = \lambda_l\phi_l \text{ in } M_0, \quad \phi_l|_{\partial M_0} = 0.$$

If $f \in L^2(T)$ write partial Fourier expansion

$$f(x_1, x') = \sum_{l=1}^{\infty} \tilde{f}(x_1, l)\phi_l(x'), \quad \tilde{f}(x_1, l) = (f(x_1, \cdot), \phi_l)_{L^2}.$$

Example: if $M_0 = \mathbb{T}^{n-1}$, eigenfunctions are $\{e^{im' \cdot x'}\}_{m' \in \mathbb{Z}^{n-1}}$.

Uniqueness

Assume $u \in H_{\delta,0}^1(T)$ and $e^{\tau x_1}(-\Delta_g)e^{-\tau x_1}u = 0$. Have

$$g = e \oplus g_0 \implies \Delta_g = \partial_1^2 + \Delta_{g_0}.$$

Taking partial Fourier coefficients in x' and Fourier transform in x_1 , obtain

$$\begin{aligned} e^{\tau x_1} \Delta_g e^{-\tau x_1} u = 0 &\implies (-\partial_1^2 + 2\tau\partial_1 - \tau^2 - \Delta_{g_0})u = 0 \\ &\implies (-\partial_1^2 + 2\tau\partial_1 - \tau^2 + \lambda_l)\tilde{u}(\cdot, l) = 0 \\ &\implies (\xi_1^2 + 2i\tau\xi_1 - \tau^2 + \lambda_l)\hat{u}(\cdot, l) = 0. \end{aligned}$$

The symbol is nonvanishing since $\tau^2 \notin \text{Spec}(-\Delta_{g_0})$ (look at the real and imaginary parts). Thus $\hat{u} = 0$.

Existence

Let $f \in L^2_\delta(T)$ with $\delta > 1/2$, $\tau \geq 1$. Have

$$\begin{aligned} e^{\tau x_1} \Delta_g e^{-\tau x_1} u = f &\iff (-\partial_1^2 + 2\tau\partial_1 - \tau^2 - \Delta_{g_0})u = f \\ &\iff (-\partial_1^2 + 2\tau\partial_1 - \tau^2 + \lambda_l)\tilde{u}(\cdot, l) = \tilde{f}(\cdot, l) \end{aligned}$$

This is an ODE for the partial Fourier coefficients of u .

Factorize:

$$(\partial_1 - [\tau + \sqrt{\lambda_l}])(\partial_1 - [\tau - \sqrt{\lambda_l}])\tilde{u}(\cdot, l) = -\tilde{f}(\cdot, l).$$

It is enough to solve these ODEs with suitable estimates.

Existence

Lemma

Let $a \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}$. The equation

$$u' - au = f \quad \text{in } \mathbb{R}$$

has a unique solution $u \in \mathcal{S}'(\mathbb{R})$ for any $f \in \mathcal{S}'(\mathbb{R})$. The solution operator S_a satisfies

$$\begin{aligned} \|S_a f\|_{L^2_\delta} &\leq \frac{C_\delta}{|a|} \|f\|_{L^2_\delta} && \text{if } |a| \geq 1 \text{ and } \delta \in \mathbb{R}, \\ \|S_a f\|_{L^2_{-\delta}} &\leq C_\delta \|f\|_{L^2_\delta} && \text{if } a \neq 0 \text{ and } \delta > 1/2. \end{aligned}$$

Proof of Lemma

Since $a \neq 0$,

$$u' - au = f \iff (i\xi - a)\hat{u} = \hat{f} \iff \hat{u} = \frac{1}{i\xi - a}\hat{f}.$$

Have unique solution $u \in \mathcal{S}'$ for any $f \in \mathcal{S}'$. If $|a| \geq 1$,

$$\|u\|_{L^2_\delta} = \|\hat{u}\|_{H^\delta} \leq \|(i\xi - a)^{-1}\|_{C^k} \|\hat{f}\|_{H^\delta} \leq \frac{C_\delta}{|a|} \|f\|_{L^2_\delta}.$$

If $a > 0$, have $u(x) = -\int_x^\infty f(t)e^{-a(t-x)} dt$ so $\|u\|_{L^\infty} \leq \|f\|_{L^1}$.
Since $\delta > 1/2$,

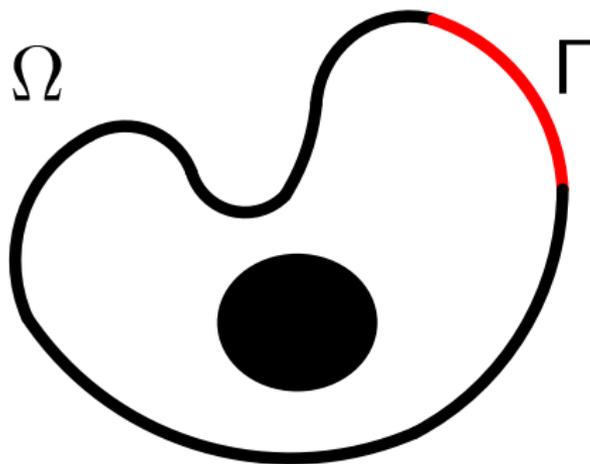
$$\begin{aligned} \|u\|_{L^2_{-\delta}} &\leq \|u\|_{L^\infty} \|\langle x \rangle^{-\delta}\|_{L^2} \leq C_\delta \|f\|_{L^1} = C_\delta \int \langle t \rangle^{-\delta} \langle t \rangle^\delta |f| dt \\ &\leq C_\delta \|f\|_{L^2_\delta}. \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

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Local data problem

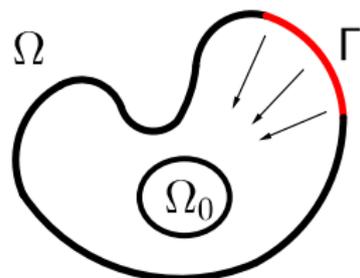
Prescribe $E_{\text{tan}}|_{\Gamma}$, measure $H_{\text{tan}}|_{\Gamma}$:



Local data problem

Theorem (Brown-Marletta-Reyes 2016)

Let $\varepsilon, \mu \in C^2(\overline{\Omega})$ be *a priori known near $\partial\Omega$* .
If $\Gamma \subset \partial\Omega$ is open, boundary measurements on Γ determine ε, μ .



Extends scalar result of [Ammari-Uhlmann 2004]. Ideas:

- ▶ boundary map on Γ + known coefficients near $\partial\Omega$
 \rightsquigarrow full boundary map on a subdomain $\Omega_0 \subset\subset \Omega$
- ▶ uses the *Runge approximation property* (solutions in Ω_0 approximated by solutions in Ω vanishing on $\partial\Omega \setminus \Gamma$), follows from unique continuation principle

Partial data problem

Theorem (Chung-Ola-S-Tzou 2016)

Let $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^3$ be strictly convex and $\varepsilon, \mu \in C^3(\overline{\Omega})$. If $\Gamma \subset \partial\Omega$ is open, measuring $H_{\tan}|_{\Gamma}$ for any $E_{\tan}|_{\partial\Omega}$ determines ε and μ .

Extends scalar result of [Kenig-Sjöstrand-Uhlmann 2007]. Ideas:

- ▶ CGO solutions for matrix Schrödinger equation

$$(-\Delta_g + Q)Z = 0$$

- ▶ control $Z|_{\Gamma^c}$ via *Carleman estimates with boundary terms* [Chung-S-Tzou 2016]
- ▶ *relative/absolute boundary conditions* for Hodge Laplace
↪ good boundary conditions for Maxwell

Partial data problem

Matrix Schrödinger equation

$$(-\Delta_g + Q)u = 0$$

Relative boundary conditions ($tu, t\delta u$), where $t = i^*$ is the tangential part of a differential form, lead to a well-posed BVP.

If $u = (\Phi \ E \ *H \ *\Psi)^t$ with Φ, Ψ 0-forms and E, H 1-forms, *relative BC* correspond to fixing

$$\Phi|_{\partial\Omega}, E_{\text{tan}}|_{\partial\Omega}, \nabla \cdot E|_{\partial\Omega}, \nu \cdot H|_{\partial\Omega}, (\nabla \times H)_{\text{tan}}|_{\partial\Omega}, \partial_\nu \Psi|_{\partial\Omega}.$$

If $\Phi = \Psi = 0$, this leads to CGO solutions for Maxwell with E_{tan} and H_{tan} vanishing on a (large) part of $\partial\Omega$.

Open questions

1. Solve the Maxwell inverse problem without reducing to a second order equation or extending to a larger set.
2. Can one determine $\varepsilon, \mu \in W^{1,3}$ in $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^3$ from $\Lambda_{\varepsilon, \mu}$?
3. Is it possible in some cases to recover matrix ε, μ that are not conformal?