

# A Qualitative Approach to Inverse Electromagnetic Scattering for Inhomogeneous Media

**Fioralba Cakoni**

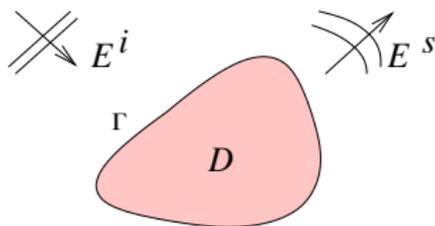
Rutgers University  
[www.math.rutgers.edu/~fc292/](http://www.math.rutgers.edu/~fc292/)

Research supported by grants from AFOSR and NSF



**RUTGERS**

# Scattering by an Inhomogeneous Media



$$\operatorname{curl} E^s - i\omega\mu_0 H^s = 0 \quad \text{in } \mathbb{R}^3 \setminus \bar{D}$$

$$\operatorname{curl} H^s - i\omega\epsilon_0 E^s = 0 \quad \text{in } \mathbb{R}^3 \setminus \bar{D}$$

$$\operatorname{curl} E - i\omega\mu(\mathbf{x})H = 0 \quad \text{in } D$$

$$\operatorname{curl} H - (i\omega\epsilon(\mathbf{x}) - \sigma(\mathbf{x}))E = 0 \quad \text{in } D$$

$$\nu \times E = \nu \times (E^s + E^i) \quad \text{on } \partial D$$

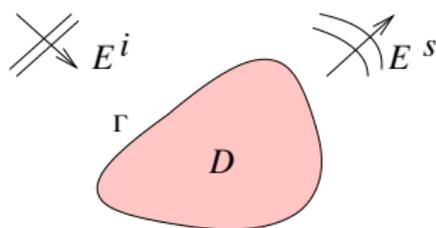
$$\nu \times H = \nu \times (H^s + H^i) \quad \text{on } \partial D$$

$$\lim_{|x| \rightarrow \infty} (\sqrt{\mu_0} H^s \times x - \sqrt{\epsilon_0} |x| E^s) = 0$$

$$\lim_{|x| \rightarrow \infty} (\sqrt{\epsilon_0} E^s \times x - \sqrt{\mu_0} |x| H^s) = 0$$

- $E^i, H^i$  incident electro-magnetic field (satisfy the equations in the vacuum).
- $\epsilon_0$  and  $\mu_0$  electric permittivity and magnetic permeability in the vacuum.
- $\epsilon(\mathbf{x}), \mu(\mathbf{x})$  and  $\sigma(\mathbf{x})$  electric permittivity, magnetic permeability and conductivity in the homogeneity.

# Scattering by an Inhomogeneous Media



$$\operatorname{curl} \operatorname{curl} E^s - k^2 E^s = 0 \quad \text{in } \mathbb{R}^3 \setminus \bar{D}$$

$$\operatorname{curl} \mathbf{A} \operatorname{curl} E - k^2 \mathbf{N} E = 0 \quad \text{in } D$$

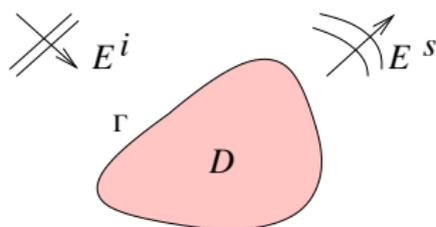
$$\nu \times E = \nu \times (E^s + E^i) \quad \text{on } \partial D$$

$$\nu \times \mathbf{A} \operatorname{curl} E = \nu \times (\operatorname{curl} E^s + \operatorname{curl} E^i) \quad \text{on } \partial D$$

$$\lim_{|x| \rightarrow \infty} (\operatorname{curl} E^s \times x - ik|x|E^s) = 0$$

- $k = \omega \sqrt{\epsilon_0 \mu_0}$  is the wave number.
- $\mathbf{N} = \frac{\epsilon(x)}{\epsilon_0} + i \frac{\sigma(x)}{\omega \epsilon_0}$  (relative permittivity plus conductivity), positive definite  $3 \times 3$  matrix valued function in  $L^\infty(D)$
- $\mathbf{A} = \frac{\mu(x)}{\mu_0}$  (relative permeability), positive definite  $3 \times 3$  matrix valued function in  $L^\infty(D)$

# Scattering by an Inhomogeneous Media



$$\operatorname{curl} \operatorname{curl} E^s - k^2 E^s = 0 \quad \text{in } \mathbb{R}^3 \setminus \bar{D}$$

$$\operatorname{curl} A \operatorname{curl} E - k^2 N E = 0 \quad \text{in } D$$

$$\nu \times E = \nu \times (E^s + E^i) \quad \text{on } \partial D$$

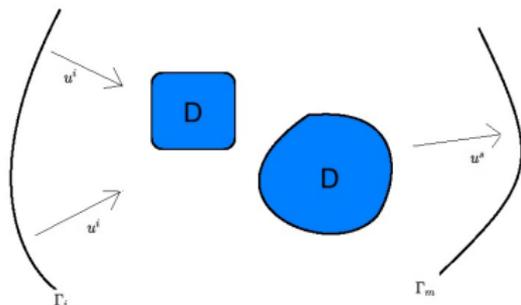
$$\nu \times A \operatorname{curl} E = \nu \times (\operatorname{curl} E^s + \operatorname{curl} E^i) \quad \text{on } \partial D$$

$$\lim_{|x| \rightarrow \infty} (\operatorname{curl} E^s \times x - ik|x|E^s) = 0$$

More generally  $A$  and  $N$  are such that:

- The scattering problem is well-posed.
- The corresponding (so-called) interior transmission problem is Fredholm.

# Inverse Scattering Problem

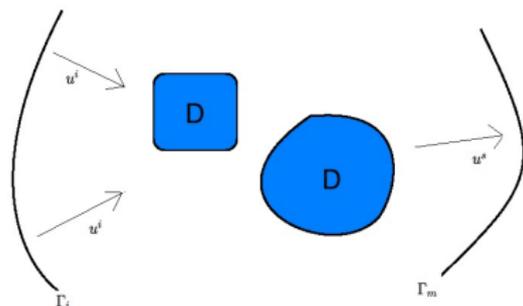


**Typical Data:** From a knowledge of  $E^s$  measured on  $\Gamma_m$ , for several interrogating waves  $E^i$  situated on  $\Gamma_i$  and possibly for a range of frequencies

**Problem 1:** Reconstruct everything i.e.  $D$ ,  $N$  and  $A$ .

*Weak scattering approximation, optimization techniques ...*

# Inverse Scattering Problem



**Typical Data:** From a knowledge of  $E^s$  measured on  $\Gamma_m$ , for several interrogating waves  $E^i$  situated on  $\Gamma_i$  and possibly for a range of frequencies

**Problem 1:** Reconstruct everything i.e.  $D$ ,  $N$  and  $A$ .  
*Weak scattering approximation, optimization techniques ...*

**Problem 2:** Obtain partial information such as the support  $D$  and estimates on  $N$  and  $A$

# Qualitative Methods

A class of methods for solving Problem 2 is known as

## Qualitative Methods

- Linear sampling method (COLTON-KIRSCH (1996)) ... and Factorization method (KIRSCH (1998)) ...
- Singular sources method (POTTHAST (2001)) ...
- Convex scattering support (KUSIAK-SYLVESTER (2003), GRIESMAIER-HANKE-SYLVESTER (2013)) ...
- ...

# Qualitative Methods

A class of methods for solving Problem 2 is known as

## Qualitative Methods

- Linear sampling method (COLTON-KIRSCH (1996)) ... and Factorization method (KIRSCH (1998)) ...
- Singular sources method (POTTHAST (2001)) ...
- Convex scattering support (KUSIAK-SYLVESTER (2003), GRIESMAIER-HANKE-SYLVESTER (2013)) ...
- ...



F. CAKONI AND D. COLTON AND P. MONK (2011), *The linear Sampling Method in Inverse Electromagnetic Scattering*, CBMS-NSF, SIAM Publications, 80.



A. KIRSCH AND N. GRINBERG (2008), *The Factorization Method for Inverse Problems*, Oxford University Press.



F. CAKONI AND D. COLTON AND H. HADDAR (2016), *Inverse Scattering Theory and Transmission Eigenvalues*, CBMS-NSF, SIAM Publications.

# Qualitative Methods

To fix the ideas we take a **plane wave incident field**

$$E^i(x, d, p) := ik(d \times p) \times de^{ikx \cdot d}$$

propagating in the direction  $d \in \mathbb{S}^2$  with polarization  $p \in \mathbb{R}^3$

# Qualitative Methods

To fix the ideas we take a **plane wave incident field**

$$E^i(x, d, p) := ik(d \times p) \times de^{ikx \cdot d}$$

propagating in the direction  $d \in \mathbb{S}^2$  with polarization  $p \in \mathbb{R}^3$

The **scattered field**  $E^s$  has the asymptotic behavior

$$E^s(x; d, p, k) = \frac{e^{ik|x|}}{|x|} \left\{ E_\infty(\hat{x}; d, p, k) + O\left(\frac{1}{|x|}\right) \right\}$$

as  $|x| \rightarrow \infty$  uniformly with respect  $\hat{x} = x/|x|$ .

$E_\infty(\hat{x}, d, p, k)$  is the **far field pattern** of the scattered field  $E^s$ .

# Qualitative Methods

To fix the ideas we take a **plane wave incident field**

$$E^i(x, d, p) := ik(d \times p) \times de^{ikx \cdot d}$$

propagating in the direction  $d \in \mathbb{S}^2$  with polarization  $p \in \mathbb{R}^3$

The **scattered field**  $E^s$  has the asymptotic behavior

$$E^s(x; d, p, k) = \frac{e^{ik|x|}}{|x|} \left\{ E_\infty(\hat{x}; d, p, k) + O\left(\frac{1}{|x|}\right) \right\}$$

as  $|x| \rightarrow \infty$  uniformly with respect  $\hat{x} = x/|x|$ .

$E_\infty(\hat{x}, d, p, k)$  is the **far field pattern** of the scattered field  $E^s$ .

## Scattering Data

$E_\infty(\hat{x}; d, p, k)$ , for  $d \in \mathbb{S}_i^2 \subset \mathbb{S}^2$ ,  $\hat{x} \in \mathbb{S}_m^2 \subset \mathbb{S}^2$  and (possibly)  
 $k \in [k_1, k_2]$ .

# Far Field Operator

The **far field operator**  $F : L_t^2(\mathbb{S}^2) \rightarrow L_t^2(\mathbb{S}^2)$  is defined by

$$(Fg)(\hat{x}) := \int_{\mathbb{S}^2} E_\infty(\hat{x}; d, g(d), k) ds_d.$$

- $Fg$  is the far field pattern of the scattered field corresponding to the incident field

$$E_g(x) := \int_{\mathbb{S}^2} e^{ikx \cdot d} g(d) ds_d \quad g \in L_t^2(\mathbb{S}^2) \quad (g(\hat{x}) \cdot \hat{x} = 0)$$

known as a **electric Herglotz wave function** .

- $F$  is related to the **scattering operator**  $\mathcal{S}$  by

$$\mathcal{S} = I + \frac{ik}{2\pi} F$$

# Far Field Operator

## Theorem

$F : L_t^2(\mathbb{S}^2) \rightarrow L_t^2(\mathbb{S}^2)$  is injective and has dense range if and only if there does not exist a nontrivial solution to the **homogeneous interior transmission problem**

$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{curl} \operatorname{curl} E_0 - k^2 E_0 &= 0 && \text{in } D \\ \operatorname{curl} \mathbf{A} \operatorname{curl} E - k^2 \mathbf{N} E &= 0 && \text{in } D \\ \nu \times E &= \nu \times E_0 && \text{on } \partial D \\ \nu \times \mathbf{A} \operatorname{curl} E &= \nu \times \operatorname{curl} E_0 && \text{on } \partial D \end{aligned}$$

such that  $E_0 := E_g$  is an electric Herglotz wave function.

Values of  $k \in \mathbb{C}$  for which the transmission eigenvalue problem has non trivial solution are called **transmission eigenvalues**.

## TE and Non-Scattering Frequencies

If  $k$  is a transmission eigenvalue and the eigenfunction  $E_0$  that solves  $\text{curl curl } E_0 - k^2 E_0 = 0$  in  $D$  can be extended outside  $D$  as a solution  $\tilde{E}_0$  of the same equation, then the scattered field due to  $\tilde{E}_0$  as an incident wave is identically zero.

# TE and Non-Scattering Frequencies

If  $k$  is a transmission eigenvalue and the eigenfunction  $E_0$  that solves  $\text{curl curl } E_0 - k^2 E_0 = 0$  in  $D$  can be extended outside  $D$  as a solution  $\tilde{E}_0$  of the same equation, then the scattered field due to  $\tilde{E}_0$  as an incident wave is identically zero.

In general such an extension of  $E_0$  does not exist. For example in the case of scalar Helmholtz equation corners always scatter!



BLASTEN-PÄIVÄRINTA-SYLVESTER (2013), *Comm. Math. Phys.*



PÄIVÄRINTA-SALO-VESALEINEN (2014), *Rev. Mat. Iberoamericana*

# TE and Non-Scattering Frequencies

If  $k$  is a transmission eigenvalue and the eigenfunction  $E_0$  that solves  $\text{curl curl } E_0 - k^2 E_0 = 0$  in  $D$  can be extended outside  $D$  as a solution  $\tilde{E}_0$  of the same equation, then the **scattered field due to  $\tilde{E}_0$  as an incident wave is identically zero.**

In general such an extension of  $E_0$  does not exist. For example in the case of **scalar Helmholtz equation** corners always scatter!



BLASTEN-PÄIVÄRINTA-SYLVESTER (2013), *Comm. Math. Phys.*



PÄIVÄRINTA-SALO-VESALEINEN (2014), *Rev. Mat. Iberoamericana*

Since electric Herglotz wave functions are dense in

$$\{U \in \mathbb{H}(D) : \text{curl curl } U - k^2 U = 0 \text{ in } D\},$$

at a transmission eigenvalue it is possible to superimpose plane waves such that this **superposition produces an arbitrarily small scattered field.**

# Determination of the Support

## (Uniqueness)

If  $D_1, A_1, N_1$  and  $D_2, A_2, N_2$  give rise to the same far field data, i.e.  $E_\infty^{(1)}(\hat{x}; d, p, k) = E_\infty^{(2)}(\hat{x}; d, p, k)$ , for  $d \in \mathbb{S}_i^2 \subset \mathbb{S}^2$ ,  $\hat{x} \in \mathbb{S}_m^2 \subset \mathbb{S}^2$ , three linearly independent polarizations and fixed  $k$ , then  $D_1 = D_2$ .



CAKONI-COLTON (2003) - *Proc. Edinburgh Math. Soc.* 46

The conditions on  $A$  and  $N$  for the above theorem to be valid are those that guarantee that the transmission eigenvalue problem is a compact perturbation of an invertible operator.

In the **scalar case** using transmission eigenvalues uniqueness results for  $D$  with one incident wave are



HU-SALO-VESALAINEN (2016) - *SIAM J. Math. Anal.* 48

# Determination of the Support

## (Uniqueness)

If  $D_1, A_1, N_1$  and  $D_2, A_2, N_2$  give rise to the same far field data, i.e.  $E_\infty^{(1)}(\hat{x}; d, p, k) = E_\infty^{(2)}(\hat{x}; d, p, k)$ , for  $d \in \mathbb{S}_i^2 \subset \mathbb{S}^2$ ,  $\hat{x} \in \mathbb{S}_m^2 \subset \mathbb{S}^2$ , three linearly independent polarizations and fixed  $k$ , then  $D_1 = D_2$ .



CAKONI-COLTON (2003) - *Proc. Edinburgh Math. Soc.* 46

The conditions on  $A$  and  $N$  for the above theorem to be valid are those that guarantee that the transmission eigenvalue problem is a compact perturbation of an invertible operator.

In the **scalar case** using transmission eigenvalues uniqueness results for  $D$  with one incident wave are



HU-SALO-VESALAINEN (2016) - *SIAM J. Math. Anal.* 48

## Problem

Determine the support  $D$  without any a priori knowledge of  $A$  and  $N$

# Linear Sampling Method

The linear sampling method is based on solving the far field equation

$$(Fg)(\hat{x}) = E_\infty(\hat{x}, z, q, k) \quad \text{for } g \in L_t^2(\mathbb{S}^2)$$
$$\hat{x} \in \mathbb{S}^2, q, z \in \mathbb{R}^3 \text{ and } k \text{ fixed}$$

where  $E_\infty(\hat{x}, z, q, k) := \frac{ik}{4\pi}(\hat{x} \times q) \times \hat{x} e^{-ik\hat{x} \cdot z}$ .

# Linear Sampling Method

The **linear sampling method** is based on solving the **far field equation**

$$(Fg)(\hat{x}) = E_\infty(\hat{x}, z, q, k) \quad \text{for } g \in L_t^2(\mathbb{S}^2)$$
$$\hat{x} \in \mathbb{S}^2, q, z \in \mathbb{R}^3 \text{ and } k \text{ fixed}$$

where  $E_\infty(\hat{x}, z, q, k) := \frac{ik}{4\pi}(\hat{x} \times q) \times \hat{x} e^{-ik\hat{x} \cdot z}$ .

$k$  is not a **transmission eigenvalue**, and let  $g_\epsilon := g_{z,k,\epsilon,q}$  be such that

$$\|Fg_\epsilon - E_\infty(\hat{x}, z, q, k)\|_{L_t^2(\mathbb{S}^2)} < \epsilon$$

- for  $z \in D$  there is a  $g_\epsilon$  such that  $\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \|E_{g_\epsilon}\|_{\mathbb{H}(D)}$  exists
- for  $z \notin D$   $\lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \|E_{g_\epsilon}\|_{\mathbb{H}(D)} = \infty$

The underlying mathematical tools are the 1) **Fredholm property of the interior transmission problem** and 2) **approximation by  $E_{g_\epsilon}$** .

# Linear Sampling Method

In practice, one solves the regularized far field equation

$$\inf_g \left\{ \|Fg - E_\infty(\hat{x}, z, q, k)\|_{L^2}^2 + \alpha \|g\|_{L^2_t}^2 \right\} \quad \text{or} \quad (\alpha I + F^*F)g = F^*E_\infty$$

Indicator Function

$$\mathbb{I}(z) = \frac{1}{\|g_{z,k,\alpha,q_1}\|} + \frac{1}{\|g_{z,k,\alpha,q_2}\|} + \frac{1}{\|g_{z,k,\alpha,q_3}\|}$$

$\partial D$  is the surface  $\mathbb{I}(z) = C$

for some  $C$  that is a ad hoc value transitioning from small and large.

**Question:** Is the Tikhonov regularized solution  $g_{z,k,\alpha,q}$  as  $\alpha \rightarrow 0$  the one given by the above theoretical statement?

# Factorization Method

The answer to this question led to the development of the **Factorization Method**.

For the case when  $A = I$  and under the assumption that  $\Re(N) > I$  or  $\Re(N) < I$  uniformly on  $D$

$$z \in D \iff E_\infty(\hat{x}, z, q, k) \in \text{Range}(F_\#)^{1/2}$$

where  $F_\# = |\Re(F)| + |\Im(F)|$

For Maxwell's equations the factorization method was done in



A. KIRSCH (2004) - *Inverse Problems*, 20



A. LECHLEITER (2009) - *Inverse Problems and Imaging*, 3

# Factorization Method

- $F = H^* \mathbf{T} H$
- $\overline{R(H)} = \{U \in L^2(D) : \text{curl curl } U - k^2 U = 0 \text{ in } D\}$
- $z \in D \iff E_\infty(\hat{x}, z, q, k) \in \text{Range}(H^*)$
- $\mathbf{T}$  which is roughly the solution operator of the forward problem, must satisfy a list of properties that restrict the class of the problems where the factorization method can be justified.

# Factorization Method

- $F = H^* \mathbf{T} H$
- $\overline{R(H)} = \{U \in L^2(D) : \text{curl curl } U - k^2 U = 0 \text{ in } D\}$
- $z \in D \iff E_\infty(\hat{x}, z, q, k) \in \text{Range}(H^*)$
- $\mathbf{T}$  which is roughly the solution operator of the forward problem, must satisfy a list of properties that restrict the class of the problems where the factorization method can be justified.

**Observation:** If  $\mathbf{T}$  was coercive then

$$|(Fg, g)_{L^2}| \sim \|Hg\|_{L^2(D)}$$

However this is not the case but one can use instead of  $F$  a different operator  $B$  known in terms of  $B := H^* \mathbf{T}_b H$  with  $\mathbf{T}_b$  coercive (in appropriate spaces). Then

$$J_\alpha(g, E_\infty^z) := \alpha |(Bg, g)_{L^2}| + \|Fg - E_\infty^z\|$$

# Generalized Linear Sampling Method

GLSM rigorously characterizes  $D$  in terms of a minimizing sequence  $g_\alpha$  of the functional  $J_\alpha(\cdot, E_\infty)$ .

 L. AUDIBERT (2016), *Qualitative Methods for Heterogeneous Media, Ph.D Thesis, Ecole Polytechnique.*

For Maxwell's equations GLSM is discussed in the article by [H. Haddar](#) in

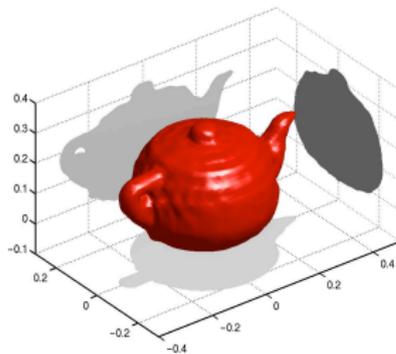
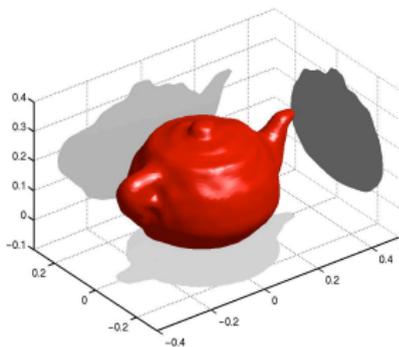
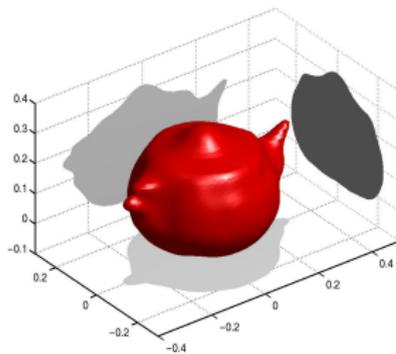
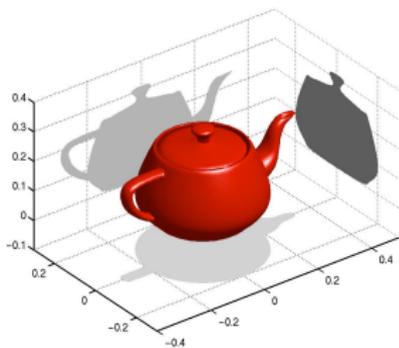
 H. HADDAR, R. HIPTMAIER, P. MONK AND R. RODRIGUEZ (2015), *Computational Electromagnetism, CIME Foundation Subseries, Springer.*

Links between all this methods are discussed in

 F. GAKONI AND D. COLTON AND H. HADDAR (2016), *Inverse Scattering Theory and Transmission Eigenvalues, CBMS-NSF, SIAM Publications.*

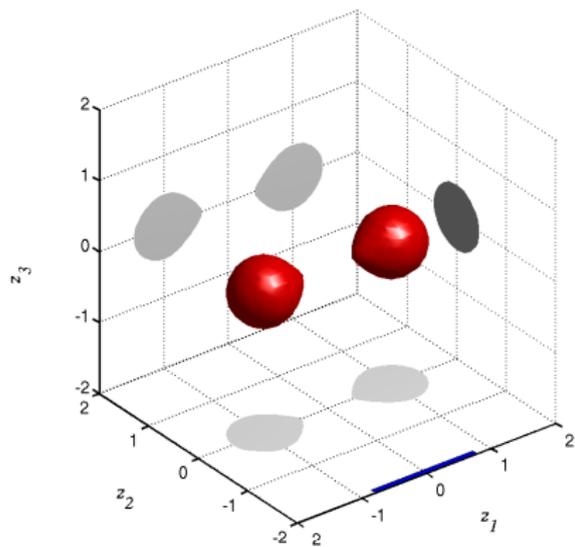
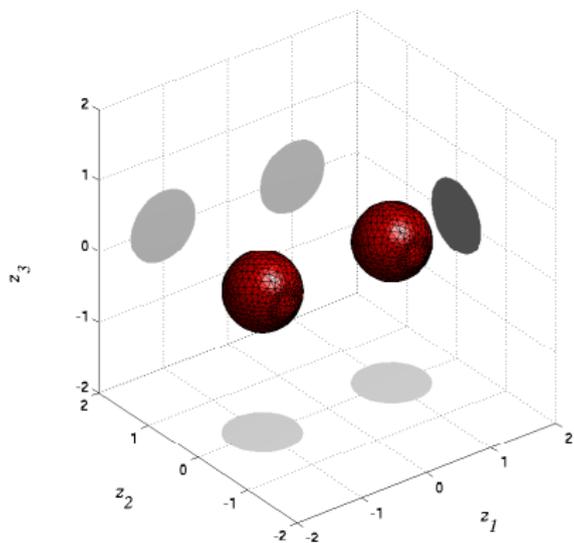
# Shape Reconstruction

COLLINO-FARES-HADDAR (2003) – 252 directions,  $\pi/k$  ( $ka$ ) are 0.224 (12), 0.112 (24) and 0.075 (42)

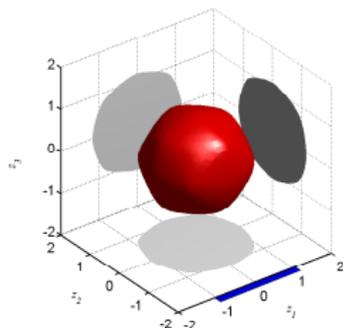
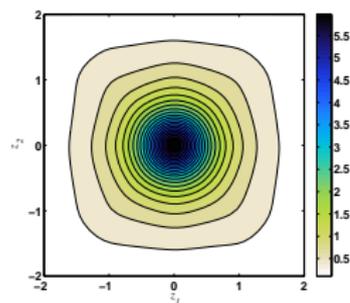
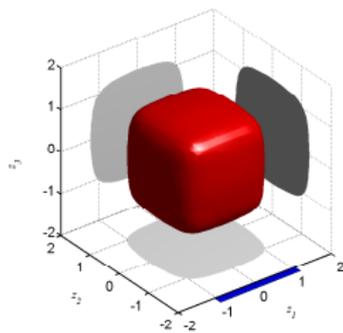
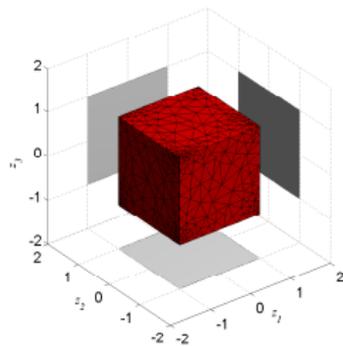


# Shape Reconstruction

DUE TO P. MONK



# Limited Aperture

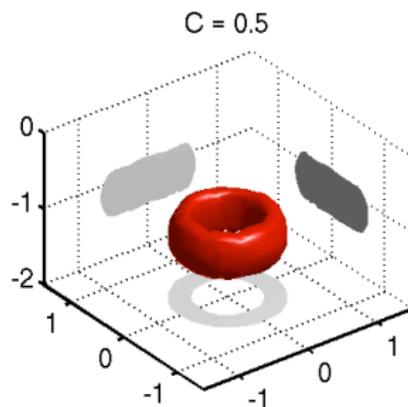
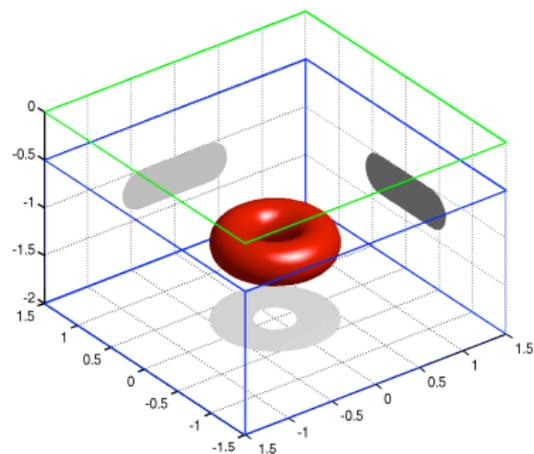


Example from



CAKONI-MONK (2006) - *NMAA, Proceedings ENUMATH*

# Shape Reconstruction



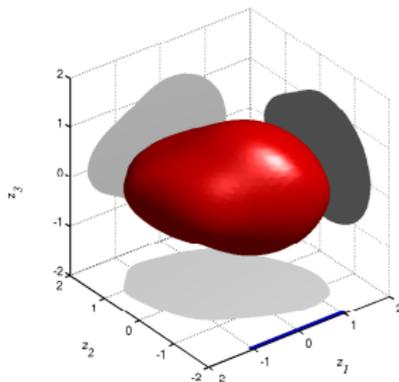
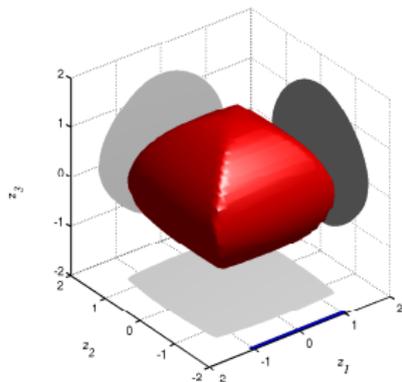
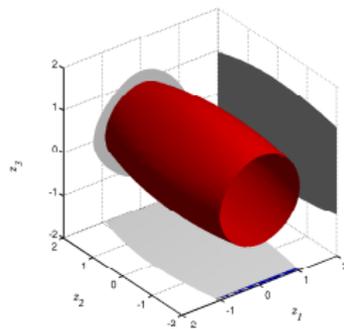
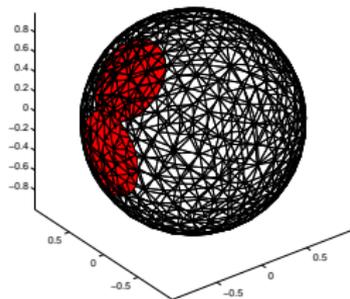
Inhomogeneous background. Example from



CAKONI-FARES-HADDAR (2006) - *Inverse Problems*

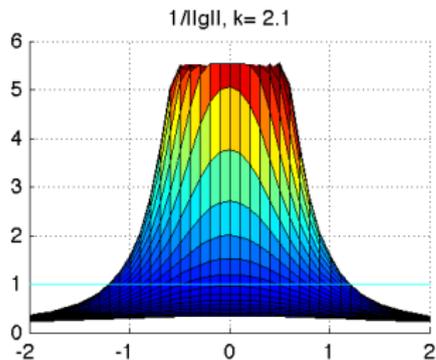
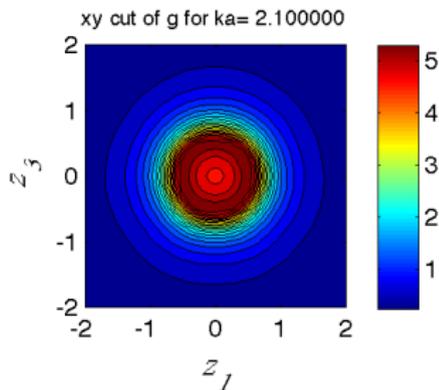
# Limited Aperture

DUE TO P. MONK

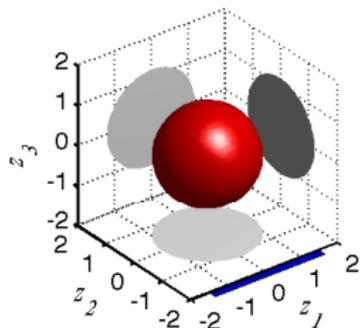


# Examples of Reconstruction

$N = 16I$ ,  $k$  is not TE

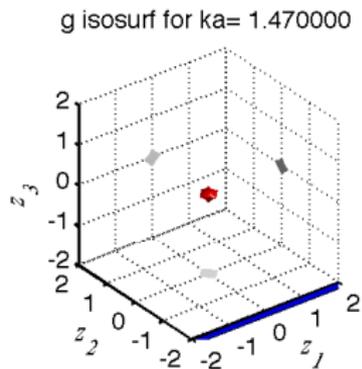
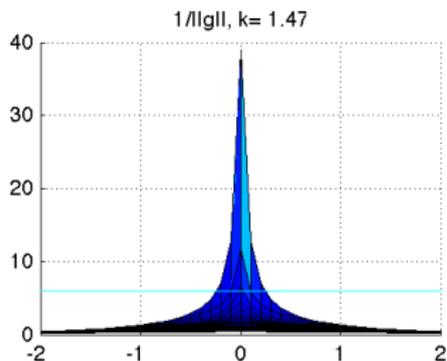
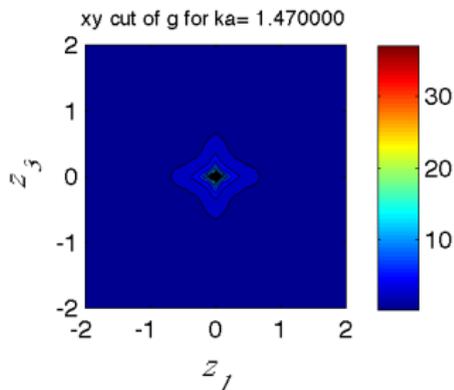


$g$  isosurf for  $ka = 2.100000$



# Examples of Reconstruction

$N = 16I$ ,  $k$  is a TE



# Transmission Eigenvalue Problem

Having determined the support  $D$  without knowing anything about the material properties we would like to get some information about the constitutive parameters  $A$  and  $N$ .

For this we appeal to the transmission eigenvalue problem:

$$\begin{array}{ll} \operatorname{curl} \operatorname{curl} E_0 - k^2 E_0 = 0 & \text{in } D \\ \operatorname{curl} A \operatorname{curl} E - k^2 N E = 0 & \text{in } D \\ \nu \times E = \nu \times E_0 & \text{on } \partial D \\ \nu \times A \operatorname{curl} E = \nu \times \operatorname{curl} E_0 & \text{on } \partial D \end{array}$$

**Question:** Can **real** transmission eigenvalues be determined from scattering data?

# Linear Sampling Method



CAKONI-COLTON-HADDAR (2010) *C. R. Math. Acad. Sci. Paris*

We can use again the **far field equation** for  $z \in D$

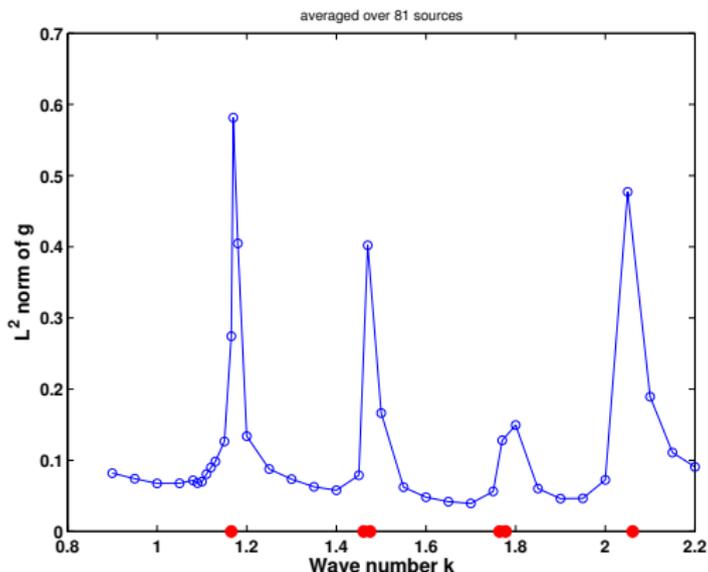
$$(Fg)(\hat{x}) = E_{\infty}(\hat{x}, z, q, k) \quad \text{for } g \in L_t^2(\mathbb{S}^2) \text{ and } k \in [k_0, k_1]$$

Assume that  $A$  and  $N$  are such that the interior transmission problem is Fredholm, and let  $g_{\alpha}$  be the regularize solution of the far field equation.

For any ball  $B \subset D$  and all  $z \in B$ ,  $\|E_{g_{\alpha}}\|_{\mathbb{H}(D)}$  is bounded as  $\alpha \rightarrow 0$  **if and only if  $k$  is not a transmission eigenvalue**

# Computation of Real Transmission Eigenvalues

Results for an isotropic sphere of unit radius. **DUE TO P. MONK.**



$$N = 16!$$

Solving the far-field equation for several source points  $z$  inside the sphere gives obvious peaks at the first transmission eigenvalue. Red dots indicate exact transmission eigenvalues.

# TE and the Far Field Operator

Real transmission eigenvalues can be characterized in terms of the eigenvalues of the far field operator  $F_k : L_t^2(\mathbb{S}^2) \rightarrow L_t^2(\mathbb{S}^2)$ .



LECHLEITER-RENNOC (2015) - *SIAM J. Math Anal.*

Assume that  $A = I$  and either  $N - I > 0$  or  $N - I < 0$

Facts on the compact operator  $F_k$  (recall  $\mathcal{S}_k = I + \frac{ik}{2\pi} F_k$ ).

- $F_k$  is **normal**, i.e.  $F_k F_k^* = F_k^* F_k$ . Thus,  $\mathcal{S}_k$  is **unitary**, i.e.  $\mathcal{S}_k \mathcal{S}_k^* = \mathcal{S}_k^* \mathcal{S}_k = I$ .
- As such  $F_k$  has an infinite number of eigenvalues  $\lambda_j(k)$  accumulating to 0: they lie on the circle in  $\mathbb{C}$

$$|\lambda|^2 - \frac{4\pi}{k} \Im(\lambda) = 0.$$

Write  $\lambda_j(k) = r_j(k) e^{i\vartheta_j(k)}$

# Inside-Outside Duality

Essential is the symmetric factorization of the far field operator

$$F_k = H_k^* \mathbf{T}_k H_k$$

- $\Im(\mathbf{T}_k u, u) \geq 0$
- $(F_k g, g)_{L^2(D)} = (\mathbf{T}_k H_k g, H_k g)_{L^2(D)} = (\mathbf{T}_k u, u)_{\mathbb{H}(D)}$
- Fix  $N > I$

If  $k$  is not a transmission eigenvalue, then  $\Re(\lambda_j(k)) > 0$  for  $j \in \mathbb{N}$  large enough thus

$$\vartheta_j(k) \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } j \rightarrow \infty$$

# Inside-Outside Duality

- The largest phase eigenvalue  $\lambda_*(k)$  is well defined, i.e.

$$\vartheta_*(k) := \max_j \{\vartheta_j(k) \in [0, \pi)\}.$$

- If  $k$  is not a transmission eigenvalue,

$$\cot \vartheta_*(k) = \min_{\overline{R(H_k)}^{L^2(D)}} \frac{\Re(\mathbf{T}_k u, u)_{\mathbb{H}(D)}}{\Im(\mathbf{T}_k u, u)_{\mathbb{H}(D)}}$$

- $k$  is a transmission eigenvalue if and only if there is  $u_0 \in \overline{R(H_k)}^{L^2(D)}$  such that  $\Im(\mathbf{T}_k u_0, u_0) = 0$

## Inside-Outside Duality

If  $N - I > 0$  and

$$\lim_{k \rightarrow k_0} \vartheta_*(k) = \pi$$

then  $k_0 > 0$  is a transmission eigenvalue.

# Transmission Eigenvalue Problem

Important questions in the context of inverse scattering:

- **Fredholm property of the transmission eigenvalue problem.** It arises in important questions such as uniqueness of inverse problems for inhomogeneous media or justification of linear sampling methods.
- **Discreteness of transmission eigenvalues.** Methods for solving the inverse problem for inhomogeneous media such as the linear sampling method and factorization method fail at a transmission eigenvalue. Connection to uniqueness in thermo-acoustic tomography.
- **Existence of transmission eigenvalues**
  - **Real** transmission eigenvalues can be **determined** from the scattering data.
  - Transmission eigenvalues carry **information** about material properties.

# Historical Overview

- The transmission eigenvalue problem in scattering theory was introduced by [KIRSCH \(1986\)](#) and [COLTON-MONK \(1988\)](#)
- Research was focused on the discreteness of transmission eigenvalues for variety of scattering problems: [COLTON-KIRSCH-PÄIVÄRINTA \(1989\)](#) and [RYNNE-SLEEMAN \(1991\)](#).
- The first proof of existence of at least one transmission eigenvalues for large contrast [PÄIVÄRINTA-SYLVESTER \(2009\)](#).
- The existence of an infinite set of real transmission eigenvalues was first proven by [CAKONI-GINTIDES-HADDAR \(2010\)](#).
- Completeness+Weyl estimates first given by [LAKSHTANOV-VAINBERG \(2012\)](#) and [ROBBIANO \(2013\)](#).
- Since the appearance of these papers there has been an explosion of interest in the transmission eigenvalue problem . . .

Special issue of Inverse Problems on Transmission Eigenvalues,  
October 2013

# Transmission Eigenvalues

$$\begin{aligned} \operatorname{curl} \operatorname{curl} E_0 - k^2 E_0 &= 0 && \text{in } D \\ \operatorname{curl} \mathbf{A} \operatorname{curl} E - k^2 \mathbf{N} E &= 0 && \text{in } D \\ \nu \times E &= \nu \times E_0 && \text{on } \partial D \\ \nu \times \mathbf{A} \operatorname{curl} E &= \nu \times \operatorname{curl} E_0 && \text{on } \partial D \end{aligned}$$

In a "natural" variational form this problem reads

$$\begin{aligned} \int_D (\operatorname{curl} \mathbf{A} E) \cdot (\operatorname{curl} \bar{E}') \, dx - \int_D (\operatorname{curl} E_0) \cdot (\operatorname{curl} \bar{E}'_0) \, dx \\ - k^2 \int_D \mathbf{N} E \cdot \bar{E}' \, dx + k^2 \int_D E_0 \cdot \bar{E}'_0 \, dx = 0 \end{aligned}$$

for all  $E', E'_0 \in X(D)$ , where

$$X(D) := \{(w, v) \in H(\operatorname{curl}, D) \times H(\operatorname{curl}, D) \mid \nu \times w = \nu \times v \text{ on } \Gamma\}.$$

# Transmission Eigenvalues



L. CHESNEL (2013) - *Inverse Problems*

proved the discreteness of transmission eigenvalues+Fredholm property, provided  $A - I$  and  $N - I$  are bounded away from zero and have same sign in a neighborhood of  $\partial D$  using  $\mathbb{T}$ -coercivity.



F. CAKONI AND A. KIRSCH (2010) - *Int. Jour. Comp. Sci. Math.*

proved the existence of infinitely many real transmission eigenvalues for  $A = a_0 I$  constant different from one and  $N - I$  have the same sign uniformly in  $D$ .

- HOAI-MINH NGUYEN has recently obtained spectral results for the scalar case for much less regular  $A$  and  $N$  and various combinations of contrast sign.

# Transmission Eigenvalues

Consider  $A = I$ , letting  $k^2 := \tau$  and assume that  $N - I > 0$ .  
It is possible to write

$$\begin{array}{lll} \operatorname{curl} \operatorname{curl} E - \tau N E = 0 & \text{in} & D \\ \operatorname{curl} \operatorname{curl} E_0 - \tau E_0 = 0 & \text{in} & D \\ \nu \times E = \nu \times E_0 & \text{on} & \Gamma \\ \nu \times \operatorname{curl} E = \nu \times \operatorname{curl} E_0 & \text{on} & \Gamma \end{array}$$

$E, E_0 \in L^2(D)$ , for the difference  $W = E - E_0 \in H_0(\operatorname{curl}^2, D)$  as

$$(\nabla \times \nabla \times - \tau)(N - I)^{-1}(\nabla \times \nabla \times - \tau N)W = 0$$

and in the variational form, for all  $W' \in H_0(\operatorname{curl}^2, D)$

$$\int_D (N - I)^{-1}(\nabla \times \nabla \times W - \tau N W)(\nabla \times \nabla \times \overline{W}' - \tau \overline{W}') dx = 0$$

$$H_0(\operatorname{curl}^2, D) = \{u \in H(\operatorname{curl}, D), \operatorname{curl} u \in H(\operatorname{curl}, D), \nu \times u = 0, \nu \times \operatorname{curl} u = 0 \text{ on } \partial D\}$$

# Existence of Real Transmission Eigenvalues

$$(\mathbb{A}_\tau - \tau \mathbb{B})u = 0 \quad \text{in } H_0(\text{curl}^2, D)$$

$$\begin{aligned}(\mathbb{A}_\tau W, W') &= \int_D (\mathbf{N} - I)^{-1} (\text{curl curl } W - \tau W) \cdot (\text{curl curl } \overline{W'} - \tau \overline{W'}) \, dx \\ &+ \tau^2 \int_D W \cdot \overline{W'} \, dx \\ (\mathbb{B}W, W') &= \int_D \text{curl } W \cdot \text{curl } \overline{W'} \, dx\end{aligned}$$

The mapping  $\tau \rightarrow \mathbb{A}_\tau$  is continuous from  $(0, +\infty)$  to the set of self-adjoint coercive operators from  $H_0(\text{curl}^2, D) \rightarrow H_0(\text{curl}^2, D)$ .

$\mathbb{B} : H_0(\text{curl}^2, D) \rightarrow H_0(\text{curl}^2, D)$  is self-adjoint, compact and non-negative.

# Existence of Real Transmission Eigenvalues

Now we consider the **generalized eigenvalue problem**

$$(\mathbb{A}_\tau - \lambda(\tau)\mathbb{B})\mathbf{u} = 0 \quad \text{in } H_0^2(\text{curl}^2, D)$$

For a fixed  $\tau > 0$  there exists an increasing sequence of eigenvalues  $\lambda_j(\tau)_{j \geq 1}$  such that  $\lambda_j(\tau) \rightarrow +\infty$  and they satisfy Courant-Fisher max-min principle.

$\tau$  is a transmission eigenvalue if and only  $\lambda_j(\tau) = \tau$

# Existence of Real Transmission Eigenvalues

- For  $0 < \tau_0 < \frac{\lambda_1(D)}{N_{max}}$ , we have that  $\mathbb{A}_{\tau_0} - \tau_0 \mathbb{B}$  is positive on  $H_0^2(D)$ , where  $\lambda_1(D)$  is the first Dirichlet eigenvalue for  $-\Delta$  in  $D$ .
- There exists  $\tau_1$  such that  $\mathbb{A}_{\tau_1} - \tau_1 \mathbb{B}$  is non positive on an  $m$  dimensional subspace of  $H_0^2(D)$ . This can be done for  $m$  arbitrarily large

Max-min principle for  $\lambda_j(\tau)$  implies each  $\lambda_j(\tau) = \tau$  for  $j = 1, \dots, m$ , has at least one solution in  $[\tau_0, \tau_1]$  meaning that there exists  $m$  transmission eigenvalues counting multiplicity within the interval  $[\tau_0, \tau_1]$ .



CAKONI-GINTIDES-HADDAR (2010) - *SIAM J. Math. Anal.*

# Existence of Real Transmission Eigenvalues

## Theorem

Assume that  $N_{min} > 1$ . Then, there exists an infinite discrete set of real transmission eigenvalues  $\tau_j$  accumulating at  $+\infty$  and satisfying

$$\tau_j(N_{max}, B_1) \leq \tau_j(N_{max}, D) \leq \tau_j(N(x), D) \leq \tau_j(N_{min}, D) \leq \tau_j(N_{min}, B_2)$$

where  $B_2 \subset D \subset B_1$ .

- For  $N := nI$  constant, the first transmission eigenvalue  $\tau_1(n)$  is strictly monotonically decreasing and continuous with respect to  $n$ .
- In particular, the first transmission eigenvalue uniquely determines the constant index of refraction.
- Inverse spectral problem is solved for spherically stratified media, AKTOSUN, COLTON, GINTIDES, LEUNG, PAPANICOLAOU  
...

# Changing Sign Contrast

- Similar results as above can be obtained for the case when  $0 < N_{min} \leq N(x) \leq N_{max} < 1$ .
- The analysis holds for media with voids  $D_0 \subset D$  where  $N \equiv I$ .



CAKONI-COLTON-HADDAR (2012) - *SIAM J. Math. Anal.*

The general case of sign-changing contrast  $N - I$  is considered under the assumption that either  $N - I > 0$  or  $N - I < 0$  only in a neighborhood of  $\partial D$ .



F. CAKONI, H. HADDAR, S. MENG (2015) - *J. Int. Eqns Appl.*

where the discreteness is proven using integral equations method.

- Full spectrum is recently analyzed by H. HADDAR AND S. MENG for  $N \in C^\infty$  using Agmon's theory for non-selfadjoint operators.

## Non-destructive Testing and TE

Given the measured  $k_1(D, N(x))$ , we now compute a constant  $n$  such that  $k_1(D, N(x)) = k_1(D, n)$ . Then the monotonicity result implies that

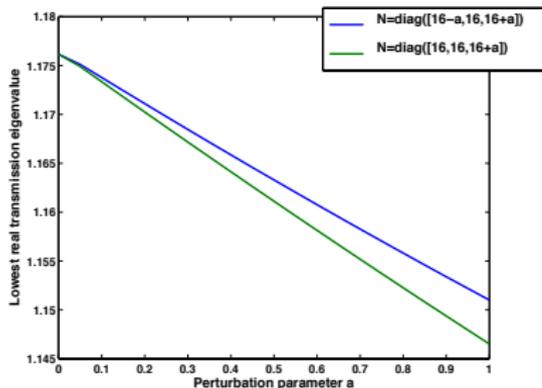
$$N_{min} \leq n \leq N_{max}$$

In the isotropic case  $N(x) := n(x)I$ , the above constant  $n$  gives

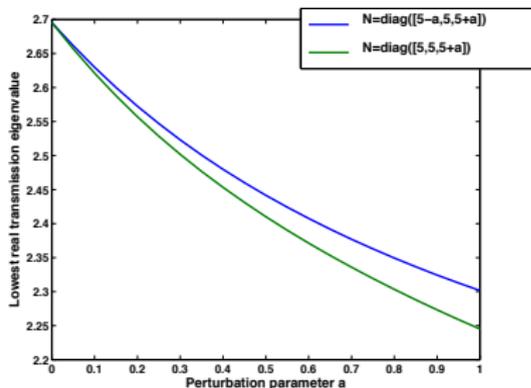
$$n \approx \frac{1}{|D|} \int_D n(x) dx$$

# Numerical Examples

We can compute numerical approximations of transmission eigenvalues for anisotropic media using a finite element method due to **MONK-SUN**.



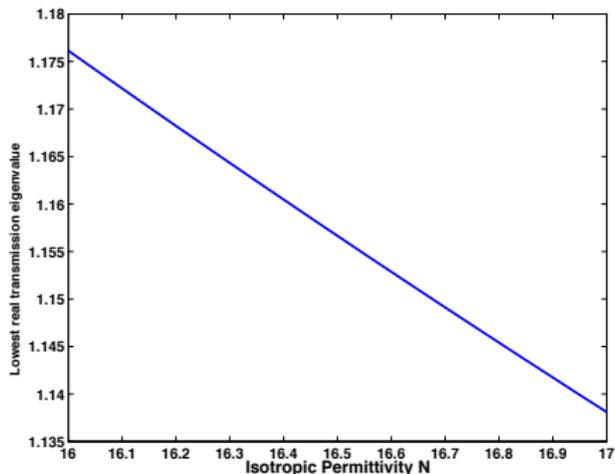
Perturbation of  $N = 16$



Perturbation of  $N = 5$

## Numerical Examples (cont)

Using the same finite element code we can compute the transmission eigenvalues for isotropic  $N$  then compute the isotropic  $n$  discussed previously for any measured transmission eigenvalue

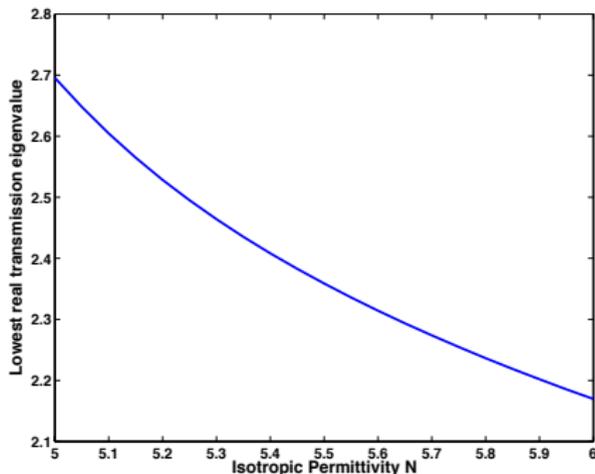


Lowest transmission eigenvalue against  $N$  (isotropic)

$N$	$\lambda_{1,D,N(x)}$	$n$
diag([15.5, 16, 16.5])	1.163	16.33
diag([15, 16, 17])	1.151	16.65
diag([16, 16, 16.5])	1.161	16.38
diag([16, 16, 17])	1.146	16.77

## Numerical Examples (cont)

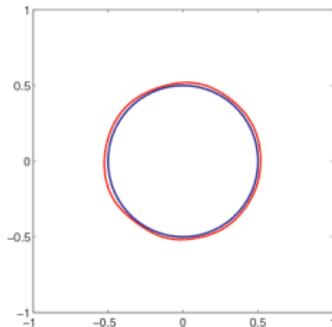
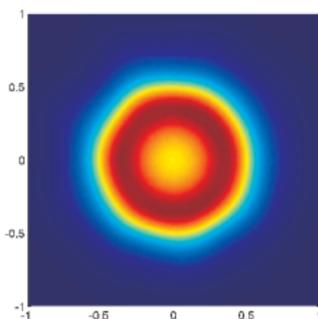
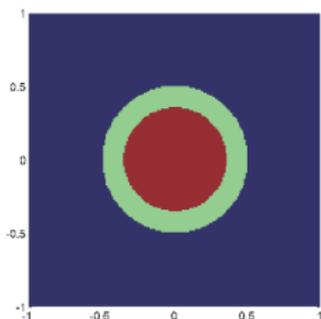
The same procedure can be carried out at lower  $N$  as well (the lowest transmission eigenvalue increases and so the calculations become more expensive)



Lowest transmission eigenvalue against  $N$  (isotropic)

$N$	$\lambda_{1,D,N(x)}$	$n$
diag([4.5, 5, 5.5])	2.442	5.339
diag([4, 5, 6])	2.302	5.631
diag([5, 5, 5.5])	2.410	5.397
diag([5, 5, 6])	2.245	5.778

# Numerical Example: Inhomogeneous Isotropic Media



$n_e$	$n_i$	$k_1$	$n$ -exact shape	$n$ -recon. shape
8	8	2.98	8.07	7.61
11	5	3.27	7.05	6.69
22	19	1.76	20.28	18.86
67	61	0.97	64.11	59.42

Example from



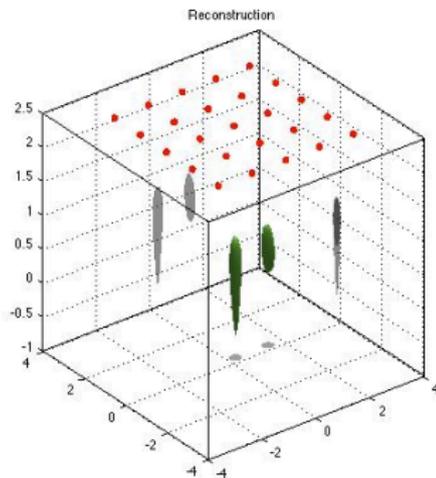
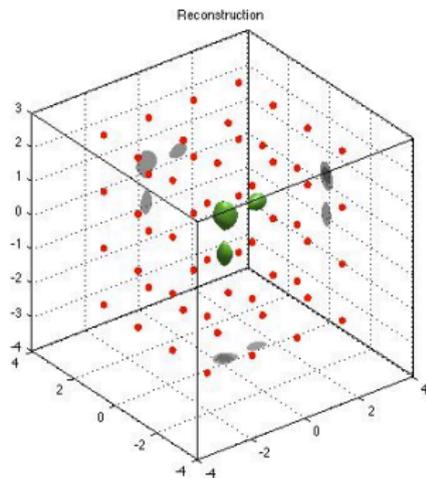
GIORGI-HADDAR (2012) - *Inverse Problems*

# Future Directions

- **Drawback** of these methods is the amount of spatial data needed.
- Possible **remedy** using time domain data.

Development of qualitative methods in the time domain for Maxwell's equation!

# Future Directions



GUO-MONK-COLTON (2014) - *Inverse Problems*

## Future Directions

- **Drawback** of the use of transmission eigenvalues is that it needs data for a range of frequencies and it does not work for media with absorption.
- Possible **remedy**

Introduce a new eigenvalue problem by modifying the far field equations!

(see P. Monk's talk)



CAKONI-COLTON-MENG-MONK (2016) - *SIAM J. Appl. Math*