

# Toward imaging modalities with high(er) resolution

François Monard

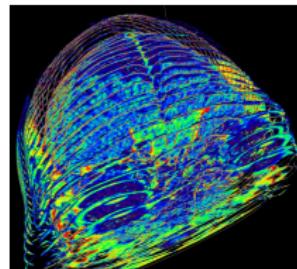
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February 9, 2016  
University of North Carolina at Charlotte

# Topic du jour

## Inverse problems and non-invasive imaging

### X-ray Computerized Tomography



Applications: tumor detection, bone damage, ...

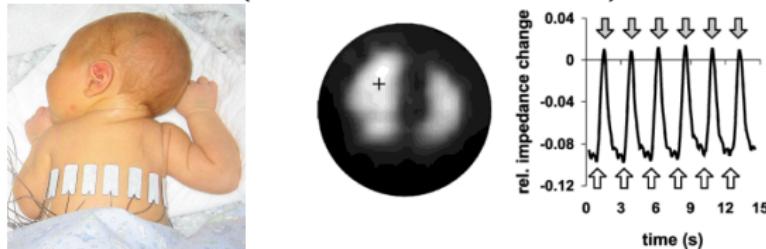
Mathematical model:  
Radon transform



# Topic du jour

## Inverse problems and non-invasive imaging

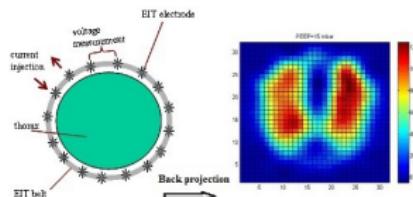
EIT (conductivity imaging)



[Heinrich et al '06]

Applications: lung monitoring, tumor detection, geophysical prospection...

Mathematical model:  
Calderón's problem



# Analysis of inverse problems

Formally: Find  $x \in \mathfrak{X}$  such that  $y = \mathfrak{M}(x)$ ,  
given **data**  $y \in \mathfrak{Y}$  and **model**  $\mathfrak{M}$ .

Questions to answer:

① **Uniqueness** ?  $\mathfrak{M}(x_1) = \mathfrak{M}(x_2) \stackrel{?}{\implies} x_1 = x_2$

② **Stability** ? (rules resolution in practice)

Hilbert scale of stability:

- well-posed problems ( $\delta\mathfrak{M}$  small  $\implies \delta x$  small)
- mildly ill-posed problems ( $\delta\mathfrak{M}$  small  $\implies \delta x$  not too large)
- severely ill-posed ( $\delta\mathfrak{M}$  small  $\implies \delta x$  too large)

③ How to **invert** ? How to deal with **noise in data** ?

- Explicit inversion, range characterization,
- ART, minimization/regularization methods, statistical inversions...

## Stability: two (linear) examples

$$\mathfrak{M}_1[f](x) = \int_0^x f(t) \, dt, \quad \mathfrak{M}_2[f](x) = \left( \frac{1}{2\sqrt{\pi T}} e^{-\frac{x^2}{4T}} * f \right)(x).$$

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Both are injective . . .

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. . . but with very different stability !

$$\|f - g\|_{L^2(\mathbb{R})} \leq \|\mathfrak{M}_1[f] - \mathfrak{M}_1[g]\|_{H^1(\mathbb{R})}.$$

► **Mildly** ill-posed.

No  $(s, p, C)$  such that

$$\|f - g\|_{H^s(\mathbb{R})} \leq C \|\mathfrak{M}_2[f] - \mathfrak{M}_2[g]\|_{H^{s+p}(\mathbb{R})}.$$

► **Severely** ill-posed.

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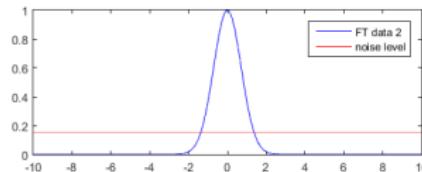
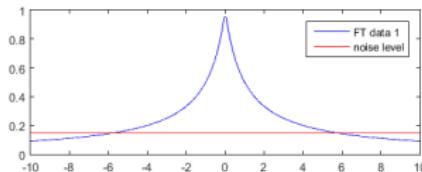
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► **Severely** ill-posed.

Resolution on  $f$  from  $\mathfrak{M}_2$  decreases much faster with noise level.



# Medical imaging modalities

High stability, low contrast:

Ultrasound



MRI



CT



Hyperbolic PDEs: propagate  
singularities well.

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High stability, low contrast:

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MRI



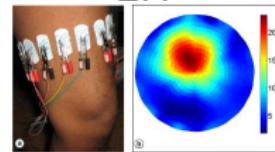
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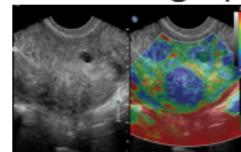
Hyperbolic PDEs: propagate singularities well.

Low stability, high contrast:

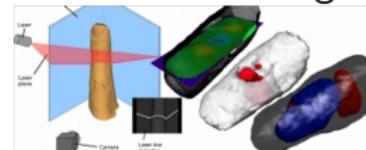
EIT



U.S. Elastography



Optical Diffuse Tomography.



Elliptic PDEs: forward model highly regularizing.

# Motivation

Despite the poor resolution...

- **mechanical, optical** and **electrical** properties of tissues display **good contrast** for e.g. tumor detection, lung activity monitoring.
- Cheaper, more portable, less harmful...

## Problem

*How to improve the stability of severely ill-posed problems ?*

Two ideas:

- ➊ Increase the dimensionality of the measurements.  
Allows for more informative measurements.
- ➋ Couple two physical models to achieve high contrast and high resolution: **hybrid methods**.

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# Outline

## 1 Inverse transport problems

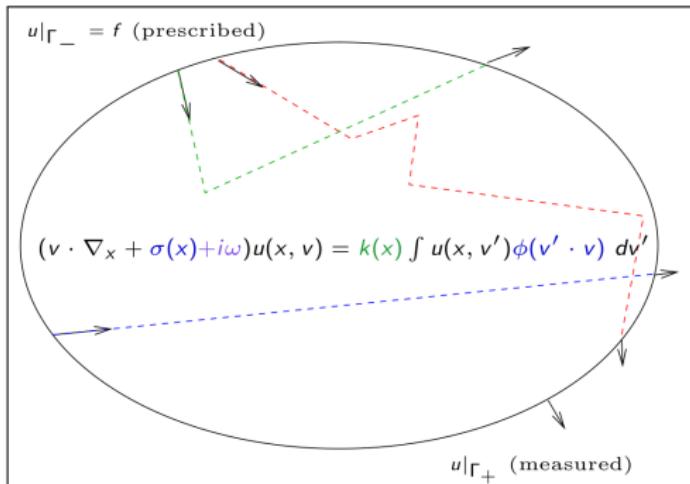
- Forward transport theory
- A stationary to time-harmonic transition
- Separating ballistic and single scattering

## 2 Coupled-physics inverse problems

- Preliminaries
- Inverse conductivity from power densities
- 2D numerical examples

## 3 A primer on tomography in media with variable refractive index

# The transport equation (or radiative transfer)



Two regimes: Stationary or time-harmonic.

Applications:

- Optical Tomography (NIR photon transport).
- SPECT

Forward theory: [Dautray-Lions '93, Mokhtar-Kharroubi '97, Stefanov-Uhlmann '08]

$$u_f(x, v) = \mathcal{J}f + \mathcal{K}\mathcal{J}f + \sum_{m=2}^{\infty} \mathcal{K}^m \mathcal{J}f. \quad (\text{scattering series})$$

# Inverse problems based on the transport regime

Angularly averaged measurements:

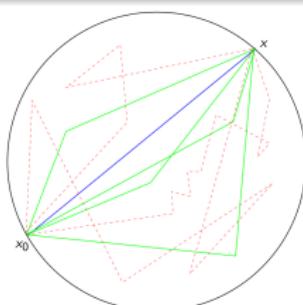
$$\mathcal{M}(f, x) = \int_{v \cdot \nu > 0} u_f |r_+(x, v)| v \cdot \nu |dS(v)| = \mathcal{M}_0(f, x) + \mathcal{M}_1 k(f, x) + \mathcal{M}_{2+}[k](f, x)$$

## Problem

With  $(\sigma, \phi)$  known and  $f = f(x)$ , does  $\mathcal{M}(f, x)$  determine  $k(x)$  uniquely ? stably ?

Inversion strategy:  $f = \delta_{x_0}$ ,  $(x_0, x) \in \partial X^2$

- **Ballistic part:** known from  $\sigma$ .
- In the **transport** regime:
  - Single scattering  $\rightarrow k$
  - Multiple scattering  $\equiv$  small.



Legend: Ballistic part, single scattering and multiple scattering.

## Stationary case [Bal-Langmore-M., IPI '08]

### Problem

Reconstruct  $k(x)$  from  $\mathcal{M}(f, g) = \int_{\partial X} \mathcal{M}(f, x)g(x) dx$ .

$$\mathcal{M}_1 k(f, g) = \int_X k(x_1) A f(x_1) A g(x_1) dx_1, \quad A = DLP + \mathcal{O}(\|\sigma\|_\infty \|f\|_\infty \|g\|_\infty)$$

Idea: find  $(f, g)$  such that  $\mathcal{M}_1 k(f, g) \approx \hat{k}(\xi)$  and invert via Fourier transform.

Using  $f$  and  $g$  traces of (harmonic) **CGO solutions**,

$$\text{i.e. } \exp((\xi + i\xi^\perp) \cdot x), \quad \xi \in \mathbb{R}^2, \quad \text{yields}$$

$$\mathcal{M}(f_\xi, g_\xi) - \mathcal{M}_0(f_\xi, g_\xi) = \hat{k}(\xi) + \epsilon(\sigma, k, \xi),$$

$$|\epsilon(\sigma, k, \xi) - \epsilon(\sigma, k', \xi)| \leq C \|k - k'\|_\infty (\|\sigma\|_\infty + \|k\|_\infty + \|k'\|_\infty) e^{C_2 |\xi|}.$$

- Inversion is possible yet **severely ill-posed**.  
Errors grow **exponentially** with frequency.

## Time-harmonic case [Bal-Jollivet-Langmore-M., CPDE '11]

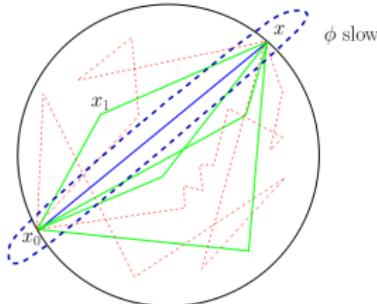
Goal: to improve the conditioning of the previous problem, go to **time-harmonic regime<sup>1</sup>** (**frequency-dependent** measurements)

Measurements:  $\mathcal{M}^\omega(x_0, x) = \int_{v \cdot \nu_x > 0} u_{\delta_{x_0}}(x, v) |v \cdot \nu_x| dS(v) \in \mathbb{C}$ .

**Stationary phase:** (case  $X$  a ball)

$$\mathcal{M}^\omega(x_0, x) - \mathcal{M}_0^\omega(x_0, x) = \int_X k(x_1) e^{i\omega\phi(x_0, x_1, x)} w(x_0, x_1, x) dx_1 + \mathcal{M}_{2+}$$

$$\phi(x_0, x_1, x) = |x_1 - x_0| + |x - x_1|$$



<sup>1</sup>Similar expansions for small times: [Bal-Jollivet '09]

# Time-harmonic case [Bal-Jollivet-Langmore-M., CPDE '11]

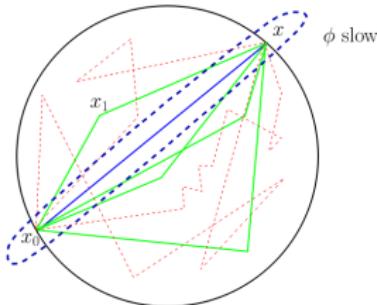
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$$\mathcal{M}^\omega(x_0, x) - \mathcal{M}_0^\omega(x_0, x) = \omega^{-\frac{d-1}{2}} \underbrace{R[k](x_0, x)}_{\text{Radon transform}} + o(\omega^{-\frac{d-1}{2}}) \quad \text{in } L^\infty((\partial X)^2).$$

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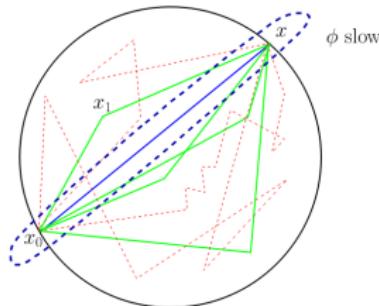
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- There is hope to invert for  $k$  via an inverse Radon transform.

<sup>1</sup>Similar expansions for small times: [Bal-Jollivet '09]

# Inversion in two dimensions [Bal-M., SIMA '12]

## Problem

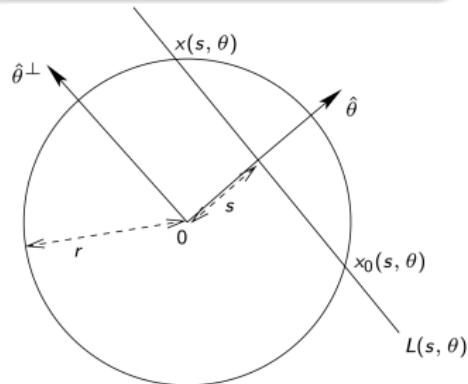
Reconstruct  $k(x)$  from  $\{\mathcal{M}^\omega(x_0, x), \quad (x_0, x) \in (\partial X)^2\}$ .

- ① Parameterize in the **Radon variables**  $(s, \theta)$ ,
- ② Apply **filtered-backprojection** with cutoff  $b$ , call it  $R^{-1,b}$
- ③ Analyse each component using **stationary phase** in  $(s, \theta)$  **only**.

Resulting estimate ( $\phi_b$ : low-pass filter)

$$\omega^{\frac{1}{2}} R^{-1,b} \mathcal{M}^\omega[k] = \phi_b * k + \mathcal{O}_{L^\infty} \left( \frac{b^3}{\omega^{\frac{1}{2}}} \log \left( \frac{\omega}{b} \right) \right) \quad (\text{Tradeoff } \omega \leftrightarrow b).$$

► **Polynomial stability** in  $b$ , instead of **exponential**.



## Partial conclusion

Moral of the first story:

- ① The reconstruction of  $k$  was **severely ill-posed** in the stationary regime.
- ② Making the measurements depend on **modulation frequency** by going to the time-harmonic regime allowed to recover **more singularities** ( $\approx$  smaller scales) of  $k$ .
- ③ Explicit inversion of **better stability** (hence better resolution) in two dimensions.

# SPECT and the inverse source problem

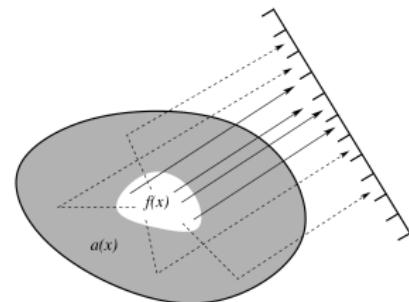
Model:  $v \cdot \nabla u + \underbrace{a(x)}_{\text{attenuation}} u = \underbrace{k(x) \int u(x, v) dv}_{=Ca(x)} + \underbrace{f(x)}_{\text{source}}, \quad u|_{\Gamma_-} = 0.$

Measurement:

$$u|_{\Gamma_+} = R_a f + \mathcal{M}_1 + \mathcal{M}_{2+}.$$

Attenuated Radon transform:

$$R_a f(x, v) = \int_{-\infty}^0 f(x + tv) e^{- \int_t^0 a(x+sv) ds} dt.$$



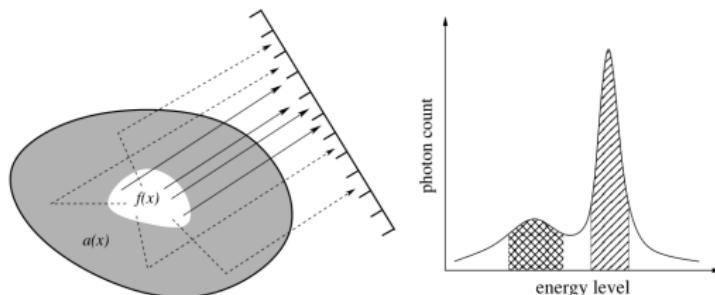
**Problem (The identification problem)**

*Reconstruct both  $a(x)$  and  $f(x)$  from  $R_a f$ .*

In this form, the problem is **non-injective** and **unstable**.

[Hertle '88, Boman '93, Solomon '95, Kuchment-Quinto '03,  
Stefanov '14, Luo-Qian-Stefanov '14]

[Courdurier-M.-Osses-Romero, IP '15]

Idea: Separate ballistic and single scattering from data.

Problem (Identification problem + single scattering data)

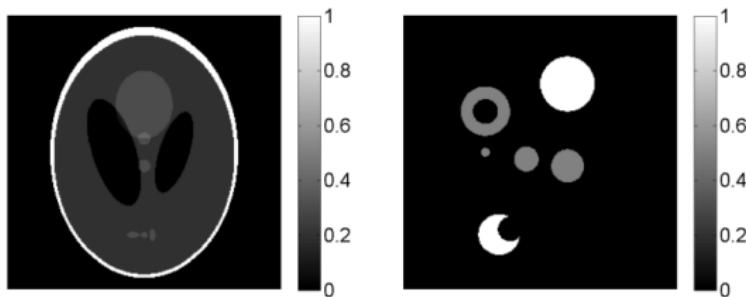
Reconstruct both  $a(x)$  and  $f(x)$  from  $R_a f$  and  $\mathcal{M}_1(a, f)$ .

- $R_a f(x, v) = \int_{-\infty}^0 f(x + tv) e^{-\int_t^0 a(x+sv) ds} dt.$
- $\mathcal{M}_1(a, f)(x, v) = C \int_{-\infty}^0 a(x + tv) M[a, f](x + tv) e^{-\int_t^0 a(x+sv) ds} dt.$
- $M[a, f](x, v) = \int_{\mathbb{S}^1} \int_{-\infty}^0 f(x + tv) e^{-\int_t^0 a(x+sv) ds} dt dv$

# Identification problem with single scattering data

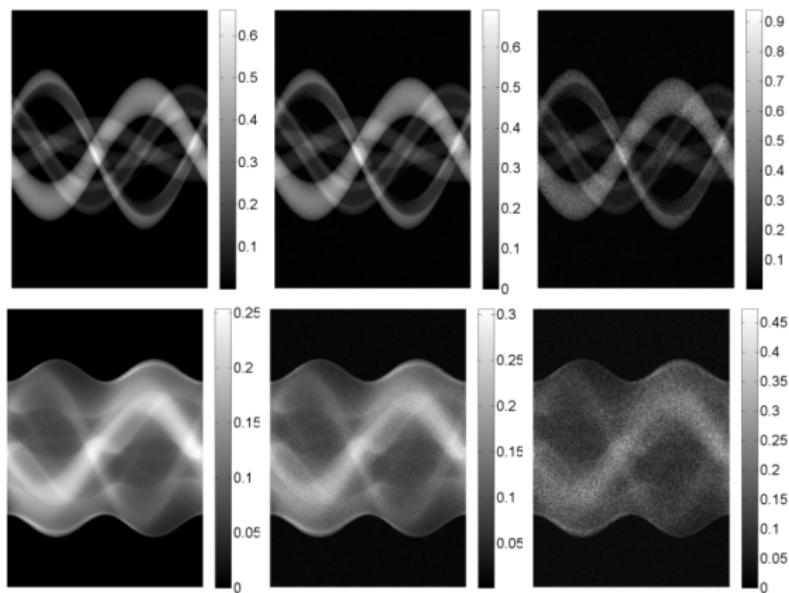
Results in [Courdurier-M.-Osses-Romero, IP '15]:

- Study linearized problem: problem is injective and stable.
- Numerical implementation of Newton's algorithm (+ noise).



Examples of discontinuous coefficients  $a$  (left) and  $f$  (right).

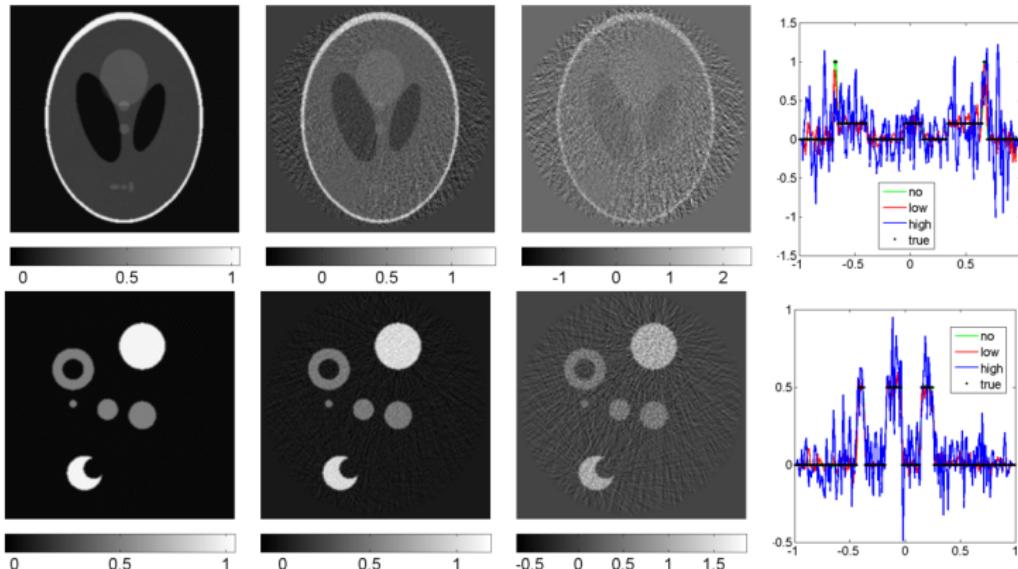
# Identification problem with single scattering data



Forward data  $\mathcal{A}_0(a, f)$  (top row) and  $\mathcal{A}_1(a, f)$  (bottom row)

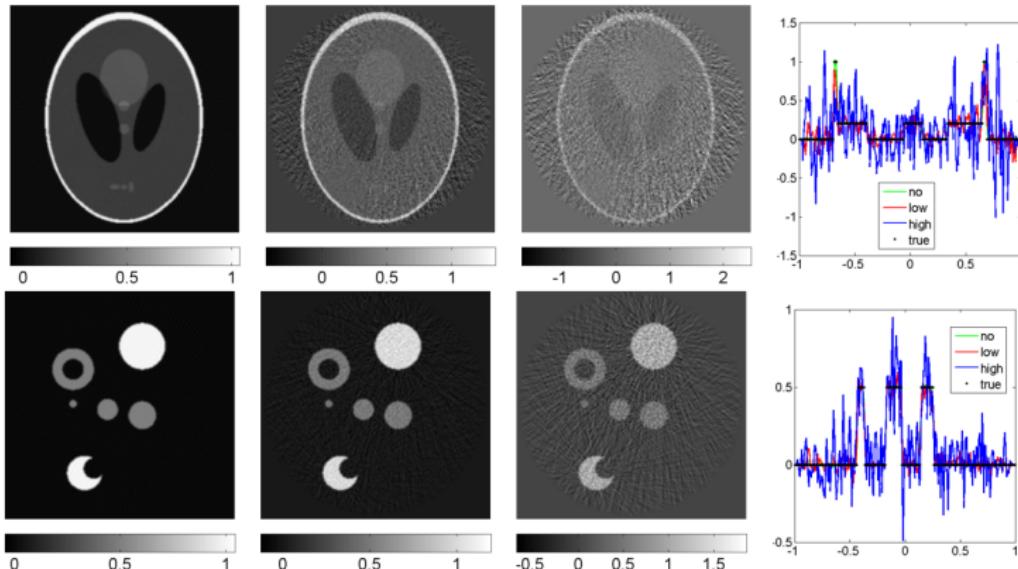
Left to right: noiseless, low noise, high noise.

# Identification problem with single scattering data



Reconstructed  $a$  (top row) and  $f$  (bottom row) after convergence. Left to right: noiseless, low noise, high noise, cut plots at  $\{x = 0\}$ .

# Identification problem with single scattering data



Reconstructed  $a$  (top row) and  $f$  (bottom row) after convergence. Left to right: noiseless, low noise, high noise, cut plots at  $\{x = 0\}$ .

- ▶ Conclusion: Adding single scattering data stabilized the problem.

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- Forward transport theory
- A stationary to time-harmonic transition
- Separating ballistic and single scattering

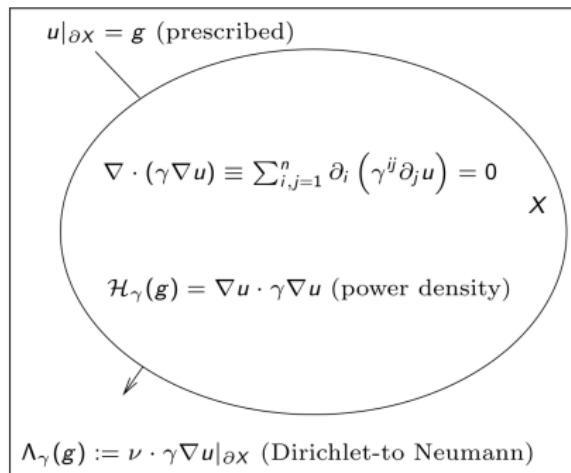
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- Preliminaries
- Inverse conductivity from power densities
- 2D numerical examples

## 3 A primer on tomography in media with variable refractive index

# The inverse conductivity problem

Model:  $X \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  bounded domain.



Two problems:

- **Calderón's problem:**

Does  $\Lambda_\gamma$  determine  $\gamma$  uniquely ? stably ?

[Calderón '80]

- **Power density problem:**

Does  $\mathcal{H}_\gamma$  determine  $\gamma$  uniquely ? stably ?

$\gamma$  is *uniformly elliptic*.

# Review on Calderón's problem

## Problem (Calderón problem)

Determine  $\gamma$  from the Dirichlet-to-Neuman map  $\Lambda_\gamma$ , where  
 $f \mapsto \Lambda_\gamma f = \gamma \nu \cdot \nabla u|_{\partial X}$ .

The Calderón problem is

- **injective** in the isotropic case:  $\Lambda_\gamma = \Lambda_{\gamma'} \implies \gamma = \gamma'$   
 [Sylvester-Uhlmann '87, Nachman '88, Novikov '88,  
 Astala-Päivärinta '06, Haberman-Tataru '11, Haberman '14]
- ... yet "**unstable**": The modulus of continuity is logarithmic  
 [Alessandrini '88], which results in low resolution

$$\|\gamma - \gamma'\|_{\mathfrak{X}} \leq C |\ln \|\Lambda_\gamma - \Lambda_{\gamma'}\|_{\mathfrak{Y}}|^{-\delta}.$$

- **non-injective** in the anisotropic case [Lee-Uhlmann '89]

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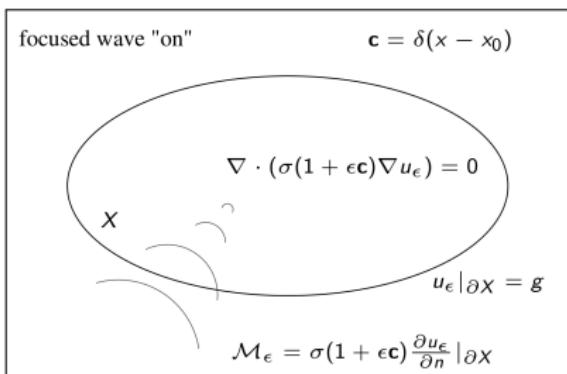
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# Derivation of power densities - 1/2

## By ultrasound modulation



**Physical focusing**

[Ammari et al. '08]

**Synthetic focusing**

[Kuchment-Kunyansky '10]

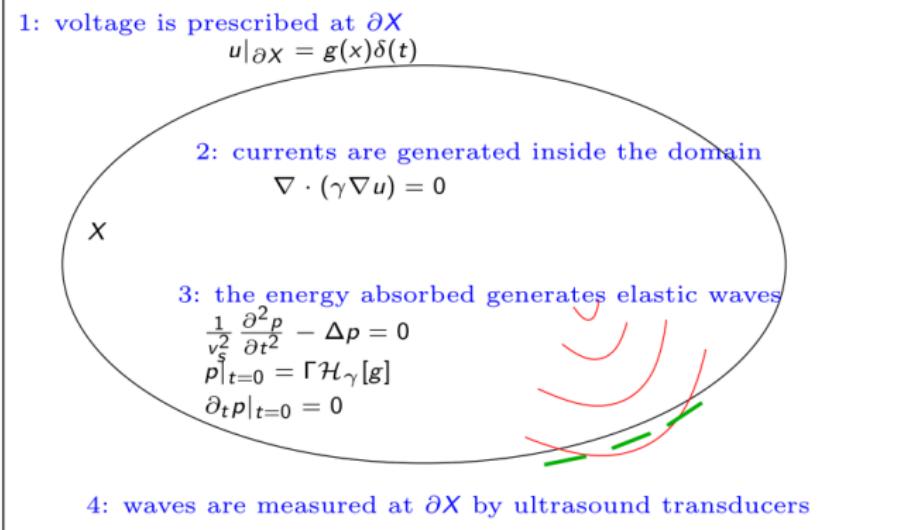
[Bal-Bonnetier-M.-Triki '11]

Small perturbation model:

$\frac{(\mathcal{M}_\epsilon - \mathcal{M}_0)}{\epsilon}$  gives an approximation of  $\nabla u_0 \cdot \gamma \nabla u_0$  at  $x_0$ .

# Derivation of power densities - 2/2

## By thermoelastic effects (Impedance-Acoustic CT)



One reconstructs  $\Gamma \mathcal{H}_\gamma = \Gamma \nabla u \cdot \gamma \nabla u$  over  $X$  ( $\Gamma$ : Grüneisen coefficient)

[Gebauer-Scherzer '09]

# Inversion methods

## Problem

Reconstruct  $\gamma$  from  $H_{ij} = \gamma \nabla u_i \cdot \nabla u_j$  for  $1 \leq i, j \leq J$ .

**Injectivity, stability and locality** highly depends on  $J$ !

Observation:

$$\nabla \cdot (\sigma \nabla u) = 0 \Leftrightarrow \nabla u \cdot \nabla \log \sigma = -\Delta u.$$

With “enough” measurements, some linearized problems with internal functionals can be formulated in terms of elliptic systems of PDEs (in the sense of Agmon-Douglis-Nirenberg) [Bal, Contemp. Math '14].

Tradeoff: minimal measurements v/s maximal stability and locality of inversion

- $J$  small (e.g.,  $= 1$ ): cheap(er) but non-local, less stable
- $J$  large (e.g.,  $= n$ ): elliptic system, explicit, local and stable

# Inversions from a single functional

Resolution from a single power density - isotropic case:

- Newton-based numerical methods to recover  $(u, \sigma)$   
[Ammari et al. '08, Gebauer-Scherzer '09].
- Theoretical work on the Cauchy problem [Bal, Analysis and PDEs '13].

Measurement:  $H(x) = \sigma |\nabla u|^2$

- $\nabla \cdot (\sigma \nabla u) = 0.$
- Idea: get  $u$ , then  $\sigma$  !
- Problem: instabilities due to hyperbolicity.

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Measurement:  $H(x) = \sigma |\nabla u|^2$

- $\nabla \cdot (\textcolor{blue}{H} \frac{\nabla u}{|\nabla u|^2}) = 0$ . “0-laplacian”: Hyperbolic PDE.
- Idea: get  $u$ , then  $\sigma$  !
- Problem: instabilities due to hyperbolicity.

## Isotropic case: formulation

### Problem (Isotropic case)

Reconstruct  $\sigma \geq c_0 > 0$  from  $H_{ij}(x) = \sigma \nabla u_i \cdot \nabla u_j$ , where  $u_i$  solves

$$\nabla \cdot (\sigma \nabla u_i) = 0, \quad u_i|_{\partial\Omega} = g_i, \quad 1 \leq i \leq n.$$

### Hypothesis:

- $\inf_{\Omega} \det(\nabla u_1, \dots, \nabla u_n) \geq c_1 > 0$  over some  $\Omega \subset X$ .

Define  $F = \frac{1}{2} \nabla \log \sigma$  and  $S_i := \sigma^{\frac{1}{2}} \nabla u_i$ . The  $S_i$ 's satisfy

$$\nabla \cdot S_i = -F \cdot S_i, \quad dS_i = F \wedge S_i, \quad 1 \leq i \leq n.$$

The data takes the form  $H_{ij} = S_i \cdot S_j$  (Grammian matrix).

---

Legend: known data, unknown.

## Isotropic case: resolution

Using the equations above, derive the **transport equation**

$$\textcolor{red}{F} = \frac{1}{n|\textcolor{blue}{H}|^{\frac{1}{2}}} (\nabla(|\textcolor{blue}{H}|^{\frac{1}{2}} \textcolor{blue}{H}^{ij}) \cdot S_i) S_j.$$

A **first-order quasi-linear system** is then derived for the frame  $S$

$$\boxed{\nabla S_i = \mathcal{S}_i(S, \textcolor{blue}{H}, d\textcolor{blue}{H}), \quad 1 \leq i \leq n}$$

where  $\mathcal{S}_i$  is **Lipschitz** w.r.t.  $(S_1, \dots, S_n)$ .

- Overdetermined PDEs, solvable for  $S$ , then  $\sigma$ , over  $\Omega \subset X$  via ODE's along any (characteristic) curves.

## Isotropic case: local stability

Theorem (Uniqueness and Lipschitz stability in  $W^{1,\infty}(\Omega)$ )

Over  $\Omega \subset X$  where the frame assumption is satisfied,  $\sigma$  is uniquely determined up to a constant. Moreover,

$$\|\log \sigma - \log \sigma'\|_{W^{1,\infty}} \leq \varepsilon_0 + C(\|\mathbf{H} - \mathbf{H}'\|_{W^{1,\infty}})$$

[Capdeboscq et al. '09], [Bal-Bonnetier-M.-Triki, '12], [M.-Bal, IP '12], [M.-Bal, IPI '12], [M.-Bal, CPDE '13]

- ▶ Well-posed problem (Lipschitz modulus of continuity).
- ▶ No loss of derivative/resolution on  $\sigma$ .
- ▶ How to achieve  $\det(\nabla u_1, \dots, \nabla u_n) > 0$  locally ? globally ?  
[Alessandrini-Nesi 01, Briane-Milton-Nesi 04]

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# Anisotropic case: formulation

## Problem (Anisotropic case)

*Reconstruct the anisotropy  $\tilde{\gamma}$  from power densities  $\gamma \nabla u_i \cdot \nabla u_j$ .*

Hypothesis: Start with a "basis"  $(u_1, \dots, u_n)$  of solutions, and consider additional solutions with their power densities.

Main ideas:

- An additional solution  $u_{n+1}$  decomposes into  $\nabla u_{n+1} = \sum_{j=1}^n \mu_j \nabla u_j$ , where the  $\mu_j$ 's are known from power densities.
- Combining this with the PDE's in the problem, one can obtain orthogonality constraints on  $\tilde{\gamma}$  of the form  $Z_j \cdot \tilde{\gamma} = 0$ , with  $Z_j$ 's data matrices.

• This leads to a linear system of equations for  $\tilde{\gamma}$ :  
$$\begin{pmatrix} Z_1 & Z_2 & \cdots & Z_n \end{pmatrix} \cdot \tilde{\gamma} = 0$$

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# Stability

Theorem (Uniqueness and stability for  $\tilde{\gamma}$ )

Over  $\Omega \subset X$  where the hyperplane condition is satisfied,  $\tilde{\gamma}$  is uniquely, explicitly determined, with stability

$$\|\tilde{\gamma} - \tilde{\gamma}'\|_{L^\infty(\Omega)} \leq C \|H - H'\|_{W^{1,\infty}(X)}.$$

[M.-Bal, IP '12] in 2D. [M.-Bal, CPDE '13] in nD.

- ▶ **Explicit reconstruction.** Loss of **one derivative** on  $\tilde{\gamma}$ .
- ▶ Microlocal analysis on the linearized problem in [Bal-Guo-M., '14] shows that the loss of one derivative is **optimal**.
- ▶ PS: the linear case was harder to look at.

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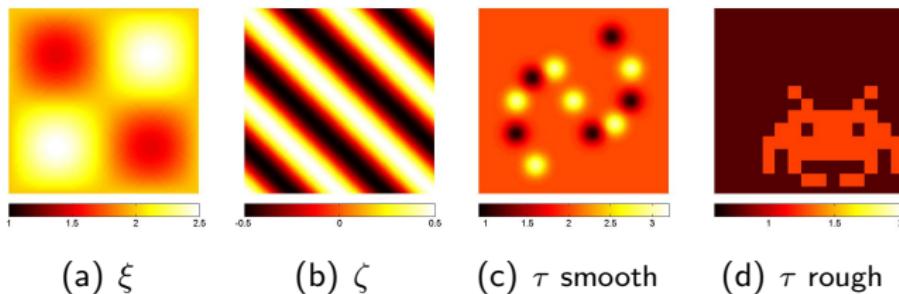
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# Numerics [M.-Bal, IP '12]

Coded in **MatLab** on a cartesian, equispaced grid, using second-order centered **finite differences**.

Decompose  $\gamma = \tau \tilde{\gamma}$  with  $\tilde{\gamma}(\xi, \zeta) = \begin{bmatrix} \xi & \zeta \\ \zeta & \frac{1+\zeta^2}{\xi} \end{bmatrix}$  ( $\det \tilde{\gamma} = 1$ ).

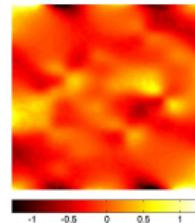
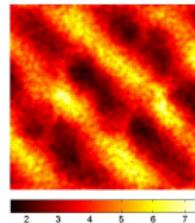
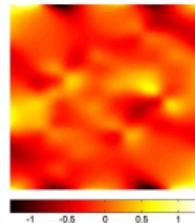
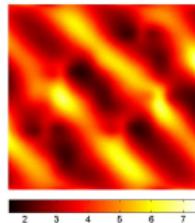


Compute:

- Solutions  $(u_1, u_2, u_3)$  with  $(g_1, g_2, g_3)(x, y) = (x+y, y+0.1y^2, -x+y)$
- Data  $H_{ij} = \nabla u_i \cdot \gamma \nabla u_j$  with **noise**  $H_{noisy} = H.* (1 + \frac{\alpha}{100} \text{ random})$ .

# Numerics - Data $H_{ij}$ and reconstruction of $\tau$

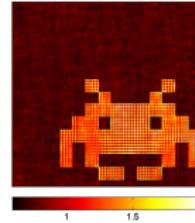
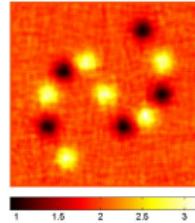
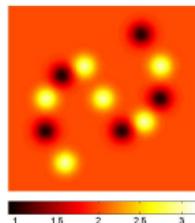
Examples of power densities ( $H_{11}$  and  $H_{12}$ )



$\alpha = 0\%$

$\alpha = 30\%$

Reconstruction of  $\tau$  (smooth and rough) with known  $\tilde{\gamma}$



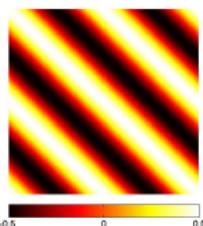
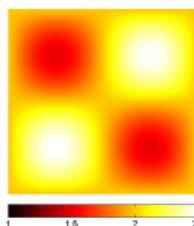
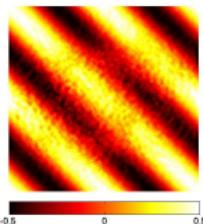
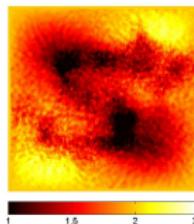
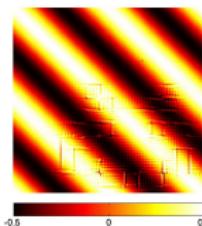
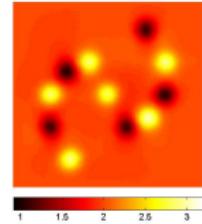
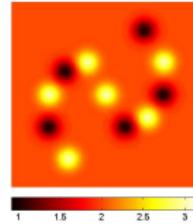
true

From noisy data ( $\alpha = 30\%$ )

# Numerics - reconstruction of $\tilde{\gamma}(\xi, \zeta)$ , then $\tau$

Anisotropy reconstruction formula in 2D:

$$\tilde{\gamma} = (J\mathbf{X} \cdot \mathbf{Y})^{-1} J(\mathbf{X}\mathbf{X}^T + \mathbf{Y}\mathbf{Y}^T)J, \quad \mathbf{Y} = \nabla \log \frac{H_{11}H_{22} - H_{12}^2}{H_{33}H_{44} - H_{34}^2}.$$

true  $(\xi, \zeta)$ with smooth  $\tau$  and  $\alpha = 0.1\%$ with rough  $\tau$  and  $\alpha = 0\%$  $\tau$  true and recons. ( $\alpha = 0.1\%$ )

# More inverse problems from internal functionals

## Inverse **conductivity** from current densities:

- Model:  $\nabla \cdot (\gamma \nabla u) = 0$ . Data:  $\mathcal{J} = \gamma \nabla u$  inside  $\Omega$ .
- Application: Current Density Impedance Imaging (coupling EIT and MRI).
- Results:
  - Explicit reconstruction of fully anisotropic tensors. Stability similar as above. [Bal-Guo-M., IPI '14]
  - Numerical simulations. [Bal-Guo-M., SIIMS '14]

## Inverse **elasticity** from internal displacement fields:

- Model:  $\nabla \cdot (\mathbf{C} : (\nabla \mathbf{u} + \nabla \mathbf{u}^T)) = 0$  (system). Data:  $\mathbf{u}$  inside  $\Omega$ .
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# Partial conclusion and perspectives

## Elliptic inverse problems

- from boundary measurements: **lack of injectivity** (anisotropic case) and **severe instability**.
- from internal functionals motivated by hybrid methods:
  - **Injectivity:** Holds even in fully anisotropic cases
  - **Stability:** Mildly ill-posed instead of severely ill-posed.

## Perspectives:

- Regularity reduction.
- More models: reconstruct  $(\gamma, \sigma_a)$  from  $\mathcal{H} = \nabla u \cdot \gamma \nabla u + \sigma_a u^2$ ,  $u$  solves  $-\nabla \cdot (\gamma \nabla u) + \sigma_a u = 0$ .
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# Outline

## 1 Inverse transport problems

- Forward transport theory
- A stationary to time-harmonic transition
- Separating ballistic and single scattering

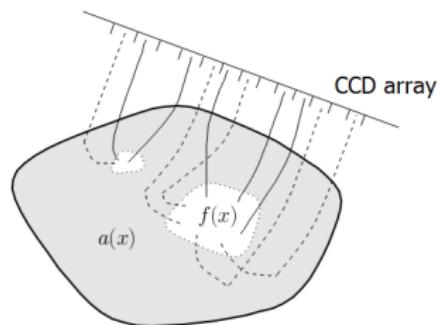
## 2 Coupled-physics inverse problems

- Preliminaries
- Inverse conductivity from power densities
- 2D numerical examples

## 3 A primer on tomography in media with variable refractive index

# SPECT with variable refractive index

SPECT (or CT, or OT) can be considered in media with **variable index of refraction**, which acts as a Riemannian metric bending photon trajectories. (Fermat)



$$\text{Data (before): } R_a f(x, v) = \int_{-\infty}^0 f(x + tv) e^{-\int_t^0 a(x+sv) ds} dt.$$

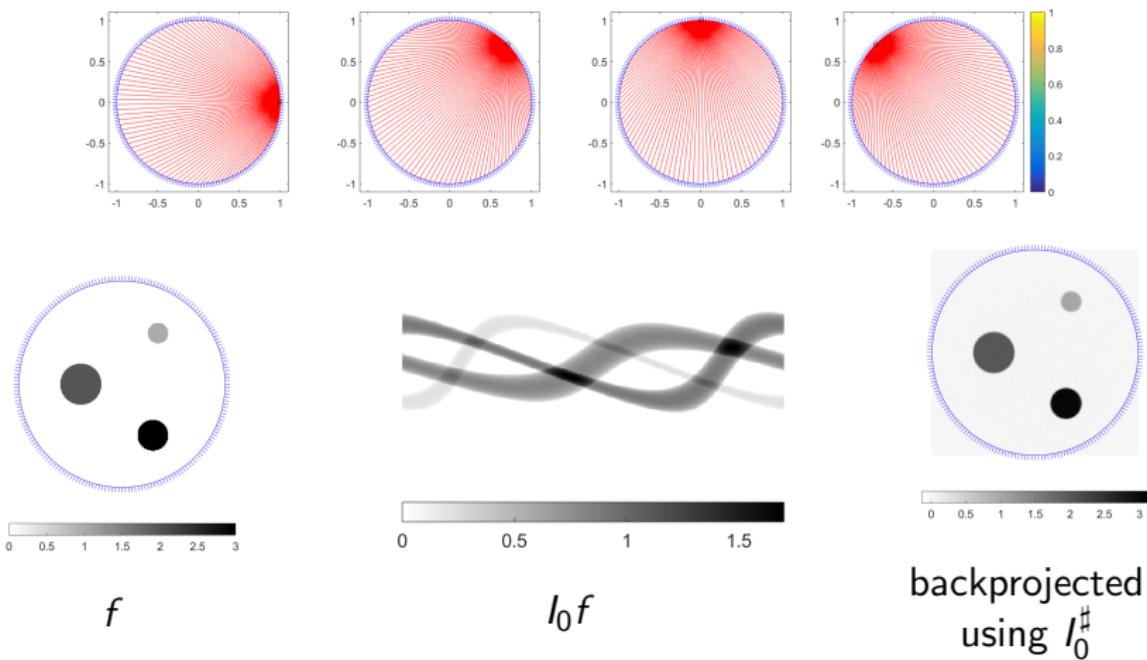
$$\text{Data (now): } R_a f(x, v) = \int_{-\infty}^0 f(\gamma_{x,v}(t)) e^{-\int_t^0 a(\gamma_{x,v}(s)) ds} dt.$$

$\gamma_{x,v}(t)$ : generated by some flow (geodesic, magnetic, ...)

Incorrect propagation models can lead to significant errors in reconstructions !

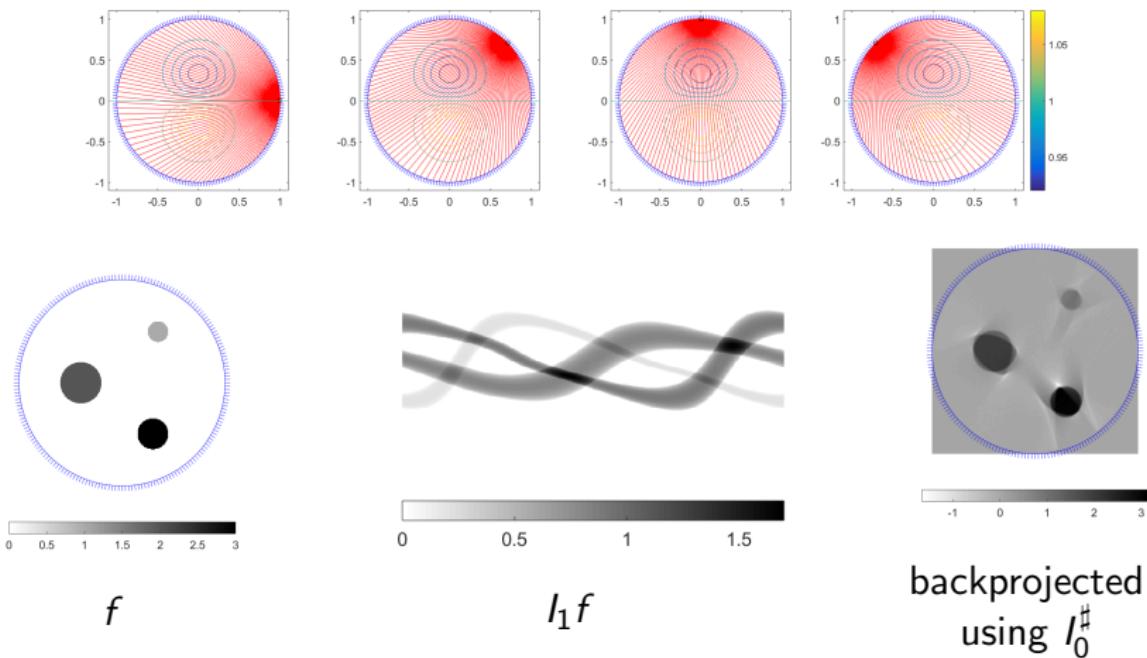
# Backprojecting with the wrong geometry

With the **correct** geometry: (0: Euclidean)



# Backprojecting with the wrong geometry

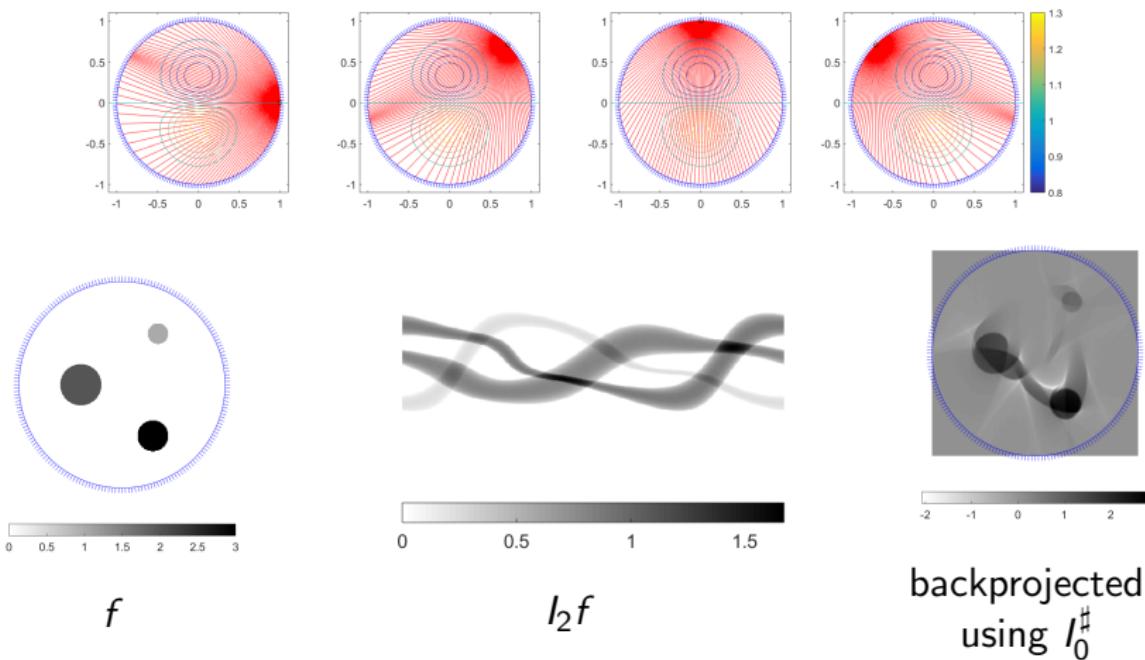
With an **incorrect** geometry:



backprojected  
using  $I_0^\#$

# Backprojecting with the wrong geometry

With a **very incorrect** geometry:



# Mathematical formulation

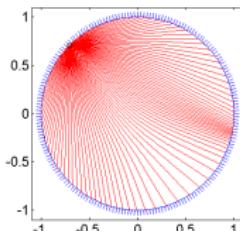
## Problem

Given a family of curves  $\Gamma$ , does the collection  $\{\int_\gamma f, \gamma \in \Gamma\}$  determine  $f$  uniquely? stably? How to invert  $f$ ?

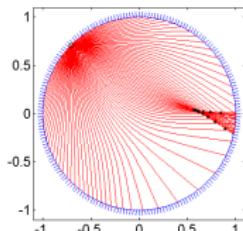
**Geometric features** of  $\Gamma$  highly impact the answer to these questions.

Non-Euclidean phenomena: curvature, caustics and trapping.

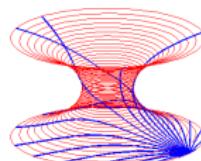
1: “simple”



2: conjugate points



3: trapping



## Ongoing and future work

### Geodesic ray transforms on Riemannian surfaces with boundary:

- ① Numerical implementation of inversions [M., SIIMS '14]
- ② Transforms with two types of attenuations [M., IP '15], [M., SIMA '16]
- ③ Study of caustics [M.-Stefanov-Uhlmann, CMP '15]
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Thank you !

Research available at:

[www-personal.umich.edu/~monard](http://www-personal.umich.edu/~monard)