

# Inverse scattering for lossy medium material

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Abstract. We address the problem of the recovery of the coefficients, the index of refraction  $n(x)$  and the dissipative coefficient  $m(x)$ , for the equation

$$\phi''(x) + k^2 n(x)\phi(x) + ik \cdot m(x)\phi(x) = 0, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}$$

and present an accurate, efficient, and stable numerical algorithm for the reconstruction of  $m(x)$  and  $n(x)$  from the scattered data.

## Plan of the Talk

- Background and applications
- Introduction to 1-D inverse scattering problems
- Existing results and our new results
- Analytical tools for our inverse problem
- The inversion algorithm
- Numerical performance
- Discussion

## Background and Applications

$$\phi''(x) + k^2 n(x)\phi(x) + ik \cdot m(x)\phi(x) = 0, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}$$

- Essentially a Helmholtz equation (1-D)
- Propagation of the time-harmonic waves through inhomogeneous medium located inside  $[a, b]$ . Outside  $[a, b]$ ,  $n = 1$  and  $m = 0$ .
- Reducible from Maxwell's equation in a 3-D layered medium.
- Maxwell's case:  $n(x)$  is permittivity,  $m(x)$  is conductivity.
- Dissipative:  $m(x) \geq 0$ , solutions decay.
- Active material  $m(x) \leq 0$ , solutions grow. For new materials  $m < 0$  could be quite large; ask Enrico Fermi and D. Schuman about their applications.

## Introduction to 1-D Inverse Scattering Problems

- Inverse problem: Given solutions of differential equation on  $[a, b]$ , determine the coefficients of the equation.
- Inverse scattering is the inverse problem for wave equation.
- A general 1-D wave equation as a motivation:

$$u_{tt}(x, t) + \beta(x)u_t(x, t) = c^2(x)\rho(x) \left[ \frac{1}{\rho(x)}u_x \right]_x, \quad c(x) =$$

- By the time-harmonic substitution  $u(x, t) = \phi(x)e^{-i\omega t}$

$$\phi''(x) + \ell(x)\phi'(x) + k^2n(x)\phi(x) + ik \cdot m(x)\phi(x) = 0$$

with three real coefficients

$$\ell(x) = -\frac{\rho'(x)}{\rho(x)}, \quad n(x) = \frac{c_0^2}{c^2(x)}, \quad m(x) = \frac{\beta}{c^2}$$

## 1-D Inverse Scattering Problems

- A simple Helmholtz equation (self-adjoint), already

$$\phi''(x) + k^2 n(x) \phi(x) = 0$$

- More complicated – two coefficients, and non-self-adjoint

$$\phi''(x) + k^2 n(x) \phi(x) + ik \cdot m(x) \phi(x) = 0$$

↪ the subject of this talk

- Still more complicated – three coefficients, yet to be

$$\phi''(x) + \ell(x) \phi'(x) + k^2 n(x) \phi(x) + ik \cdot m(x) \phi(x) = 0$$

- A simple 1-D *forward* scattering problem

$$\phi''(x) + k^2 n(x) \phi(x) = 0, \quad x \in [a, b]$$

- $k$  – wave number, a positive number in  $(0, \infty)$
  - $n$  – index of refraction,  $n(x) = 1 + q(x)$ ,  $q = 0$  outside  $[a, b]$
  - $\phi$  – total wave field,  $\phi(x) = \phi_0(x) + \psi(x)$ ,
- Only two possible incident wave fields:  $\phi_0(x, k) = e^{ikx}$   
 $\hookrightarrow$  two corresponding scattered fields:  $\psi_{\pm}(x, k)$ , satisfying

$$\psi''(x) + k^2(1 + q(x))\psi(x) = -k^2 q(x) \phi_0(x), \quad x \in [a, b]$$

subject to the outgoing radiation conditions

$$\psi'(a) + ik\psi(a) = 0, \quad \psi'(b) - ik\psi(b) = 0 \quad (\text{a third condition is not needed})$$

## Forward and Inverse Scattering Problems

$$\begin{aligned}\psi''(x, k) + k^2(1 + q(x))\psi(x) &= -k^2q(x)\phi_0(x, k), \\ \psi'(a) + ik\psi(a) &= 0, \quad \psi'(b) - ik\psi(b) = 0\end{aligned}$$

- Forward problem: Given  $k, q, \phi_0(x, k)$ , determine  $\psi(x, k)$   
 $\hookrightarrow$  the forward problem is well-posed.
- Inverse problem: Given  $\{ \psi_{\pm}(a, k), \psi_{\pm}(b, k), k \in (0, \infty) \}$   
 $\{ q(x), x \in [a, b] \}$   
 $\hookrightarrow$  the inverse problem is also well-posed (John Sylvester)

Remark: Only one of the two functions—the two real functions  $\psi_+(a, k), \psi_-(b, k)$ —is required to recover the scatterer  $q(x)$ .

Generalization: The scatterer  $q$  may have imaginary part.

## Scattering Data and Scattering Matrices

- For the general, three-coefficient, equation

$$\psi''(x, k) + \ell(x)\psi' + k^2(1 + q(x))\psi + ik \cdot m(x)\psi = -$$

all four measurements  $\{ \psi_{\pm}(a, k), \psi_{\pm}(b, k), k \in (0, \infty) \}$  used to recover the three coefficients  $\{ \ell(x), q(x), m(x) \}$

- Scattering matrix: organize the four functions and study their algebraic and analytic properties for scattering problems

$$S(a, b, k) = \begin{bmatrix} \psi_+(a, k) & \psi_-(a, k) \\ \psi_+(b, k) & \psi_-(b, k) \end{bmatrix}$$

- A better definition for a proper scaling

$$S(a, b, k) = \begin{bmatrix} \psi_+(a, k)e^{ika} & \psi_-(a, k)e^{ika} \\ \psi_+(b, k)e^{-ikb} & \psi_-(b, k)e^{-ikb} \end{bmatrix} =: \begin{bmatrix} L & R \\ T & S \end{bmatrix}$$

- Inverse scattering:  $\{S(a, b, k), x \in (0, \infty)\} \longrightarrow \{\ell, q, m\}$

- Trace formula method for inversion: construct a sy

$$S'(x, b, k) = F_0(S, k, \ell, q, m), \text{ for all } k$$

$$\ell'(x) = F_1\left(\int S dk; \ell, q, m\right),$$

$$q'(x) = F_2\left(\int S dk; \ell, q, m\right),$$

$$m'(x) = F_3\left(\int S dk; \ell, q, m\right),$$

and solve them from  $a$  to  $b$  with the initial values

$S(a, b, k)$  – scattering data, and  $\ell(a) = q(a) = m$

- Frequency-global, space-local; ODEs amount to lin

## Existing Results and Our New Results

- The simple inverse scattering problem

$$\psi''(x) + k^2(1 + q(x))\psi(x) = -k^2q(x)\phi_0(x)$$

Chen and Rokhlin (1991): Discovered a trace formula to reconstruct the scatterer  $q \in C^l(\mathbb{R}^1)$  from scattering data  $\{ (0, A] \}$  with precision  $O(1/A^l)$ .

- The resulting algorithm is known as the most accurate and stable scheme.
- Technique: Use symmetry and gain super-algebraic convergence for smooth scatterer  $q$ .

## Existing Results and Our New Results

- The two-coefficient equation

$$\psi''(x, k) + \ell(x)\psi' + k^2(1 + q(x))\psi + ik \cdot m(x)\psi = -$$

The only result (J. O. Powell, 1999) uses a first order algorithm and the algorithm is unstable.

- Difficulty: the equation is no longer self-adjoint; self-adjointness no longer present here.
- Our results: We obtained parallel results to those of Powell (1999)

## Analytical Tools: 1. Riccati Equations

- As is well-known

- A linear, scalar, and one-dimensional elliptic (differential equation) leads to a scalar Riccati equation.
- A linear, one-dimensional system of elliptic equations leads to a matrix Riccati equation.

- It turns out that the scattering matrices  $S^l(x) = S^r(x) = S(x, b, k)$  satisfy the matrix Riccati equation (with  $q - m/ik$ )

$$\frac{dS^l}{dx} = \frac{ik}{2} \left\{ q(x)(E_2^l + S^l J_1) \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} (J_1^* S^l + E_2^l) + \left[ \dots \right] \right.$$
$$\frac{dS^r}{dx} = -\frac{ik}{2} \left\{ q(x)(E_1^r + S^r J_1^*) \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} (J_1 S^r + E_1^r) + \left[ \dots \right] \right.$$

- Entry by entry, the equations are (with  $q \leftarrow q - m/i$ )

$$\frac{dS_{22}^l}{dx} = \frac{ik}{2}[q(x)(1 + S_{22}^l)^2 + 4S_{22}^l],$$

$$\frac{dS_{12}^l}{dx} = \frac{ik}{2}[q(x)(1 + S_{22}^l)(e^{ik(x-a)} + S_{12}^l) + S_{12}^l],$$

$$\frac{dS_{21}^l}{dx} = \frac{ik}{2}[q(x)(1 + S_{22}^l)(e^{ik(x-a)} + S_{21}^l) + S_{21}^l],$$

$$\frac{dS_{11}^l}{dx} = \frac{ik}{2}q(x)(e^{ik(x-a)} + S_{12}^l)(e^{ik(x-a)} + S_{21}^l) + S_{11}^l,$$

and

$$\frac{dS_{11}^r}{dx} = -\frac{ik}{2}[q(x)(1 + S_{11}^r)^2 + 4S_{11}^r],$$

$$\frac{dS_{12}^r}{dx} = -\frac{ik}{2}[q(x)(1 + S_{11}^r)(e^{ik(b-x)} + S_{12}^r) + S_{12}^r],$$

$$\frac{dS_{21}^r}{dx} = -\frac{ik}{2}[q(x)(1 + S_{11}^r)(e^{ik(b-x)} + S_{21}^r) + S_{21}^r],$$

$$\frac{dS_{22}^r}{dx} = -\frac{ik}{2}q(x)(e^{ik(b-x)} + S_{12}^r)(e^{ik(b-x)} + S_{21}^r) + S_{22}^r,$$

## Analytical Tools: 2. WKBJ Expansions

- The well-posedness of the Riccati equations were established, therefore we can write down the asymptotics for large  $k$

$$S_{22}^l(x, k) = \frac{1 - \sqrt{n}}{1 + \sqrt{n}} + \frac{1}{2n(1 + \sqrt{n})^2} [-q' + 2m\sqrt{n}] \frac{1}{ik}$$

$$S_{11}^r(x, k) = \frac{1 - \sqrt{n}}{1 + \sqrt{n}} + \frac{1}{2n(1 + \sqrt{n})^2} [+q' + 2m\sqrt{n}] \frac{1}{ik}$$

where,

$$n(x) = 1 + q(x)$$

$$S_{22}^{2,l} = \frac{\frac{dS_{22}^{1,l}}{dx} + m(1 + S_{22}^{0,l})S_{22}^{1,l} - \frac{i}{2}q(S_{22}^{1,l})}{i[q(1 + S_{22}^{0,l}) + 2]}$$

$$S_{11}^{2,r} = \frac{\frac{dS_{11}^{1,r}}{dx} - m(1 + S_{11}^{0,r})S_{11}^{1,r} + \frac{i}{2}q(S_{11}^{1,r})}{-i[q(1 + S_{11}^{0,r}) + 2]}$$

### Analytical Tools: 3. Trace Formulae

- For  $q(x)$ :

$$q' = \frac{1}{\pi}(1+q)(1+\sqrt{1+q})^2 \times \lim_{A \rightarrow +\infty} \int_{-A}^A (S_{22}^l(x, k) - 1)$$

- For  $m(x)$ :

$$m = \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{1+q}(1+\sqrt{1+q})^2 \times \lim_{A \rightarrow +\infty} \frac{1}{2A} \int_{-A}^A ik(S_{22}^l(x, k) - 1)$$

- Neither stable nor of high order for finite  $A$ .

## Analytical Tools: 4. Active Material

- Want to create symmetry by using some other equation

$$\begin{aligned}\psi''(x, k) + \ell(x)\psi' + k^2(1 + q(x))\psi + ik \cdot m(x)\psi &= - \\ \psi''(x, k) + \ell(x)\psi' + k^2(1 + q(x))\psi - ik \cdot m(x)\psi &= -\end{aligned}$$

- There were two scattering matrices  $S^l(x) = S(a, x, k)$   
 $S(x, b, k)$

- There are now four scattering matrices  $S^{\pm l}(x)$ ,  $S^{\pm r}(x)$   
contains a WKBJ expansion:

$$\begin{aligned}S_{22}^{\pm l}(x, k) &= \frac{1 - \sqrt{n}}{1 + \sqrt{n}} + \frac{1}{2n(1 + \sqrt{n})^2} [-q' \pm 2m\sqrt{n}] \frac{1}{ik} \\ S_{11}^{\pm r}(x, k) &= \frac{1 - \sqrt{n}}{1 + \sqrt{n}} + \frac{1}{2n(1 + \sqrt{n})^2} [+q' \pm 2m\sqrt{n}] \frac{1}{ik}\end{aligned}$$

where,

$$\begin{aligned}
 n(x) &= 1 + q(x) \\
 S_{22}^{2,l} &= \frac{\frac{dS_{22}^{1,l}}{dx} \pm m \left(1 + S_{22}^{0,l}\right) S_{22}^{1,l} - \frac{i}{2}q \left(S_{22}^{1,l}\right)}{i \left[q \left(1 + S_{22}^{0,l}\right) + 2\right]} \\
 S_{11}^{2,r} &= \frac{\frac{dS_{11}^{1,r}}{dx} \mp m \left(1 + S_{11}^{0,r}\right) S_{11}^{1,r} + \frac{i}{2}q \left(S_{11}^{1,r}\right)}{-i \left[q \left(1 + S_{11}^{0,r}\right) + 2\right]}
 \end{aligned}$$

- Symmetry: It is easy to show that  $S_{22}^{+l} + S_{22}^{-l}$  and the conjugate of  $S_{11}^{+r} - S_{11}^{-r}$  have identical WKBJ expansions in  $n$  and  $m$  on the line  $\mathbb{R}^1$ , just as in the classical case ( $S_{22}^{+l} = S_{22}^{-l} = S_{22}^l$ , and  $S_{11}^{+r} = S_{11}^{-r} = S_{11}^r$ ) where transition coefficients satisfy  $S_{22}^l = \overline{S_{11}^r}$ .

## Analytical Tools: 4. New Trace Formulae

The newly established symmetry can be used in a way to yield trace formulae:

- For  $q(x)$ ,

$$q' = \frac{1}{\pi}(1+q)(1+\sqrt{1+q})^2 \times \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (S_{22}^{+l} + S_{22}^{-l} - S_{11}^{+r} - S_{11}^{-r})$$

- For  $m(x)$ ,

$$m = \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{1+q}(1+\sqrt{1+q})^2 \times \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (S_{22}^{+l} + S_{11}^{+r} - S_{22}^{-l} - S_{11}^{-r})$$

- Stable and super-algebraic convergent

## Analytical Tools: 5. Merging and Conjugate Operations

- Remember only the scattering matrix  $S^{+r}(a, k)$  is scattering data, which is to be used as the initial value equation for  $S^{+r}(x, k)$ .
- Fortunately, the other three scattering matrices  $S^{+l}$  can be obtained with the merging and conjugate operations.
- Merging is useful to calculate the scattering matrix for the left chunk  $[a, x]$  from that for the right chunk  $[x, b]$ ; namely  $S^{+l}$  from  $S^{+r}$ , and  $S^{-l}$  from  $S^{-r}$ .
- The conjugate operation is useful to obtain the scattering matrix for the active material from the those of the passive material.

## Analytical Tools: 5.1. Merging Operation

- The vector form of the formula:

$$S = E_2 S^r E_2 + (E_1 + E_2 S^r J_2) \left\{ S^l + \frac{S_{11}^r}{1 - S_{11}^r S_{22}^l} \begin{bmatrix} S_{12}^l \\ S_{22}^l \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} S_{12}^l & S_{22}^l \end{bmatrix} \right\} (.$$

where  $E_1$ ,  $E_2$ ,  $J_2$  are some 2-by-2 constant matrices

- The explicit, scalar form of the formula:

$$S_{22}^l = \frac{S_{22}^r - S_{22}}{S_{11}^r (S_{22}^r - S_{22}) - (S_{12}^r + e^{ik(b-x)})^2},$$

$$S_{12}^l = \frac{1 - S_{11}^r S_{22}^l}{(S_{12}^r + e^{ik(b-x)})^2} \times$$

$$\begin{aligned} & [(S_{12}^r + e^{ik(b-x)})(S_{12} - e^{ik(x-a)} S_{12}^r) - S_{11}^r (S_{22} - S_{22}^r)] \\ &= \frac{(S_{12}^r + e^{ik(b-x)})(e^{ik(x-a)} S_{12}^r - S_{12}) - S_{11}^r (S_{22}^r - S_{22}) e^{ik(x-a)}}{S_{11}^r (S_{22}^r - S_{22}) - (S_{12}^r + e^{ik(b-x)})^2} \end{aligned}$$

$$S_{11}^l = S_{11} - (S_{12}^l + e^{ik(x-a)})^2 \frac{S_{11}^r}{1 - S_{11}^r S_{22}^l}.$$

## Analytical Tools: 5.2. Conjugate Operation

The conjugate operation is quite simple, and is a direct consequence of an examination of the Wronskians of the two equations for passive and active media.

$$S^{+l}(x, k) \cdot (S^{-l}(x, k))^* = I; \quad S^{+r}(x, k) \cdot (S^{-r}(x, k))^* = I,$$

provided that  $S^{-l}(x, k)$  and  $S^{-r}(x, k)$  exist.

- The well-posedness of the active medium problem is guaranteed only for small  $m$ .

## The Inversion Algorithm

Solve the initial value problem for  $q$  and  $S^{+r}(x, k)$  for  $x \in (a, \infty)$  and for each of the positive frequencies  $k \in (0, \infty)$

$$\frac{dS^{+r}}{dx} = -\frac{ik}{2} \left\{ (q - m/ik)(E_1^r + S^{+r} J_1^*) \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix} (J_1 S^{+r}) + \begin{bmatrix} 4S_{22}^{+r} & 2S_{12}^{+r} \\ 2S_{21}^{+r} & 0 \end{bmatrix} \right\},$$

$$q' = \frac{1}{\pi}(1+q)(1+\sqrt{1+q})^2 \times \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (S_{22}^{+l} + S_{22}^{-l} - S_{11}^{+r})$$

$$m = \frac{1}{2}\sqrt{1+q}(1+\sqrt{1+q})^2 \times \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (S_{22}^{+l} + S_{11}^{+r} - S_{22}^{-l})$$

with the initial values  $S^{+r}(a, k)$ ,  $q(a) = m(a) = 0$ .

- The required entries  $S_{22}^{+l}$ ,  $S_{22}^{-l}$ ,  $S_{11}^{-r}$  can be obtained from the merging and conjugate operations.

## Discussions and Conclusions

- It seems that no one has been able to construct a method of some intermediate order: from second order and above, they all have first order or super-algebraic convergence.
- Owing to the use of the active material, there is a limit on the magnitude of the dissipative term  $m$ . The trace method works for large  $m$ .
- Trace method is a special case of the so-called space-global approach. It is not a flexible method in the face of the overwhelming analytical and algebraic requirements of frequency-local methods in the formulae.
- Space-local, frequency-global approaches v.s. Space-global, frequency-local  
↪ different ways to linearize

- SLFG is always well-posed, easier to analyze, but discretize  $x$  in high order; inefficient in utilizing the solution; unable to recover discontinuous coefficients without shooting.
- SGFL is ill-posed, difficult to analyze, but there is no instability in actual computation; efficient in utilizing data; easy to construct high order schemes; convenient for discontinuous coefficients
- SGFL is the choice for accurate and reliable algorithm inversion
- SGFL is expected to work for the inversion of  $n$  and  $m$ .