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Introduction to Microwave Imaging Part I: Forward Models

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I COME FROM ...



COURSE OVERVIEW

Day 1: Introduction & Forward Models of Microwave Imaging

- Field-based Integral Solutions of the Scattering Problem in Time and Frequency
- Born and Rytov Approximations of the Forward Model of Scattering
- Scattering Parameters and Integral Solutions in Terms of S-parameters
- 2D Model of Tomography in Microwave Scattering

Day 2: Linear Inversion Methods

- Deconvolution Methods Microwave Holography (MH) Scattered Power Mapping (SPM) Image
- Reconstruction of Pulsed-radar Data Synthetic Focusing: Delay and Sum (DAS)

Day 3: Performance Metrics & Hardware

- Spatial Resolution
- Dynamic Range
- Data Signal-to-noise Ratio

Select Topics

- Overview of Nonlinear Inversion Methods
 Direct Iterative Methods
 Model-based Optimization Methods
- Tissue Imaging Challenges and Advancements

INTRODUCTION INTO THE SUBJECT

WHY DO WE CARE ABOUT MICROWAVE IMAGING

- penetration into optically obscured objects (fog/clouds, foliage, soil, brick, concrete, clothing, walls, luggage, living tissue...)
 - \succ the lower the frequency the better the penetration
 - → frequency bands from 500 MHz well into the mm-wave bands (\leq 300 GHz)
- long-range radar weather radar, airport and marine radars, automotive radars
- compact relatively cheap electronics esp. in the low-GHz range
- diverse suite of image reconstruction methods

SHORT-RANGE RADAR: NUMEROUS APPLICATIONS



RECENT APPLICATIONS: LUGGAGE INSPECTION, NDT

[Ghasr et al., "Wideband microwave camera for real-time 3-D imaging," IEEE Trans. AP, 2017]

(d)



(c)

20 GHz to 30 GHz frequency range

Prof. Zoughi's team at Missouri University of Science & Technology



[https://youtu.be/RE-PPXmtTeA]

Fig. 15. Example of video camera utility for imaging a box cutter and a pair of scissors inside a laptop bag. (a) Picture of laptop bag in front of the camera aperture with inset showing the objects inside the bag. (b) 3-D view. (c) 2-D image slice focused on the box cutter. (d) 2-D image slice focused on the pair of scissors.

[Sheen et al., "Near-field three-dimensional radar imaging techniques and applications," Applied Optics 2010]

Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, Washington, USA







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Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, Washington, USA



band) cylindrical scan





[Sheen et al., "Near-field three-dimensional radar imaging techniques and applications," Applied Optics 2010]

Pacific Northwest National Laboratory, Washington, USA







10 GHz to 20 GHz polarimetric cylindrical scan

APPLICATIONS: THROUGH-WALL IMAGING

[Depatla et al., "Robotic through-wall imaging," IEEE A&P Mag. 2017]

Prof. Mostofi's team at the University of California Santa Barbara



Area of interest – top view

3D binary ground-truth image of the unknown area to be imaged (2.96 m x 2.96 m x 0.4 m)

Our 3D image of the area, based on 3.84 % measurements

1.50 m





APPLICATIONS: MEDICAL IMAGING

[Song et al., "Detectability of breast tumor by a hand-held impulse-radar detector: performance evaluation and pilot clinical study," Nature Sci. Reports 2017] (a)

(b)

y (mm)

Prof. Kikkawa's team at Hiroshima University, Japan



Figure 3. Dome antenna array design. (a) The top view of the antenna in x-y plane. (b) The side view of the antenna in x-z plane. (c) Top view photograph. (d) Bottom view photograph.



Fig. 7 in Song 2017

MICROWAVE NEAR-FIELD IMAGING: FAST GROWTH COMMERCIALLY

• mm-wave whole-body imagers for airport security inspection (> 30 GHz)

 through-wall and through-floor infrastructure inspection for contractors and home inspectors (UWB, 3 GHz to 8 GHz)

• numerous underground radar applications: detection of pipes, cables, tunnels, etc. (< 3 GHz)



https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_YZEa1hiGO0]



MAIN PRINCIPLE OF ACTIVE MICROWAVE IMAGING

- microwave radiation penetrates and interacts with the imaged object
- the wave is modified (amplitude decay, phase delay, etc.) by the *object's EM properties and geometry*
- scattered wave samples are collected and processed to deduce the *object's EM properties and geometry*



COMPONENTS OF THE IMAGING PROCESS

MEASURED DATA: *d*

UWB frequency sweep or UWB pulsed radar FORWARD MODELS:

$$F(\mathbf{x}) = \mathbf{d} \ \mathcal{L}_{\mathrm{ME}}\{\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{E}\} = \mathbf{E}$$

data equation

state equations

analytical EM models EM simulators

INVERSION STRATEGY: $x = F^{-1}\{d\}$ subject to $\mathcal{L}_{ME}\{x, E\} = E$

linear and nonlinear solvers deconvolution and optimization methods sensitivity analysis noise analysis & suppression data filtering image post-processing

imaging research is an intersection of engineering, math and physics

DATA ACQUISITION: ABUNDANCE AND DIVERSITY

Main Principle: imaging needs *abundant* and *diverse* data

- spatial data abundance
 - \succ illuminate target from various angles
 - collect scattered signals at various angles/distances
 - scanning is required (acquisition surfaces planar, cylindrical, spherical)
 - ➤ scanning approaches

	mechanical scanning	electronically switched arrays
speed	low	HIGH
complexity	LOW	high
flexibility in adjusting scan parameters	GREAT	limited



DATA ACQUISITION: SPATIAL SAMPLING

- over-sampling does not ensure diversity but increases acquisition time
- over-sampling counteracts noise effectively in cross-correlation reconstruction methods
- each sample must add independent information
- linearly dependent data may lead to ill-posed inversion problems



- frequency data diversity in frequency-domain measurements
 - stay below but close to the maximum frequency sampling step
 - ➢ it ensures that back-scattered signals from all targets ≤ R_{max} do not overlap





DATA ACQUISITION: TEMPORAL SAMPLING

- temporal data diversity in time-domain (pulsed-radar) measurements
 - > stay below but close to the *maximum time sampling step*
 - > it ensures that all frequency components of the pulsed signals are fully used (Nyquist)

$$\Delta t \le \Delta t_{\max} \approx \frac{T_{\min}}{2} = \frac{1}{2f_{\max}}$$

any one of the conditions below implies near-field imaging

$$r \leq \frac{2D_{A,\max}^{2}}{\lambda}, r \leq D_{A,\max}$$
$$r \leq \frac{2D_{OUT,\max}^{2}}{\lambda}, r \leq D_{OUT,\max}$$
$$r \leq \lambda$$

- OUT is in Tx/Rx antennas' near field
- antennas are in the OUT's near field
- <u>implication A</u>: *multiple scattering* & *coupling between antennas and OUT*

$$S_{ik} \neq S_{ik}^{\rm inc} + S_{ik}^{\rm sc}$$



Goran M Djuknic - commons.wikimedia.org/w/index.php?curid=20417988

• <u>implication B</u>: *incident antenna fields do not conform to free-space far-zone model*

$$\mathbf{E}^{\mathrm{inc}}(\mathbf{r'}) \sim \hat{\mathbf{p}}G(\theta, \varphi) \frac{e^{-\mathrm{i}k_{\mathrm{b}}r}}{r} \longleftarrow not \ valid!$$



FORWARD MODELS OF ELECTROMAGNETIC SCATTERING

FORWARD vs. INVERSE PROBLEM

forward problem



- from cause toward effect
- unique solution

inverse problem



- from effect toward cause
- not unique

FORWARD vs. INVERSE PROBLEM IN EM SCATTERING

EM ANALYSIS

• cause (known) excitation boundary conditions medium properties

• effect (unknown)

scattering parameters radar cross-section antenna far-field pattern etc.

Example: EM simulators – general-purpose forward solvers

INVERSE SCATTERING

• cause (known)

excitation boundary conditions

- cause (unknown) medium properties
- effect (somewhat known) scattering parameters radar return

General-purpose inverse solvers do not exist

FORWARD MODELS: DATA and STATE EQUATIONS

data equation: maps contrast to the data (field measured <u>outside OUT</u>) $\mathbf{r} \neq V_s$

 $\underbrace{\mathbf{E}^{\mathrm{sc}}(\mathbf{r}\in S_{\mathrm{a}})}_{\mathrm{data}} = \left[\mathbf{E} - \mathbf{E}^{\mathrm{inc}}\right]_{\mathbf{r}\in S_{\mathrm{a}}} = \iiint_{V_{\mathrm{s}}} K(\mathbf{r}') \underbrace{\mathbf{G}}_{\mathrm{b}}(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}') \cdot \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}') d\mathbf{r}'}_{K_{\mathrm{b}}} \mathcal{F}_{D} : K \to d$ $K(\mathbf{r}') = k_{\mathrm{s}}^{2}(\mathbf{r}') - k_{\mathrm{b}}^{2}(\mathbf{r}')$

- ensures contrast produces result matching measurements
- *contrast source* concept: $\mathbf{S}(\mathbf{r}') = K(\mathbf{r}') \cdot \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}')$

state equation: maps contrast to field inside OUT (state variables) $\mathbf{r} \in V_s$

 $\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r} \in V_{s}) = \iiint_{V_{s}} K(\mathbf{r}') \underline{\mathbf{G}}_{b}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') \cdot \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}') d\mathbf{r}'$ $\mathcal{F}_{E} : \mathbf{K} \to \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r} \in V_{s})$

• ensures contrast source satisfies Maxwell's equations



ROLE OF DATA AND STATE EQUATIONS IN IMAGE RECONSTRUCTION



• ensures that for a given internal field the forward model matches the data



f reconstruction is an interplay of the two equations



state equation:

internal field

data

$$\underbrace{\mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}\in V_{s})}_{V_{s}} = \iiint_{V_{s}} K(\mathbf{r}') \underbrace{\mathbf{G}}_{b}(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}') \cdot \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}') d\mathbf{r}'$$

- the unknown is the internal field
- ensures that for a given contrast the internal field satisfies Maxwell's eqns.

DATA EQUATION: A CLOSER LOOK

$$\mathbf{E}^{\mathrm{sc}}(\mathbf{r} \in S_{\mathrm{a}}) = \left[\mathbf{E} - \mathbf{E}^{\mathrm{inc}}\right]_{\mathbf{r} \in S_{\mathrm{a}}} = \iiint_{V_{\mathrm{s}}} K(\mathbf{r}') \underline{\mathbf{G}}_{\mathrm{b}}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') \cdot \mathbf{E}(K, \mathbf{r}') d\mathbf{r}'$$

$$\bigcup_{\mathrm{data}} \mathcal{A}$$

Q1: Can we measure the scattered field?

No, we measure S-parameters or voltage waveforms

Q2: Do we know Green's dyadic $\underline{\mathbf{G}}_{b}(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}')$?

No, unless the medium is uniform (or layered) and unbounded

Q3: Do we know the total internal field E(K, r')?

No, unless we employ Born's approximation $\rightarrow BA: \mathbf{E}(\mathbf{r}') \approx \mathbf{E}^{\text{inc}}(\mathbf{r}')$ Q4: Do we know the incident internal field $\mathbf{E}^{\text{inc}}(\mathbf{r}')$?

No, unless the medium is uniform (or layered) and unbounded

DATA EQUATION FOR SCATTERING (S) PARAMETERS

[Nikolova et al., APS-URSI 2016][Beaverstone et al., IEEE Trans. MTT, 2017] scattering from penetrable objects (isotropic scattering is assumed) $1 \omega \varepsilon_0$ $\iiint_{V_{s}} \Delta \varepsilon_{\mathbf{r}}(\mathbf{r}') \mathbf{E}_{i}^{\mathrm{inc}}(\mathbf{r}') \cdot \mathbf{E}_{k}(\mathbf{r}') d\mathbf{r}'$ $\Delta \varepsilon_{\rm r}({\bf r}') = \varepsilon_{\rm r,s}({\bf r}') - \varepsilon_{\rm r,b}({\bf r}')$ $2a_ia_k$ total internal field known constants complex Green's vector data permittivity function *k*-th port contrast $\mathbf{E}_{i}^{\text{inc}}(\mathbf{r}')$: incident internal field due OUT to Rx antenna if it were to transmit $\mathbf{E}_k(\mathbf{r'})$: total internal field due to $i, k = 1, ..., N_{p}$ Tx antenna total number of experiments: $N_{\rm p}^2$ reciprocity: $(N_p^2 + N_p)/2$

DATA EQUATION: BORN'S APPROXIMATION OF TOTAL *INTERNAL* FIELD

$$S_{ik}^{\rm sc} = \frac{i\omega\varepsilon_0}{2a_ia_k} \iiint_{V_{\rm s}} \Delta\varepsilon_{\rm r}({\bf r}') \mathbf{E}_i^{\rm inc}({\bf r}') \cdot \mathbf{E}_k({\bf r}';\Delta\varepsilon_{\rm r}({\bf r}')) d{\bf r}'$$
total internal field?

- the total field $\mathbf{E}_k(\mathbf{r}')$ is generally unknown AND it depends on the contrast: *data equation is nonlinear in the unknown contrast*
- Born's approximation linearizes the data equation by replacing the unknown *total internal field* with the known *incident internal field* (Max Born, 1926)





LIMITATIONS OF BORN'S APPROXIMATION OF THE TOTAL INTERNAL FIELD

• limits both the size and the contrast of the scatterer

$$a^2 \left| k_{\rm s}^2(\mathbf{r}) - k_{\rm b}^2 \right| \ll 1, \, \mathbf{r} \in V_{\rm s}$$

[Nikolova, Introduction to Microwave Imaging, 2017]



- if OUT violates the limits: images contain artifacts which reflect differences between $\mathbf{E}_{Tx}^{inc}(\mathbf{r}')$ and $\mathbf{E}_{Tx}(\mathbf{r}')$ rather than contrast
- Born's approximation is underlying all direct inversion methods (real-time imaging)

1-D EXAMPLE: BORN'S APPROXIMATION OF TOTAL INTERNAL FIELD



- Gaussian pulse bandwidth: 5 GHz at 3-dB level
- 1-D incident wave coming from left
- internal field recorded inside dielectric slab of length L = 6 cm

1-D EXAMPLE: BORN'S APPROXIMATION OF THE TOTAL *INTERNAL* FIELD – 2

comparison of incident wave in air ($\varepsilon_r = 1.0$) with actual internal field in dielectric slabs



1-D EXAMPLE: BORN'S APPROXIMATION OF THE TOTAL *INTERNAL* FIELD – 3

• let us evaluate Born's limit in this example – dielectric slab

$$\begin{vmatrix} a^2 \left| k_s^2(\mathbf{r}) - k_b^2 \right| \ll 1 \\ \Rightarrow a^2 k_b^2 \left(\frac{k_s^2}{k_b^2} - 1 \right) = \left(\frac{2\pi a}{\lambda_b} \right)^2 \left(\frac{\varepsilon_{r,s}}{\varepsilon_{r,b}} - 1 \right) \ll 1 \\ \Rightarrow \left(\varepsilon_{r,s}^{1GHz} \right)_{max} < 3.53 \\ \left(\varepsilon_{r,s}^{5GHz} \right)_{max} < 1.10 \\ \end{vmatrix}$$

- BA holds marginally for slab of $\varepsilon_{r,s} = 1.1$ but error is very large at $\varepsilon_{r,s} = 4.0$
- BA in the **magnitude** field distribution is more sensitive (than the **phase**) to permittivity contrast because reflections at interfaces are not taken into account even for $\varepsilon_{r,s} = 1.1$ magnitude errors are appreciable (esp. at 5 GHz)
- error of the internal-field BA grows with frequency due to increase in scatterer's electrical size a/λ

|a = L/2 = 3 cm

WHAT IS THE BASIS OF BORN'S APPROXIMATION IN WAVE THEORY?

• Born's approximation is based on a simple linear combination of incident-field and total-field wave equations (Helmholtz equations in the frequency domain)

$$\nabla^{2}U + k_{s}^{2}U = 0$$

$$\nabla^{2}U^{inc} + k_{b}^{2}U^{inc} = 0$$

$$T \qquad \Rightarrow \quad \nabla^{2}(\underbrace{U - U^{inc}}_{U^{sc}}) + k_{s}^{2}U - k_{b}^{2}U^{inc} = 0$$

$$k_{b} = \omega\sqrt{\mu_{b}\varepsilon_{b}}$$

$$k_{s} = \omega\sqrt{\mu_{s}\varepsilon_{s}}$$

$$\nabla^{2}U^{sc} + k_{b}^{2}U^{sc} = -K \cdot U, \text{ where } K = k_{s}^{2} - k_{b}^{2}$$

- in scattering from dielectric bodies: $K = \omega^2 \mu_0 \varepsilon_0 (\varepsilon_{r,s} \varepsilon_{r,b}) = k_0^2 \Delta \varepsilon_r$
- some terminology
- $\Delta \varepsilon_{\rm r}$ dielectric contrast K – contrast function $K \cdot U$ – contrast source

BORN'S APPROXIMATION IN WAVE THEORY – 2

$$\nabla^2 U^{\text{sc}} + k_b^2 U^{\text{sc}} = -K \cdot U, \text{ where } K = k_s^2 - k_b^2$$

$$\overset{\text{differential operator}}{\text{is that of background}} \quad \text{contrast source}$$

$$\Rightarrow U(\mathbf{r}) = U^{\text{inc}}(\mathbf{r}) + U^{\text{sc}}(\mathbf{r}) = U^{\text{inc}}(\mathbf{r}) + \iiint_{V_s} G_b(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') \cdot K(\mathbf{r}')U(\mathbf{r}')dv'$$

$$\overset{\text{contrast source}}{\longrightarrow}$$

$$background Green's function depends on boundary conditions$$

- Green's function gives the solution at **r** upon point excitation (δ -source) at $\mathbf{r}' \leftarrow \delta(\mathbf{r} \mathbf{r}')$
- examples of analytical Green's functions for open (unbounded) uniform background medium

3D:
$$G_{\rm b}(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}') = \frac{e^{-ik_{\rm b}|\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{r}'|}}{|\mathbf{r}-\mathbf{r}'|}$$
 2D: $G_{\rm b}(\rho,\rho') = \frac{i}{4}H_0^{(2)}(k_{\rm b}|\rho-\rho'|)$

BORN'S APPROXIMATION AS NEUMANN SERIES EXPANSION

• 0th order Born approximation of the total field

$$U_{\rm B}^{(0)}(\mathbf{r}) = U^{\rm inc}(\mathbf{r})$$

this is what we use to linearize the data equations by approximating the total internal field

$$S_{ik}^{sc} = \frac{i\omega\varepsilon_{0}}{2a_{i}a_{k}}\iiint_{V_{s}}\Delta\varepsilon_{r}(\mathbf{r}')\mathbf{E}_{i}^{inc}(\mathbf{r}')\cdot\mathbf{E}_{k}(\mathbf{r}';\Delta\varepsilon_{r}(\mathbf{r}'))d\mathbf{r}'$$

$$\Rightarrow \underbrace{(S_{ik}^{sc})_{B}}_{V_{s}} = \frac{i\omega\varepsilon_{0}}{2a_{i}a_{k}}\iiint_{V_{s}}\Delta\varepsilon_{r}(\mathbf{r}')\mathbf{E}_{i}^{inc}(\mathbf{r}')\cdot\mathbf{E}_{k}^{inc}(\mathbf{r}')d\mathbf{r}'$$

• 1st order Born approximation of the total field

$$U_{\rm B}^{(1)}(\mathbf{r}) = U_{\rm B}^{(0)}(\mathbf{r}) + \mathcal{L}(KU_{\rm B}^{(0)}) = U^{\rm inc}(\mathbf{r}) + \iiint_{V_{\rm s}} G_{\rm b}(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}') \cdot K(\mathbf{r}') U^{\rm inc}(\mathbf{r}') dv'$$

$$\approx U^{\rm sc}(\mathbf{r})$$

 \succ this is what we use to approximate the total and scattered <u>external</u> fields (or data)

$$U^{\text{OUT}}(\mathbf{r}) = U^{\text{inc}}(\mathbf{r}) + U^{\text{sc}}(\mathbf{r}) \Rightarrow U^{\text{sc}}(\mathbf{r}) = U^{\text{OUT}}(\mathbf{r}) - U^{\text{inc}}(\mathbf{r})$$

• *n*th order Born approximation of the total field – can be used to obtain iteratively the total <u>internal</u> field

$$U_{\rm B}^{(n)}(\mathbf{r}) = U_{\rm B}^{(n-1)}(\mathbf{r}) + \mathcal{L}(KU_{\rm B}^{(n-1)})$$

 \succ for known contrast $K(\mathbf{r})$, Born's expansion series converges to the true total field

$$U_{\rm B}^{(n)}(\mathbf{r}) \to U(\mathbf{r}) \text{ if } \left[a^2 \left| k_{\rm s}^2 - k_{\rm b}^2 \right|_{\rm max} < 1.58 \right]$$

Nikolova, Introduction to Microwave Imaging, 2017]

BORN'S APPROXIMATION OF THE DATA (S-PARAMETERS)

• Born's approximation of the *total* response is an <u>additive correction to the incident one</u>

$$S_{ik} \approx S_{ik}^{\text{inc}} + \left(S_{ik}^{\text{sc}}\right)_{\text{B}} = S_{ik}^{\text{inc}} + \frac{i\omega\varepsilon_{0}}{2a_{i}a_{k}} \iiint_{V_{s}} \Delta\varepsilon_{r}(\mathbf{r}')\mathbf{E}_{i}^{\text{inc}}(\mathbf{r}') \cdot \mathbf{E}_{k}^{\text{inc}}(\mathbf{r}')d\mathbf{r}'$$

total data incident data Born's approximation of the scattered data

• acquisition of the incident (*aka* baseline) data: the reference object (RO) RO is simply the measurement setup in the absence of an OUT





BORN'S APPROXIMATION OF THE DATA (EXTERNAL FIELD) – SUMMARY

1) Born's superposition model allows to extract the scattered portion of a response

$$S_{ik}^{sc} = S_{ik}^{OUT} - S_{ik}^{RO}$$
 > requires 2 measurements: RO and OUT

Note: RO is *not* a uniform medium – it includes all complexities of the measurement setup

2) 1st order BA supplies a linearized (but approximate) model of scattering

$$\left(S_{ik}^{\rm sc}\right)_{\rm B} \approx S_{ik}^{\rm sc} = S_{ik}^{\rm OUT} - S_{ik}^{\rm RO} \approx \frac{i\omega\varepsilon_0}{2a_i a_k} \iiint_{V_{\rm s}} \Delta\varepsilon_{\rm r}({\bf r'}) \mathbf{E}_i^{\rm inc}({\bf r'}) \cdot \mathbf{E}_k^{\rm inc}({\bf r'}) d{\bf r'}$$

Note: in reality

$$S_{ik}^{\rm sc} = \frac{\mathrm{i}\omega\varepsilon_0}{2a_i a_k} \iiint_{V_{\rm s}} \Delta\varepsilon_{\rm r}(\mathbf{r}') \mathbf{E}_i^{\rm inc}(\mathbf{r}') \cdot \mathbf{E}_k\left(\mathbf{r}';\Delta\varepsilon_{\rm r}(\mathbf{r}')\right) d\mathbf{r}$$

LIMITATIONS OF BORN'S APPROXIMATION OF THE DATA

• How accurate is the data approximation with Born's model?

$$\left(S_{ik}^{\rm sc}\right)_{\rm B} \approx S_{ik}^{\rm sc} = S_{ik}^{\rm OUT} - S_{ik}^{\rm RO} \approx \frac{1\omega\varepsilon_0}{2a_i a_k} \iiint_{V_{\rm s}} \Delta\varepsilon_{\rm r}({\bf r}') \mathbf{E}_i^{\rm inc}({\bf r}') \cdot \mathbf{E}_k^{\rm inc}({\bf r}') d{\bf r}'$$

in reality:
$$S_{ik}^{\rm sc} = \frac{i\omega\varepsilon_0}{2a_ia_k} \iiint_{V_{\rm s}} \Delta\varepsilon_{\rm r}({\bf r}') \mathbf{E}_i^{\rm inc}({\bf r}') \cdot \mathbf{E}_k({\bf r}';\Delta\varepsilon_{\rm r}({\bf r}')) d{\bf r}'$$

• limit on BA data approximations – less strict compared to that for internal field

$$2a \left| k_{\rm s}(\mathbf{r}) - k_{\rm b} \right|_{\rm max} < \pi$$
[Slaney et al., *IEEE Trans. MTT*, 1984]
compare with $\left| a^2 \left| k_{\rm s}^2(\mathbf{r}) - k_{\rm b}^2 \right| \ll 1 \right|$

1-D EXAMPLE: LIMITATIONS OF BORN'S APPROXIMATION OF THE DATA

• re-visiting the dielectric-slab example for scattered field at external observation points (ports 1 and 2)

• What is the contrast limit now?

$$\begin{array}{c|c}
2a|k_{s}(\mathbf{r})-k_{b}|_{\max} < \pi \\
\hline & 2a \\
L \\
& k_{b} \\
\hline & 2a \\
L \\
& k_{b} \\
\hline & k_{b} \\
\hline & 1 \\
\hline & 2a \\
L \\
& k_{b} \\
\hline & 1 \\
\hline & 2a \\
& k_{b} \\
\hline & k_{b} \\
\hline & 1 \\
\hline & 2a \\
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\hline & k_{b} \\
\hline & 2a \\
& k_{b} \\
\hline & k_{b} \\
\hline & 2a \\
& k_{b} \\
\hline &$$

• Be aware! Slaney's limit is derived with transmission measurements in mind! [Nikolova, Introduction to Microwave Imaging, 2017]

Imax

1-D EXAMPLE: LIMITATIONS OF BORN'S APPROXIMATION OF THE DATA

slab relative permittivity = 1.2



60 MM THICK DIELECTRIC SLAB IN AIR

1-D EXAMPLE: LIMITATIONS OF BORN'S APPROXIMATION OF THE DATA

slab relative permittivity = 2



• errors at Port 1 (reflection measurement) are unacceptable, esp. magnitude

RYTOV'S APPROXIMATION OF THE TOTAL FIELD

- Rytov's approximation of the *total* field is an <u>exponential correction to the incident field</u> [S.M. Rytov, *Izv. Akad. Nauk SSSR*, Ser. Fiz 2 (1937)]
- the total field is represented as a complex exponent

$$U(\mathbf{r}) \approx U_{\mathrm{R}}(\mathbf{r}) = \exp\left[\psi_0(\mathbf{r}) + \psi_1(\mathbf{r}) + \psi_2(\mathbf{r}) + \cdots\right]$$

- 0th order Rytov approximation of the total field used to approximate total **internal** field $U_{\rm R}^{(0)}(\mathbf{r}) = \exp[\psi_0(\mathbf{r})] = U^{\rm inc}(\mathbf{r}) \longleftarrow same \ as \ 0^{th} \ order \ Born \ approximation$
- 1st order Rytov approximation of the total field used to approximate total **external** field (data) $U_{\rm R}^{(1)}(\mathbf{r}) = \exp\left[\psi_0(\mathbf{r}) + \psi_1(\mathbf{r})\right] = U^{\rm inc}(\mathbf{r}) \cdot \exp\left\{\left[U^{\rm inc}(\mathbf{r})\right]^{-1} \underbrace{\iiint_{V_{\rm s}}G_{\rm b}(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}') \cdot K(\mathbf{r}')U^{\rm inc}(\mathbf{r}')dv'}_{U_{\rm B}^{(1)}(\mathbf{r})}\right\}$ or $U_{\rm R}^{(1)}(\mathbf{r}) = U^{\rm inc}(\mathbf{r}) \cdot \exp\left[U_{\rm B}^{(1)}(\mathbf{r})/U^{\rm inc}(\mathbf{r})\right]$

RYTOV'S APPROXIMATION OF THE SCATTERED-FIELD DATA

• the case of *S*-parameters

$$S_{ik}^{\text{OUT}} = S_{ik}^{\text{RO}} \cdot \exp\left[\left(S_{ik}^{\text{sc}}\right)_{\text{B}}^{(1)} / S_{ik}^{\text{RO}}\right] \implies S_{ik}^{\text{sc}} \approx (S_{ik}^{\text{sc}})_{\text{R}} = S_{ik}^{\text{RO}} \ln\left(\frac{S_{ik}^{\text{OUT}}}{S_{ik}^{\text{RO}}}\right)$$

 \succ compare with the BA data approximation

$$(S_{ik}^{\rm sc})_{\rm B} = S_{ik}^{\rm OUT} - S_{ik}^{\rm RO}$$

• limitation of the Rytov's approximation of the data

$$\left(k_{\rm s}^2 - k_{\rm b}^2\right) / k_{\rm b}^2 < 1$$
 or $\left(\varepsilon_{\rm r,s} - \varepsilon_{\rm r,b}\right) / \varepsilon_{\rm r,b} < 1$

no limitation on the size of the scattering object – advantage over Born's approximation
 strict limitation on the relative contrast – disadvantage to Born's approximation

EXAMPLE: BORN vs. RYTOV APPROXIMATION OF THE DATA

• re-visiting the dielectric-slab example for scattered field at external observation points (ports 1 and 2)



• What is Rytov's contrast limit?

 $\left| \left(\varepsilon_{\rm r,s} - \varepsilon_{\rm r,b} \right) / \varepsilon_{\rm r,b} < 1 \right| \, \varsigma \, \varepsilon_{\rm r,s} < 2\varepsilon_{\rm r,b} = 2$

• notice independence of electrical size

> compare with BA limits

$$\left(\varepsilon_{\rm r,s}^{1\rm GHz}
ight)_{\rm max} < 12.25$$

 $\left(\varepsilon_{\rm r,s}^{5\rm GHz}
ight)_{\rm max} < 2.25$

EXAMPLE: BORN vs. RYTOV APPROXIMATION OF THE DATA – 2

slab relative permittivity = 1.2



• both approximations perform very well: BA slightly better on back-scatter, RA slightly better on forward-scatter

EXAMPLE: BORN vs. RYTOV APPROXIMATION OF THE DATA – 3



slab relative permittivity = 2.0

- both approximation show errors in magnitude of back-scatter
- RA better on forward-scatter and in the phase of back-scatter

EXAMPLE: BORN vs. RYTOV APPROXIMATION OF THE DATA – 4



slab relative permittivity = 4.0

- both approximation show large errors in magnitude of back-scatter
- RA much better on forward-scatter and the phase of both back-scatter

PITFALLS IN THE USE OF RYTOV'S APPROXIMATION

1) Rytov's approximation is prone to errors in unwrapping the phase of the S-parameters



- unwrapped data in frequency does <u>not</u> ensure continuity in space (over the acquisition surface) → spurious large differences between OUT and RO phases corrupt inversion!
- safe to use for object thickness *D* such that $|k_s k_b| D \ll 2\pi \Rightarrow \left|\sqrt{\varepsilon_{r,s}} \sqrt{\varepsilon_{r,b}}\right| D / \lambda_0 \ll 2\pi$

PITFALLS IN THE USE OF RYTOV'S APPROXIMATION – 2

2) Rytov's approximation is prone to errors when incident field (RO data) is weak

$$(S_{ik}^{sc})_{R} = S_{ik}^{RO} \ln\left(\frac{S_{ik}^{OUT}}{S_{ik}^{RO}}\right) \Rightarrow \frac{(S_{ik}^{sc})_{R}}{S_{ik}^{RO}} = \left\{\ln\frac{|S_{ik}^{OUT}|}{|S_{ik}^{RO}|} + i\left(\angle S_{ik}^{OUT} - \angle S_{ik}^{RO}\right)\right\}$$

division by zero or noisy signal.

• best use in transmission measurement with significant RO signal strength

THE LINEARIZED DATA EQUATION: A CLOSER LOOK AGAIN!



Do we really know the incident internal field distributions?

- NO, unless the RO is uniform (or layered) and unbounded
- ... and unless V_s is in the far-zone of the antennas



THE LINEARIZED DATA EQUATION: ANALYTICAL INCIDENT FIELD MODELS

• IF V_s is in the far-zone of the antennas and the RO can be assumed uniform & unbounded THEN analytical incident-field models exist

plane waves:
$$\mathbf{E}_{Tx}^{inc}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}_{Tx}) \sim \hat{\mathbf{p}} e^{-ik_b |\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_{Tx}|}$$

spherical waves: $\mathbf{E}_{Tx}^{inc}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}_{Tx}) \sim \hat{\mathbf{p}} \frac{e^{-ik_b |\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_{Tx}|}}{|\mathbf{r} - \mathbf{r}_{Tx}|}$
cylindrical waves: $\mathbf{E}_{Tx}^{inc}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}_{Tx}) \sim \hat{\mathbf{p}} H_0^{(2)}(k_b \rho), \ \rho = \sqrt{(x - x_{Tx})^2 + (y - y_{Tx})^2}$

• antenna far-field pattern $F(\theta, \phi)$ improves incident-field model, for example [Amineh *et al.*, *IEEE AWPL*, 2012]

$$\mathbf{E}_{\mathrm{Tx}}^{\mathrm{inc}}(r,\theta,\phi) \sim \hat{\mathbf{p}}F(\theta,\phi)\frac{e^{-i\kappa_{\mathrm{b}}r}}{r}$$

THE LINEARIZED DATA EQUATION: SIMULATED INCIDENT FIELD MODELS

- simulated incident fields are often used in near-field imaging where the analytical farzone models do not apply
- incident-field distributions often suffer from modeling errors [Amineh et al., Trans. AP, 2011; Int. J. Biomed. Imaging, 2012[Li et al., Inverse Problems, 2010] [Tu et al., Inverse Problems, 2015]
- modeling errors increase with: (i) decreasing the stand-off distance between the antennas and the OUT, (ii) the complexity of the measurement setup
- errors in incident fields corrupt the *resolvent kernel* of the data equation

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$$S_{ik}^{\rm sc} \approx \frac{1 \omega \varepsilon_0}{2 a_i a_k} \iiint_{V_{\rm s}} \Delta \varepsilon_{\rm r}(\mathbf{r}') \underbrace{\mathbf{E}_i^{\rm inc}(\mathbf{r}') \cdot \mathbf{E}_k^{\rm inc}(\mathbf{r}')}_{\text{resolvent kernel}} d\mathbf{r}$$

EXAMPLE: SIMULATED vs. MEASURED INCIDENT FIELD MODELS

[Amineh et al., Trans. IM, 2015]



X-band (WR90) open-end waveguides ($f_c \approx 6.56 \,\text{GHz}$)

$$\Delta x = \Delta y = 5 \,\mathrm{mm}$$
$$\Delta f = 250 \,\mathrm{MHz}$$

f(GHz)	λ (mm)	$D_{\rm far}$ (mm)
3	100	12.5
8.2	37	34
20	15	83



[photo credit: Justin McCombe]

METALLIC TARGETS IN AIR – RESULTS WITH SIMULATED KERNEL

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[Amineh et al., Trans. IM, 2015]





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METALLIC TARGETS IN AIR – RESULTS WITH MEASURED KERNEL

[Amineh et al., Trans. IM, 2015]



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ANALYTICAL, SIMULATED & MEASURED RESOLVENT KERNELS

- analytical and simulated kernels of the data equation are often inadequate for measurements in the antenna near zone
- measured kernels provide accurate system specific data equation for the reconstruction process
- we discuss how to obtain the data-equation kernel through measurements in our next lecture

OTHER APPROXIMATIONS IN THE FORWARD MODELS OF IMAGING

• the forward-model choice is a compromise between two opposing requirements: *speed* and *accuracy*

Example 1: whole-body imagers for concealed weapon detection

we can get away with analytical kernels in the data equation [Sheen et al., Appl. Opt., 2010]

plane-wave kernel approximation for reflection data:

$$\mathcal{K}(x', y', z'; x, y, z; \omega) = \overline{\mathbf{E}}_{\mathrm{Rx}}^{\mathrm{inc}} \cdot \underbrace{\overline{\mathbf{E}}_{\mathrm{Rx}}^{\mathrm{inc}}}_{\overline{\mathbf{E}}_{\mathrm{Tx}}^{\mathrm{inc}} = \overline{\mathbf{E}}_{\mathrm{Rx}}^{\mathrm{inc}}} \sim e^{-i2k_{\mathrm{b}}\sqrt{(x-x')^{2}+(y-y')^{2}+(z-z')^{2}}}$$

we assume that Born's approximation of the total internal field satisfies the state equation – no need to solve the state equation

$$\overline{\mathbf{E}}_{\mathrm{Tx}}^{\mathrm{inc}} = \overline{\mathbf{E}}_{\mathrm{Rx}}^{\mathrm{inc}} \approx \overline{\mathbf{E}}_{\mathrm{Tx}}$$





APPROXIMATIONS IN THE FORWARD MODEL OF IMAGING: TOMOGRAPHY

• tomography is an imaging procedure where a 3-D image of an object is obtained by a series of 2-D image reconstructions (one slice at a time)





APPROXIMATIONS IN THE FORWARD MODEL OF IMAGING: TOMOGRAPHY – 2

- microwave tomography is common in tissue imaging where Born's approximation of the internal field is inaccurate and the *state equation must be solved*
- it achieves better reconstruction speed by solving many 2-D inversions instead of one 3-D inversion
- it solves *iteratively* both the data and state equations (using EM simulations) where hundreds of simulations may be required EM simulation speed is critical!
 - > arithmetic-operation count for linear systems of equations: $O(N^3)$, sparse $O(N \log_{10} N)$
- microwave tomography assumes a *plane of field symmetry at the imaged slice*



 \succ this amounts to TM_z field

$$E_{x} = E_{y} = 0, E_{z} \neq 0$$

i $\omega \mu_{b} H_{x} = -\partial E_{z} / \partial y$
i $\omega \mu_{b} H_{y} = \partial E_{z} / \partial x$

2-D scalar problem!

$$\frac{\partial^2 E_z}{\partial x^2} + \frac{\partial^2 E_z}{\partial y^2} + \omega^2 \mu_{\rm b} \varepsilon_{\rm s} E_z = 0, \ z = const.$$

APPROXIMATIONS IN THE FORWARD MODEL OF IMAGING: TOMOGRAPHY – 3

- to achieve the desired symmetry, careful design of the antennas and the imaging setup is required
- symmetry condition holds strictly only in incident-field measurements (RO data)
- sources of error: OUT corrupts the symmetry assumption

SUMMARY OF DAY ONE

- forward models are an essential component of the imaging process they reflect our understanding of the relationship between measured data and reconstructed EM properties
- we need 2 forward models
 - <u>data equations</u>: relate measured data to contrast
 - state equations: relate total internal field to contrast
- there are 2 approximations that we can use to linearize the data equation: Born's and Rytov's approximations
- for best accuracy, the data equation must be expressed in terms of the measured data (e.g., *S*-parameters) instead of the **E**-field
- analytical representations of the total internal field are strictly limited to far-zone measurements in uniform reflection-free environment





THANK YOU!