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Introduction to Microwave Imaging Part II: Linear Inversion Methods

Natalia K. Nikolova nikolova@ieee.org



McMaster University Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering Electromagnetic Vision (EMVi) Research Laboratory

Hamilton, ON CANADA



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

THE KERNEL OF THE DATA EQUATION: POINT-SPREAD FUNCTION (PSF)

THE REALISTIC MEASUREMENT SCENARIO

- microwave measurements involve scanning over large acquisition surfaces each response being function of the observation position **r**
- at each observation position \mathbf{r} several responses may be acquired



example of antenna array measuring 9 responses at each **r**

[Amineh et al., IEEE Trans. Instr. Meas., 2015][Photo credit: Justin J. McCombe]

THE REALISTIC MEASUREMENT SCENARIO: PLANAR SCANNING

• example of planar scanning for microwave imaging



≻ reflected signals: S_{11} , S_{22}

type of number of values $S_{ik}(x,y)$ response co-pol X-X $4\mathbf{x}N_{m}$ co-pol Y-Y $4 \mathbf{x} N_{\omega}$ cross-pol X-Y $4xN_{\omega}$ cross-pol Y-X $4xN_{m}$ TOTAL $16 \mathrm{x} N_{\odot}$ number of possible responses

acquired at each position

> transmitted signals: S_{21} , S_{12} ($S_{21} = S_{12}$ in reciprocal systems)

FORWARD MODEL WITH PLANAR SCANNING

• S-parameter forward model in planar scanning

$$\underbrace{S_{\xi}^{\text{sc}}(x, y, \overline{z}; \omega)}_{\text{data}} \approx \frac{i\omega\varepsilon_{0}}{2a_{i}a_{k}} \iiint_{V_{s}} \Delta\varepsilon_{r}(x', y', z') \Big[\mathbf{E}_{\xi, \text{Rx}}^{\text{inc}} \cdot \mathbf{E}_{\xi, \text{Tx}}^{\text{inc}} \Big]_{(x', y', z'; x, y, \overline{z}; \omega)} dx' dy' dz', \ \xi = 1, \dots, N_{T}$$

• ξ (response type) replaces (*i*,*k*)

EXAMPLE: RESPONSE TYPES WITH 2-PORT MEASUREMENT

Ę	(<i>i</i> , <i>k</i>)	response type	
1	(1,1)	reflection S_{11}	
2	(2,2)	reflection S_{22}	
3	(1,2) or (2,1)	transmission $S_{12} = S_{21}$	
$N_T = 3$			

FORWARD MODEL WITH PLANAR SCANNING – 2

• S-parameter forward model in planar scanning

$$S_{\xi}^{\mathrm{sc}}(\underbrace{x, y, \overline{z}}_{\mathbf{r}_{\mathrm{Rx}} \& \mathbf{r}_{\mathrm{Tx}}}; \omega) \approx \kappa \iiint_{V_{\mathrm{s}}} \Delta \varepsilon_{\mathrm{r}}(x', y', z') \Big[\mathbf{E}_{\xi, \mathrm{Rx}}^{\mathrm{inc}} \cdot \mathbf{E}_{\xi, \mathrm{Tx}}^{\mathrm{inc}} \Big]_{(x', y', z'; x, y, \overline{z}; \omega)} dx' dy' dz', \ \xi = 1, \dots, N_{T}$$

• position of Tx/Rx antenna pair given by \mathbf{r}_{Rx}

 $\mathbf{r}_{\mathrm{Rx}} \equiv (x, y, \overline{z}) \text{ and } \mathbf{r}_{\mathrm{Tx}} \equiv (x, y, \overline{z} - D)$



FORWARD MODEL: OBTAINING THE RESOLVENT KERNEL

• resolvent kernel of forward model – re-visiting last lecture

 $S_{\xi}^{\rm sc}(x,y,\overline{z};\omega) \approx \kappa \iiint_{V_{\rm s}} \Delta \varepsilon_{\rm r}(x',y',z') \left[\overline{\mathbf{E}}_{\xi,{\rm Rx}}^{\rm inc} \cdot \overline{\mathbf{E}}_{\xi,{\rm Tx}}^{\rm inc} \right]_{(x',y',z';x,y,\overline{z};\omega)} dx' dy' dz', \ \xi = 1,\ldots, N_T$ approximate (Born) resolvent kernel $\mathcal{K}_{\xi}(\mathbf{r}';\mathbf{r};\omega)$

- method 1: analytical far-zone expressions well suited only for measurements in air with large stand-off distances
- method 2: simulated field distributions suffer from *modeling errors*
- method 3: Measurements? Yes, measure the system point-spread function (PSF) [Savelyev&Yarovoy, *EuRAD* 2012][Amineh *et al.*, *IEEE Trans. Instrum. Meas.*, 2015]

RESOLVENT KERNEL & POINT-SPREAD FUNCTION (PSF)

• PSF is data measured with point scatterer (electrically small object)



• relating PSF to kernel

$$S_{\xi}^{\text{PSF}}(x, y, \overline{z}; \omega) \approx \kappa \iiint_{V_{s}} \underbrace{\Delta \varepsilon_{\text{r,sp}} \delta(x - x', y - y', z - z')}_{\text{scattering probe (sp) contrast}} \cdot \mathcal{K}_{\xi}(x', y', z'; x, y, \overline{z}; \omega) dx' dy' dz'$$

$$\Rightarrow S_{\xi}^{\text{PSF}}(x, y, \overline{z}; x', y', z'; \omega) \approx \underbrace{(\kappa \Delta \varepsilon_{\text{r,sp}} \Omega_{\text{sp}})}_{\text{known constants}} \cdot \mathcal{K}_{\xi}(x', y', z'; x, y, \overline{z}; \omega), \ \xi = 1, \dots, N_{T}$$

RESOLVENT KERNEL & POINT-SPREAD FUNCTION (PSF) -2

$$\mathcal{K}_{\xi}(x', y', z'; x, y, \overline{z}; \omega) = \frac{S_{\xi}^{\text{PSF}}(x, y, \overline{z}; x', y', z'; \omega)}{\kappa \Delta \varepsilon_{\text{r,sp}} \Omega_{\text{sp}}}, \ \xi = 1, \dots, N_T$$

• notice the simple exchange of positions allowing to obtain the kernel from the PSF

 $\mathcal{K}_{\xi}(\mathbf{r}';\mathbf{r};\omega) = \frac{S_{\xi}^{\text{PSF}}(\mathbf{r};\mathbf{r}';\omega)}{\kappa\Delta\varepsilon_{\text{r,sp}}\Omega_{\text{sp}}} \quad \text{observation: } \mathbf{r} \equiv (x, y, z) \\ \text{integration (probe location): } \mathbf{r}' \equiv (x', y', z')$

• if medium in V_s is uniform (or layered for planar acquisition) – probe needs to be measured only at the center of an imaged plane z' = const

measured centered PSF: $S_{\xi,0}^{\text{PSF}}(x, y, \overline{z}; z'; \omega) \equiv S_{\xi}^{\text{PSF}}(x, y, \overline{z}; 0, 0, z'; \omega)$

RESOLVENT KERNEL & POINT-SPREAD FUNCTION (PSF) – 3

• since medium is uniform or layered

$$S_{\xi}^{\text{PSF}}(x, y, \overline{z}; x', y', z'; \omega) = S_{\xi,0}^{\text{PSF}}(x - x', y - y', \overline{z}; z'; \omega) \leftarrow \text{probe moves left/right} + \text{response moves left/right}$$

$$\mathcal{K}_{\xi}(x', y', z'; x, y, \overline{z}; \omega) = \frac{S_{\xi,0}^{\text{PSF}}(x - x', y - y', \overline{z}; z'; \omega)}{\kappa \Delta \varepsilon_{\text{r,sp}} \Omega_{\text{sp}}}, \ \xi = 1, \dots, N_T$$

$$\Rightarrow S_{\xi}^{\rm sc}(x,y,\overline{z};\omega) \approx \frac{1}{\Delta \varepsilon_{\rm r,sp}\Omega_{\rm sp}} \iiint_{V_{\rm s}} \underbrace{\Delta \varepsilon_{\rm r}(x',y',z') S_{\xi,0}^{\rm PSF}(x-x',y-y',\overline{z};z';\omega)}_{\rm convolution in x,y} dx' dy' dz', \ \xi = 1,\ldots,N_T$$

- the measured response is a convolution of the contrast and the system PSF
- the image reconstruction can then be viewed as a de-convolution process!

CALIBRATION PROCEDURE: PSF EXTRACTION

[Tajik et al., JPIER- B, 2017][Shumakov et al., Trans. MTT, 2018]

- system calibration involves two measurements:
 (i) reference object (RO) incident-field data
 (ii) calibration object (CO) scattering-probe data
- PSF extraction
 - Born Method

$$S_{\xi 0}^{\text{PSF}}(\cdot) \approx \left(S_{\xi 0}^{\text{PSF}}(\cdot)\right)_{\text{B}} = S_{\xi}^{\text{CO}}(\cdot) - S_{\xi}^{\text{RO}}(\cdot)$$

➢ Rytov Method

$$S_{\xi 0}^{\text{PSF}}(\cdot) \approx \left(S_{\xi 0}^{\text{PSF}}(\cdot)\right)_{\text{R}} = S_{\xi}^{\text{RO}}(\cdot) \ln\left(\frac{S_{\xi}^{\text{CO}}(\cdot)}{S_{\xi}^{\text{RO}}(\cdot)}\right)$$

$$(\cdot) \equiv (x, y, \overline{z}; \omega), \ \xi = 1, \dots, N_T$$



EXAMPLE: PSF

• typical noise-free PSF obtained from simulated RO and CO data



• typical noisy PSF obtained from measurements (magnitude shown) [Tajik et al., EuCAP 2019]



MEASUREMENT PROCEDURE: DATA EXTRACTION

- data is extracted with the same method as that for PSF being consistent is important!
 - Born Method

$$S_{\xi}^{\mathrm{sc}}(\cdot) \approx \left(S_{\xi}^{\mathrm{sc}}(\cdot)\right)_{\mathrm{B}} = S_{\xi}^{\mathrm{OUT}}(\cdot) - S_{\xi}^{\mathrm{RO}}(\cdot)$$

> Rytov Method

$$S_{\xi}^{\rm sc}(\cdot) \approx \left(S_{\xi}^{\rm sc}(\cdot)\right)_{\rm R} = S_{\xi}^{\rm RO}(\cdot) \ln\left(\frac{S_{\xi}^{\rm OUT}(\cdot)}{S_{\xi}^{\rm RO}(\cdot)}\right)$$

$$(\cdot) \equiv (x, y, \overline{z}; \omega), \ \xi = 1, \dots, N_T$$



INVERSION WITH MICROWAVE HOLOGRAPHY

DATA EQUATION IN FOURIER SPACE

$$S_{\xi}^{\rm sc}(x,y,\overline{z};\omega) \approx \frac{1}{\Delta\varepsilon_{\rm r,sp}\Omega_{\rm sp}} \iint_{x'\,y'\,z'} \Delta\varepsilon_{\rm r}(x',y',z') S_{\xi,0}^{\rm PSF}(x-x',y-y',\overline{z};z';\omega) \, dx' dy' dz', \, \xi = 1,\ldots,N_T$$

• in Fourier (or *k*) space

$$\tilde{S}_{\xi}(k_{x},k_{y};\overline{z};\omega) \approx \frac{\Delta x'\Delta y'}{\Delta \varepsilon_{\mathrm{r,sp}}\Omega_{\mathrm{sp}}} \int_{z'} \tilde{F}(k_{x},k_{y};z') \cdot \tilde{S}_{\xi,0z'}^{\mathrm{PSF}}(k_{x},k_{y};z';\omega) dz'$$

- discretize integral along z' into a sum
- we now have a system of equations to solve *at each spectral position* $\kappa = (k_x, k_y)$

$$\tilde{S}_{\xi}^{(m)}(\mathbf{\kappa}) \approx \sum_{n=1}^{N_z} \tilde{f}(\mathbf{\kappa}; z'_n) \Big[\tilde{S}_{\xi,0}^{\text{PSF}}(\mathbf{\kappa}; z'_n) \Big]^{(m)} \quad \substack{m=1,\ldots,N_{\omega} \\ \xi=1,\ldots,N_T}$$

 $\tilde{f}(\mathbf{\kappa}; z'_n) = \frac{\Delta x' \Delta y' \Delta z'_n}{\Delta \varepsilon_{\mathrm{r,sp}} \Omega_{\mathrm{sp}}} \tilde{F}(\mathbf{\kappa}; z'_n)$

INVERSION IN FOURIER SPACE

$$\underbrace{\tilde{S}_{\xi}^{(m)}(\mathbf{\kappa})}_{\text{data } d(\mathbf{\kappa})} \approx \sum_{n=1}^{N_z} \underbrace{\tilde{f}(\mathbf{\kappa}; z'_n)}_{\text{contrast } f(\mathbf{\kappa})} \left[\underbrace{\tilde{S}_{\xi,0z'}^{\text{PSF}}(\mathbf{\kappa}; z'_n)}_{\text{system matrix } A(\mathbf{\kappa})} \right]^{(m)} \qquad m = 1, \dots, N_{\omega}$$

$$\xi = 1, \dots, N_T$$
 in discrete Fourier space
$$\kappa_{ij} \equiv (i\Delta k_x, j\Delta k_y)$$

• at each discrete point in Fourier space, a small system of equations is solved for a total of $N_x N_y$ such systems

$$\mathbf{A}(\mathbf{\kappa}_{ij}) \cdot \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{\kappa}_{ij}) = \mathbf{d}(\mathbf{\kappa}_{ij}) \quad i = 1, \dots, N_x, \quad j = 1, \dots, N_y$$

$$\mathbf{Vectors of response types}$$

$$[\tilde{\mathbf{S}}^{(m)}(\cdot)]^T = \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{\mathbf{S}}^{(m)}(\cdot) \cdots & \tilde{\mathbf{S}}^{(m)}(\cdot) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \tilde{\mathbf{S}}^{(m)}(\cdot) \end{bmatrix}^T = \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{\mathbf{S}}^{(m)}(\cdot) \cdots & \tilde{\mathbf{S}}^{(m)}(\cdot) \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\vdots \quad \ddots \quad \vdots$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \tilde{\mathbf{S}}^{\text{PSF}}(\mathbf{\kappa}_{ij}; z_1') \end{bmatrix}^{(1)} \cdots & \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{\mathbf{S}}^{\text{PSF}}(\mathbf{\kappa}_{ij}; z_{N_z}') \end{bmatrix}^{(1)} \\ \vdots \\ \tilde{\mathbf{S}}^{\text{PSF}}(\mathbf{\kappa}_{ij}; z_1') \end{bmatrix}^{(N_{\omega})} \cdots & \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{\mathbf{S}}^{\text{PSF}}(\mathbf{\kappa}_{ij}; z_{N_z}') \end{bmatrix}^{(N_{\omega})} \end{bmatrix}_{N_{\omega}N_T \times N_z}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \tilde{f}(\mathbf{\kappa}_{ij}; z_{N_z}') \\ \vdots \\ \tilde{f}(\mathbf{\kappa}_{ij}; z_{N_z}') \end{bmatrix}_{N_z \times 1} = \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{\mathbf{S}}^{(1)}(\mathbf{\kappa}_{ij})^{\mathsf{T}} \\ \vdots \\ \tilde{\mathbf{S}}^{(N_{\omega})}(\mathbf{\kappa}_{ij}) \end{bmatrix}_{N_{\omega}N_T \times 1}$$

FINAL STEP: BACK TO X-Y SPACE

• at each plane along range $(z'_n, n = 1, ..., N_z)$

$$\Delta \varepsilon_{\rm r}(x',y',z'_n) = \frac{\Delta \varepsilon_{\rm r,sp} \Omega_{\rm sp}}{\Omega_{\rm v}} \mathcal{F}_{\rm 2D}^{-1} \left\{ \tilde{f}(\mathbf{\kappa};z'_n) \right\}, n = 1,\dots,N_z$$
$$\varepsilon_{\rm r}(x',y',z'_n) = \varepsilon_{\rm r,b} + \Delta \varepsilon_{\rm r}(x',y',z'_n)$$

ADVANTAGES OF SOLVING IN FOURIER SPACE: DIVIDE AND CONQUER

- we solve $(N_x \cdot N_y)$ small systems of equations number of solved systems on the order of 10⁴ to 10⁵
- size of each system is small: $N_T N_{\omega} \times N_z$ (e.g. 60×5)
- typical execution times: 2 to 3 seconds on a laptop using Matlab
- solution is orders of magnitude faster than solving in real space where one very large system of equations needs to be solved of size

 $N_D \times N_v$ with $N_D = N_x N_y N_\omega N_T \sim 10^7$ to 10^8 $N_v = N_x N_y N_z \sim 10^6$ to 10^7

3-D SIMULATION EXAMPLE: C-shape and 3 Cubes



[Tajik et al., JPIER-B 2017]

- 2 dipole antennas aligned along boresight, separated by 10 cm
- reflection and transmission coefficients acquired



- C-shape is 4 cm from lower dipole
- cubes are 4 cm, 5 cm, and 6 cm from lower dipole
- acquisition plane of area 30 cm by 30 cm with 1 cm sampling interval along *x* and *y*
- frequency range from 3 GHz to 8 GHz, $\Delta f = 1$ GHz
- scattering probe in calibration: 1 cm³ cube of $\varepsilon_{r,sp} = 1.1 i0$

3-D SIMULATION EXAMPLE: IMAGES OF C-shape and 3 Cubes

[Tajik et al., JPIER-B 2017]



- due to the targets' low contrast, both approximation yield practically the same images
- quantitative estimate of permittivity distribution is very good

MEASUREMENT EXAMPLE: Teddy Bear (2-D Image)



- scanned area: 29 cm by 29 cm
- sampling step along *x* and *y*: 5 mm
- only transmission coefficient acquired
- frequency range from 8 GHz to 12 GHz (41 samples)
- two open-end waveguides (WR-90) aligned along boresight
 - measurement 1: just teddy bear
 - measurement 2: two objects inserted in teddy bear

1) dielectric cross: $\varepsilon_r = 12 - i0$ (thickness 1 cm, cross arm 3 cm) inserted in bear's tummy

2) dielectric L-shaped object: $\varepsilon_r = 10 - i5$ (thickness 1 cm, L arm 2 cm) inserted in right arm

MEASUREMENT EXAMPLE: 2-D IMAGES OF Teddy Bear

normalized contrast



MEASUREMENT EXAMPLE: 2-D QUANTITATIVE ESTIMATES (Teddy Bear)



permittivity

EXAMPLE: 3-D NEAR-ZONE IMAGING OF METALLIC OBJECTS (RE-VISITED)

[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]

EXAMPLE: 3-D NEAR-ZONE IMAGING OF METALLIC OBJECTS (RE-VISITED)





INVERSION WITH SCATTERED POWER MAPPING (SPM)

QUALITATIVE IMAGING WITH SENSITIVITY MAPS

- SPM is rooted in early work on the use of response sensitivities in image reconstruction [Y. Song, N.K. Nikolova, "Memory efficient method for wideband self-adjoint sensitivity analysis," *IEEE Trans. Microwave Theory Tech.*, 2008] [L. Liu, A. Trehan, N.K. Nikolova, "Near-field detection at microwave frequencies based on self-adjoint response sensitivity analysis," *Inv. Problems*, 2010]
- *response sensitivities*: response derivatives with respect to some system parameters
- in imaging *derivatives with respect to permittivity* at each voxel (Fréchet derivative)
- assume we want to minimize the ℓ_2 -norm error between the measured OUT (total-field) and RO (incident-field) data

$$F[\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}(\mathbf{r}')] = 0.5 \sum_{\xi=1}^{N_T} \int_{\boldsymbol{\omega}} \iint_{\mathbf{r} \in S_a} \left\| S_{\xi}^{\text{OUT}}(\mathbf{r}, \boldsymbol{\omega}) - S_{\xi}^{\text{RO}}[\mathbf{r}, \boldsymbol{\omega}; \boldsymbol{\varepsilon}(\mathbf{r}')] \right\|_2^2 d\mathbf{r} d\boldsymbol{\omega}$$

- for that we need to know how to properly change the permittivity in the RO $\varepsilon_{\rm b}({\bf r}') \rightarrow \varepsilon({\bf r}')$
 - \triangleright we need to know how the error function *F* would change when ε changes at $\forall \mathbf{r}'_n \in V_s$

$$\frac{\partial F}{\partial \varepsilon(\mathbf{r}'_n)} = ? \quad n = 1, \dots, N_v$$

QUALITATIVE IMAGING WITH SENSITIVITY MAPS – 2

• Fréchet derivative with respect to $\varepsilon(\mathbf{r}') = \varepsilon'(\mathbf{r}') - i\varepsilon''(\mathbf{r}')$

 \rightarrow indicates where contrast in ε' exists in the OUT

$$\rightarrow$$
 indicates where contrast in ε'' exists in the OUT

where

 $\operatorname{Re}\left\{D(\mathbf{r}')\right\} = \frac{\partial F}{\partial \varepsilon'(\mathbf{r}')}$ $\operatorname{Im}\left\{D(\mathbf{r}')\right\} = -\frac{\partial F}{\partial \varepsilon''(\mathbf{r}')}$

[Nikolova, Introduction to Microwave Imaging, 2017]

$$\underbrace{\mathbf{D}(\mathbf{r}')}_{\substack{\text{sensitivity}\\\text{map}}} = \sum_{\xi=1}^{N_T} \int_{\omega} \iint_{\mathbf{r} \in S_a} \left[S_{\xi}^{\text{RO}}(\mathbf{r}, \omega) - S_{\xi}^{\text{OUT}}(\mathbf{r}, \omega) \right] \cdot \left[\frac{\partial S_{\xi}^{\text{RO}}(\mathbf{r}, \omega)}{\partial \varepsilon(\mathbf{r}')} \right]^* d\mathbf{r} \, d\omega$$

• *sensitivity map*: 3-D plot of the real and imaginary parts of $D(\mathbf{r}')$

SENSITIVITY MAPS: FROM DERIVATIVES TO FINITE DIFFERENCES

$$D(\mathbf{r}') = \sum_{\xi=1}^{N_T} \int_{\omega} \iint_{\mathbf{r} \in S_a} \left[S_{\xi}^{\text{RO}}(\mathbf{r}, \omega) - S_{\xi}^{\text{OUT}}(\mathbf{r}, \omega) \right] \cdot \left[\frac{\partial S_{\xi}^{\text{RO}}(\mathbf{r}, \omega)}{\partial \varepsilon(\mathbf{r}')} \right]^* d\mathbf{r} \, d\omega$$
$$-S_{\xi}^{\text{sc}}(\mathbf{r}, \omega) \quad \text{(Born approximation)}$$

• approximating the response derivative with the PSF

$$\frac{\partial S_{\xi}^{\text{RO}}(\mathbf{r},\omega)}{\partial \varepsilon(\mathbf{r}')} \approx \frac{\Delta S_{\xi}^{\text{RO}}(\mathbf{r},\omega)}{\Delta \varepsilon(\mathbf{r}')} \approx \frac{S_{\xi}^{\text{CO}}(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}';\omega) - S_{\xi}^{\text{RO}}(\mathbf{r},\omega)}{\Delta \varepsilon_{\text{sp}}(\mathbf{r}')} = \frac{S_{\xi}^{\text{PSF}}(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}';\omega)}{\Delta \varepsilon_{\text{sp}}}$$

$$\Rightarrow -\Delta \varepsilon_{\text{sp}}^{*} \cdot D(\mathbf{r}') = \underbrace{M(\mathbf{r}')}_{\text{scattered}} = \sum_{\xi=1}^{N_{T}} \int_{\omega} \iint_{\mathbf{r}\in S_{a}} S_{\xi}^{\text{sc}}(\mathbf{r},\omega) \cdot \left[S_{\xi}^{\text{PSF}}(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}';\omega)\right]^{*} d\mathbf{r} d\omega$$

SCATTERED-POWER MAPS: RECONSTRUCTION FORMULA

[Tu et al., Inv. Problems, 2015][Shumakov et al., IEEE Trans. MTT, 2018]

$$\underbrace{M(\mathbf{r}')}_{\text{scattered}} = \sum_{\xi=1}^{N_T} \int_{\omega} \iint_{\mathbf{r} \in S_a} S_{\xi}^{\text{sc}}(\mathbf{r}, \omega) \cdot \left[S_{\xi}^{\text{PSF}}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}'; \omega) \right]^* d\mathbf{r} \, d\omega$$

• *scattered-power map*: 3-D qualitative image of the OUT contrast relative to the RO

SOME IMPORTANT ADVANTAGES

- reconstruction is practically instantaneous no systems of equations are solved! ... reconstruction formula is a simple summation of response products
- reconstruction can be carried out with ANY set of observation points (no need to have acquisition surfaces of canonical shapes (planar, cylindrical, spherical)

... as long as the PSF is available analytically or from measurements

SCATTERED-POWER MAPS AND TEMPORAL CROSS-CORRELATION

• SPM image *M*(**r**') can be viewed as a plot of the *aggregate measure of similarity* between the OUT responses and the respective PSF responses due to point scatterer at **r**'

$$M(\mathbf{r}') = \sum_{\xi=1}^{N_T} \iint_{\omega \mathbf{r} \in S_a} S_{\xi}^{\mathrm{sc}}(\mathbf{r}, \omega) \cdot \left[S_{\xi}^{\mathrm{PSF}}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}'; \omega) \right]^* d\mathbf{r} \, d\omega = \sum_{\xi=1}^{N_T} \iint_{\omega \mathbf{r} \in S_a} \mathcal{F}_t \underbrace{\left\{ S_{\xi}^{\mathrm{sc}}(\mathbf{r}, t) \otimes S_{\xi}^{\mathrm{PSF}}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}'; t) \right\}}_{\mathrm{cross-correlation} X_{\xi}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}'; \tau)} d\mathbf{r} \, d\omega$$

- reminder: cross-correlation is a measure of similarity between 2 waveforms as a function of their mutual time-shift
- it can be shown that (with infinite bandwidth)

$$M(\mathbf{r}') \sim \sum_{\xi=1}^{N_T} \iint_{\mathbf{r} \in S_a} X_{\xi}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}'; \tau = \mathbf{0}) d\mathbf{r}$$
 no shift



SCATTERED-POWER MAPS AND CROSS-CORRELATION IN SPACE

• consider planar scanning and assume lateral translational invariance of the PSF

$$S_{\xi}^{\text{PSF}}(x, y, \overline{z}; x', y', z'; \omega) \approx S_{\xi 0}^{\text{PSF}}(x - x', y - y', \overline{z}; z'; \omega)$$

$$\square M(x', y', z') = \sum_{\xi=1}^{N_T} \int_{\omega} \underbrace{\iint_{S_a} S_{\xi}^{\text{sc}}(x, y, \overline{z}, \omega) \cdot \left[S_{\xi 0}^{\text{PSF}}(x - x', y - y', \overline{z}; z'; \omega)\right]^* dx dy d\omega }_{\text{cross-correlation in } (x, y)}$$

• image reconstruction formula

$$\Box > M(x', y', z') = \mathcal{F}_{2D}^{-1} \left\{ \sum_{\xi=1}^{N_T} \sum_{m=1}^{N_\omega} \tilde{S}_{\xi}^{\mathrm{sc}}(k_x, k_y, \overline{z}, \omega) \cdot \left[\tilde{S}_{\xi0}^{\mathrm{PSF}}(k_x, k_y, \overline{z}; z'; \omega) \right]^* \right\}$$

SIMULATION EXAMPLE: QUALITATIVE SPM IMAGE OF F-SHAPE



SIMULATION EXAMPLE: QUALITATIVE SPM IMAGE OF F-SHAPE – 2



- blurring typical for cross-correlation methods
 ➢ limited number of responses
 - diffraction limit on resolution



• quantitative SPM uses the qualitative maps to improve the image quality significantly

$$M(x', y', z') = \sum_{\xi=1}^{N_T} \int_{\omega} \iint_{S_a} S_{\xi}^{\rm sc}(x, y, \overline{z}, \omega) \cdot \left[S_{\xi0}^{\rm PSF}(x - x', y - y', \overline{z}; z'; \omega) \right]^* dxdy d\omega$$

$$S_{\xi}^{\rm sc}(x, y, \overline{z}; \omega) \approx \frac{1}{\Delta \varepsilon_{\rm r,sp} \Delta \Omega_{\rm sp}} \iint_{x', y', z'} \Delta \varepsilon_{\rm r}(x', y', z') S_{\xi0}^{\rm PSF}(x - x', y - y', \overline{z}; z'; \omega) dx' dy' dz', \ \xi = 1, \dots, N_T$$



QUANTITATIVE SPM: SOLUTION IN FOURIER SPACE

• quantitative SPM solves the linear problem

$$M(x', y', z') = \frac{1}{\Delta \varepsilon_{\mathrm{r,sp}} \Omega_{\mathrm{sp}}} \iiint_{V_{\mathrm{s}}} \Delta \varepsilon_{\mathrm{r}}(x'', y'', z'') \cdot M_{\mathrm{sp}@(x'', y'', z'')}(x', y', z') dx'' dy'' dz''$$

- linear system of equations can be quite large in real space: square system of size $N_v \times N_v$
- solving in Fourier (*k*-) space is much faster (similar to holography)
- assumption of medium *lateral uniformity*: a shift in the position of the scattering probe leads to a corresponding shift in its qualitative map obtained with the central PSF

$$M_{\text{sp}@(x'',y'',z'')}(x',y',z') = M_{\text{sp}@(0,0,z'')}(x'-x'',y'-y'',z')$$

$$\Rightarrow M(x',y',z') = \frac{1}{\Delta \varepsilon_{\text{r,sp}}\Omega_{\text{sp}}} \int_{z''} \iint_{y'',x''} \Delta \varepsilon_{\text{r}}(x'',y'',z'') \cdot M_{\text{sp}@(0,0,z'')}(x'-x'',y'-y'',z') \, dx'' dy'' \, dz''$$

convolution in (x, y)

QUANTITATIVE SPM: SOLUTION IN FOURIER SPACE – 2

$$\tilde{M}(k_x,k_y,z_p) = \frac{\Omega_v}{\Delta \varepsilon_{\mathrm{r,sp}} \Omega_{\mathrm{sp}}} \sum_{q=1}^{N_z} \tilde{f}(k_x,k_y,z_q) \cdot \tilde{M}_{\mathrm{sp}@(0,0,z_q)}(k_x,k_y,z_p), \ p = 1,\dots,N_z$$

• small square system of equations is solved *at each spectral position* $\kappa = (k_x, k_y)$

$$\begin{split} \mathbf{M}_{(\kappa)} \mathbf{x}_{(\kappa)} &= \mathbf{m}_{(\kappa)} \\ \mathbf{x}_{(\kappa)} &= \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{f}(\kappa, z_1) \cdots \tilde{f}(\kappa, z_{N_z}) \end{bmatrix}^T \\ \mathbf{m}_{(\kappa)} &= \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{M}(\kappa, z_1) \cdots \tilde{M}(\kappa, z_{N_z}) \end{bmatrix}^T \mathbf{M}_{(\kappa)} = \begin{bmatrix} \tilde{M}_{sp@(0,0,z_1)}(\kappa, z_1) & \cdots & \tilde{M}_{sp@(0,0,z_{N_z})}(\kappa, z_1) \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \tilde{M}_{sp@(0,0,z_1)}(\kappa, z_{N_z}) & \cdots & \tilde{M}_{sp@(0,0,z_{N_z})}(\kappa, z_{N_z}) \end{bmatrix} \end{split}$$

• final step: back to (*x*,*y*) space

$$\Delta \varepsilon_r(x', y', z'_n) = \frac{\Delta \varepsilon_{r, sp} \Omega_{sp}}{\Omega_v} \mathcal{F}_{2D}^{-1} \left\{ \tilde{f}(\mathbf{\kappa}; z'_n) \right\}, n = 1, \dots, N_z$$

SIMULATION EXAMPLE: QUANTITATIVE SPM IMAGE OF F-SHAPE

[Shumakov, in Nikolova, Introduction to Microwave Imaging, 2017]



EXPERIMENTAL EXAMPLE: QUANTITATIVE SPM



[Shumakov et al., IEEE Trans. MTT, 2018]

- 5 cm thick carbon-rubber sample $\varepsilon_{r,b} \approx 10 i5$
- frequency: from 3 GHz to 9 GHz (61 samples) $\mathcal{E}_{r,sp} \approx 15 - i0.003$
- scattering probe
- all embedded objects are 1 cm thick
- reflection and transmission coefficients on two TEM horn antennas aligned along boresight
- imaged area 13 cm by 13 cm (2 mm sampling step)

EXPERIMENTAL EXAMPLE: QUANTITATIVE SPM – IMAGES



[Shumakov et al., IEEE Trans. MTT, 2018]

EXPERIMENTAL EXAMPLE: TEDDY BEAR 2-D IMAGE

empty

x (cm)

*(*um) *(*cm) *(*



normalized permittivity contrast





INVERSION WITH SYNTHETIC FOCUSING

SYNTHETIC FOCUSING: MATCHED FILTERING

• synthetic focusing is the process of cross-correlating each measured signal with a signal, which represents the radar response to a point scatterer at \mathbf{r}' (this is just the system PSF)

signal recorded at
$$\mathbf{r} \longrightarrow x_{\xi}(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}';t) = S_{\xi}^{\mathrm{sc}}(\mathbf{r},t) \otimes S_{\xi}^{\mathrm{PSF}}(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}';t)$$

"focused" on \mathbf{r}'

 this computation is known as *matched filtering* – it checks how well a signal "matches" the PSF at r' for all time shifts

• Why is this called "filtering"?
in the frequency domain:
$$X(\mathbf{r}';\omega) = \sum_{\xi=1}^{N_T} \iint_{\mathbf{r}\in S_a} S_{\xi}^{\mathrm{sc}}(\mathbf{r},\omega) \cdot \left[S_{\xi}^{\mathrm{PSF}}(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}';\omega) \right]^* d\mathbf{r}$$

 $\underbrace{S_{\xi}^{\mathrm{sc}}(\mathbf{r},\omega)}_{\mathrm{input}} \cdot \underbrace{H_{\xi}(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}';\omega)}_{\mathrm{filter}} = \underbrace{X_{\xi}(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}';\omega)}_{\mathrm{output}}$
 $\underbrace{X_{\xi}(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}';\omega)}_{\mathrm{filter}} + \underbrace{X_{\xi}(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}';\omega)}_{\mathrm{output}}$
 $\underbrace{X_{\xi}(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}';\omega)}_{\mathrm{filter}} + \underbrace{X_{\xi}(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}';\omega)}_{\mathrm{filter}} + \underbrace{X_{\xi}(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}';\omega)}_{\mathrm{filter}} + \underbrace{X_{\xi}(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}';\omega)}_{\mathrm{output}} + \underbrace{X_{\xi}(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}';\omega)}_{\mathrm{filter}} + \underbrace{X_{\xi}(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}';\omega)}$

SYNTHETIC FOCUSING: SIGNAL PROCESSING STAGES

• STAGE 1: matched filtering of all measured responses with "focus" on \mathbf{r}'

 $x_{\xi}(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}';t) = S_{\xi}^{\mathrm{sc}}(\mathbf{r},t) \otimes S_{\xi}^{\mathrm{PSF}}(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}';t) = S_{\xi}^{\mathrm{sc}}(\mathbf{r},t) * h_{\xi}(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}';t) - matched filter impulse response$

convolution

• STAGE 2: summing up all **r**'-focused responses at each time instant

$$y(\mathbf{r}';t_n) = \sum_{\xi=1}^{N_T} \underbrace{\iint_{\mathbf{r}\in S_a} x_{\xi}(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}';t_n) d\mathbf{r}}_{\text{integrating over radar aperture}} = \sum_{\xi=1}^{N_T} \underbrace{\iint_{\mathbf{r}\in S_a} \left[S_{\xi}^{\text{sc}}(\mathbf{r},t) \otimes S_{\xi}^{\text{PSF}}(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}';t) \right]_{(t_n)} d\mathbf{r}, \ n = 0,1,\dots,N_t$$

• STAGE 3: windowing focused output to suppress radar clutter

cross-correlation

$$y_w(\mathbf{r}';t_n) = y(\mathbf{r}';t_n) \cdot w(t_n), \ n = 0, 1, ..., N_t$$

• STAGE 4: calculating scattering intensity at r'

$$I(\mathbf{r'}) = \int_t y_w^2(\mathbf{r'}, t) dt$$

PLOT as function of **r**'

SYNTHETIC FOCUSING: SIGNAL-FLOW SCHEMATIC

[Nikolova, Introduction to Microwave Imaging, 2017]



• core computation in synthetic focusing

$$y(\mathbf{r}';t) = \sum_{\xi=1}^{N_T} \iint_{\mathbf{r}\in S_a} \left[S_{\xi}^{\mathrm{sc}}(\mathbf{r}) \otimes S_{\xi}^{\mathrm{PSF}}(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}') \right]_{(t)} d\mathbf{r}$$

• time-domain linear model of scattering (inverse FT of the frequency-domain model)

$$S_{\xi}^{\rm sc}(\mathbf{r};\omega) \sim \iiint_{V_{\rm s}} \Delta \varepsilon_{\rm r}(\mathbf{r}') \cdot S_{\xi}^{\rm PSF}(\mathbf{r};\mathbf{r}';\omega) d\mathbf{r}' \Rightarrow S_{\xi}^{\rm sc}(\mathbf{r};t) \sim \iiint_{V_{\rm s}} \Delta \varepsilon_{\rm r}(\mathbf{r}') \cdot S_{\xi}^{\rm PSF}(\mathbf{r};\mathbf{r}';t) d\mathbf{r}'$$

$$\Rightarrow y(\mathbf{r}';t) \sim \iiint_{\mathbf{r}'' \in V_{s}} \Delta \varepsilon_{\mathbf{r}}(\mathbf{r}'') \cdot \sum_{\xi=1}^{N_{T}} \iint_{\mathbf{r} \in S_{a}} \left[S_{\xi}^{\mathrm{PSF}}(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}') \otimes S_{\xi}^{\mathrm{PSF}}(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}'') \right]_{(t)} d\mathbf{r} d\mathbf{r}''$$

UNDERSTANDING SYNTHETIC FOCUSING – 2

$$y(\mathbf{r}';t) \sim \iiint_{\mathbf{r}'' \in V_{\mathrm{s}}} \Delta \varepsilon_{\mathrm{r}}(\mathbf{r}'') \cdot \sum_{\xi=1}^{N_{T}} \iint_{\mathbf{r} \in S_{\mathrm{a}}} \left[S_{\xi}^{\mathrm{PSF}}(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}') \otimes S_{\xi}^{\mathrm{PSF}}(\mathbf{r},\mathbf{r}'') \right]_{(t)} d\mathbf{r} d\mathbf{r}''$$

• with large number of responses, the strength of $y(\mathbf{r}';t)$ is proportional to the contrast $\Delta \varepsilon_{\mathbf{r}}(\mathbf{r}')$ because the autocorrelation term dominates the integral over \mathbf{r}''

> autocorrelation term:
$$\mathbf{r}'' = \mathbf{r}' \implies \Delta \varepsilon_{\mathbf{r}}(\mathbf{r}') \cdot \sum_{\xi=1}^{N_T} \iint_{\mathbf{r} \in S_a} \left[S_{\xi}^{\text{PSF}}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') \otimes S_{\xi}^{\text{PSF}}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') \right]_{(t)} d\mathbf{r}$$

 $\succ \text{ cross-correlation terms: } \mathbf{r}'' \neq \mathbf{r}' \Rightarrow \Delta \varepsilon_{\mathbf{r}}(\mathbf{r}'') \cdot \sum_{\xi=1}^{N_T} \iint_{\mathbf{r} \in S_a} \left[S_{\xi}^{\text{PSF}}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}') \otimes S_{\xi}^{\text{PSF}}(\mathbf{r}, \mathbf{r}'') \right]_{(t)} d\mathbf{r}$

integration over incoherent weak x-correlations

DELAY AND SUM (DAS) RECONSTRUCTION ALGORITHM

- DAS is the simplest synthetic-focusing algorithm
- it assumes a PSF of the form (same for all response types and antennas)

$$S^{\text{PSF}}(\mathbf{r}_{\text{Rx}}, \mathbf{r}_{\text{Tx}}; \mathbf{r}'; t) \sim \delta\left(t + t_0 - \frac{r_{\text{Tx}}(\mathbf{r}') + r_{\text{Rx}}(\mathbf{r}')}{v_b}\right) / (r_{\text{Tx}}r_{\text{Rx}}), \text{ where } r_{\text{Tx}} = |\mathbf{r}' - \mathbf{r}_{\text{Tx}}|, r_{\text{Rx}} = |\mathbf{r}' - \mathbf{r}_{\text{Rx}}|$$

reference time for scattering center at origin

• for a point scatterer at the reference point (origin)

$$S^{\text{PSF}}(\mathbf{r}_{\text{Rx}}, \mathbf{r}_{\text{Tx}}; \mathbf{r}' = 0; t) \equiv S_0^{\text{PSF}}(\mathbf{r}_{\text{Rx}}, \mathbf{r}_{\text{Tx}}; t)$$
$$\sim \delta\left(t + t_0 - \frac{|\mathbf{r}_{\text{Tx}}| + |\mathbf{r}_{\text{Rx}}|}{v_b}\right)$$

 \blacktriangleright origin often chosen at furthest point and

$$t_0 = \frac{|\mathbf{r}_{\text{Tx}}| + |\mathbf{r}_{\text{Rx}}|}{v_b} \text{ so that } \underline{S_0^{\text{PSF}}(\mathbf{r}_{\text{Rx}}, \mathbf{r}_{\text{Tx}}; t)} = \delta(t)$$



DELAY AND SUM (DAS) RECONSTRUCTION ALGORITHM – 2

• DAS PSF is a plane wave in the frequency domain

$$S^{\text{PSF}}(\mathbf{r}_{\text{Rx}},\mathbf{r}_{\text{Tx}};\mathbf{r}';\omega) = e^{-ik_{b}(r_{\text{Tx}}+r_{\text{Rx}}-r_{0})} \longleftrightarrow \delta\left(t+t_{0}-\frac{r_{\text{Tx}}(\mathbf{r}')+r_{\text{Rx}}(\mathbf{r}')}{v_{b}}\right)$$

where

 $k_{\rm b} = \omega / v_{\rm b}$ (wavenumber) $r_0 = |\mathbf{r}_{\rm Tx}| + |\mathbf{r}_{\rm Rx}| = v_{\rm b} t_0$ (signal path through reference point)

• DAS matched filters

$$H(\mathbf{r}_{Rx},\mathbf{r}_{Tx};\mathbf{r}';\omega) = (S^{PSF})^* = e^{ik_b(r_{Tx}+r_{Rx}-r_0)} \implies h(\mathbf{r}_{Rx},\mathbf{r}_{Tx};\mathbf{r}';t) = \delta\left(t-t_0 + \frac{r_{Tx}+r_{Rx}}{v_b}\right)$$

DELAY AND SUM (DAS) RECONSTRUCTION ALGORITHM – 3

• DAS synthetic focusing



• DAS focusing is nothing but a time-shift of the response so as to virtually space-shift the scattering center from **r**' to the origin (reference point)

DAS: CONCEPTUAL EXAMPLE



DAS: CONCEPTUAL EXAMPLE



DAS: 2-D SIMULATION EXAMPLE



- 2-D simulation (TM_z mode)
- point sources
- point probes recording $E_z(t)$



DAS: 2-D SIMULATION EXAMPLE



discussion

• Why the simple DAS algorithm (PSF is a δ -function of time) performs similarly to the more sophisticated x-correlation with the actual simulated PSF?

 \succ due to the point-like nature of the sources and probes

- Why do we have so many artifacts?
 - because the forward model does not take into account mutual coupling and scattering between close-by targets
 - the Tx total field is not the same as the Tx incident field (as the linearized model assumes) and these differences appear as spurious contrast (image artifacts)
 - because we have only 8 probes incomplete data!

SUMMARY OF DAY TWO

- real-time imaging methods provide an image within seconds of the data acquisition
- real-time methods substantially rely on linearized forward models
- there are 2 main types of real-time imaging methods
 - direct solution of the data equation (microwave holography)
 - cross-correlation with system PSF (scattered-power mapping & synthetic focusing)
- assumption of uniform or layered medium enables super-fast solution in Fourier space
- however, inversion in Fourier space has some "pitfalls" we discuss those and the respective mitigation strategies during Day Three of this course

QMH, SPM codes available: <u>http://www.ece.mcmaster.ca/faculty/nikolova/IntroMicrowaveImaging/MatlabCodes/</u> We keep updating!





[worldartsme.com]

THANK YOU!