# Lecture 8: Ultrasound-modulated optical tomography

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Mathematics of super-resolution biomedical imaging

- Reconstruction algorithm for ultrasound-modulated diffuse optical tomography.
- Diffuse optical imaging: low resolution.
- By mechanically perturbing the medium → achieve a significant resolution enhancement.
  - Spherical acoustic wave: propagating inside the medium → optical parameter of the medium: perturbed.
  - Cross-correlations of the boundary measurements of the intensity of the light propagating in the perturbed medium and in the unperturbed one → two iterative algorithms for reconstructing the optical absorption coefficient:
    - Spherical Radon transform inversion → nonlinear system: solved iteratively or by optimal control.

• Acoustically modulated optical tomography:



 Record the variations of the light intensity on the boundary due to the propagation of the acoustic pulses.

 g: the light illumination; a: optical absorption coefficient; *l*: extrapolation length. Fluence Φ (in the unperturbed domain):

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta \Phi + a\Phi = 0 \text{ in } \Omega, \\ I \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial \nu} + \Phi = g \text{ on } \partial \Omega \end{cases}$$

- Acoustic pulse propagation:  $a \rightarrow a_u(x) = a(x + u(x))$ .
- Fluence  $\Phi_u$  (in the displaced domain):

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta \Phi_u + a_u \Phi_u = 0 \text{ in } \Omega, \\ I \frac{\partial \Phi_u}{\partial \nu} + \Phi_u = g \text{ on } \partial \Omega. \end{cases}$$

- *u*: thin spherical shell growing at a constant speed; *y*: source point; *r*: radius.
- Cross-correlation formula:

$$M(y,r) := \int_{\partial\Omega} \left( \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial \nu} \Phi_u - \frac{\partial \Phi_u}{\partial \nu} \Phi \right) = \int_{\Omega} (a_u - a) \Phi \Phi_u \approx \underbrace{\int_{\Omega} u \cdot \nabla a |\Phi|^2}_{Taylor + Born}.$$

- Helmholtz decomposition:  $\Phi^2 \nabla a = \nabla \psi + \nabla \times A$ .
- Spherical Radon transform:  $\nabla \psi = -\frac{1}{c} \nabla \mathcal{R}^{-1} \left[ \int_0^r \frac{M(y,\rho)}{\rho^{d-2}} d\rho \right].$
- System of nonlinearly coupled elliptic equations:  $\nabla \cdot \Phi^2 \nabla a = \Delta \psi$  and  $\Delta \Phi + a \Phi = 0$ .
- Fixed point and Optimal control algorithms.
- Reconstruction for a realistic absorption map.
- Proofs of convergence for highly discontinuous absorption maps (bounded variation).





- $\Omega$ : acoustically homogeneous.
- Displacement field: spherical acoustic pulse generated at y.
- P: Ω → Ω: the displacement. u = P<sup>-1</sup> Id: small compared to the size of Ω.
- Typical form of u:

$$u_{y,r}^{\eta}(x) = -\eta \frac{r_0}{r} w \left( \frac{|x-y|-r}{\eta} \right) \frac{x-y}{|x-y|}, \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^d.$$

- w: shape of the pulse; supp(w) ⊂ [-1,1] and ||w||<sub>∞</sub> = 1. η: thickness of the wavefront, y: source point; r: radius.
- Thin spherical shell growing at a constant speed.

- Pulse propagation:  $a \rightarrow a_u(x) = a(x + u(x))$ .
- Fluence  $\Phi_u$ :

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta \Phi_u + a_u \Phi_u = 0 & \text{in } \Omega, \\ I \frac{\partial \Phi_u}{\partial \nu} + \Phi_u = g & \text{on } \partial \Omega, \end{cases}$$

• Cross-correlation formula:

$$M_u := \int_{\partial\Omega} \left( \partial_{\nu} \Phi \Phi_u - \partial_{\nu} \Phi_u \Phi \right) = \int_{\Omega} (a_u - a) \Phi \Phi_u$$



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- Displacement field u: depends on the center y, the radius r and the wavefront thickness η.
- Measurements:

$$M_{\eta}(y,r) = \frac{1}{\eta^2} \int_{\Omega} (a_{u_{y,r}^{\eta}} - a) \Phi \Phi_{u_{y,r}^{\eta}}$$



• Small  $\eta$ :

$$M_{\eta}(y,r) pprox rac{1}{\eta^2} \int_{\Omega} 
abla a. u_{y,r}^{\eta} \Phi^2.$$

• Asymptotic behavior:

$$\lim_{\eta\to 0} M_{\eta}(y,r) = -cr^{d-2} \int_{S^{d-1}} (\Phi^2 \nabla a)(y+r\xi) \cdot \xi d\sigma(\xi) =: M(y,r)$$

c > 0: depends on the shape of u and on d. Expansion uniform in (y, r); Error  $= O(\eta)$ .

• Reconstruct *a* from *M*.

• Spherical means Radon transform:

$$\mathcal{R}[f](y,r) = \int_{S^{d-1}} f(y+r\xi) d\sigma(\xi) \quad y \in S, \ r > 0,$$

• Derivative of  $\mathcal{R}$ :

$$\partial_r(\mathcal{R}[f])(y,r) = \int_{S^{d-1}} \nabla f(y+r\xi) \cdot \xi d\sigma(\xi).$$

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• Helmholtz decomposition of  $\Phi^2 \nabla a$ :

$$\Phi^2 
abla a = 
abla \psi + 
abla imes A.$$

• Measurement interpretation:

$$\int_{S^{d-1}} (\Phi^2 \nabla a)(y+r\xi).\xi d\sigma(\xi) = \int_{S^{d-1}} \nabla \psi(y+r\xi).\xi d\sigma(\xi).$$

- Relate M to  $\partial_r \mathcal{R}[\psi]$ .
- Reconstruction formula for  $\psi$ :

$$\psi = -rac{1}{c} \mathcal{R}^{-1} \left[ \int_0^r rac{M(y, 
ho)}{
ho^{d-2}} d
ho 
ight]$$

(up to an additive constant).



• Reconstruct a knowing only  $\psi$  in the Helmholtz decomposition:

$$\Phi^2 \nabla a = \nabla \psi + \nabla \times A ?$$

• Divergence of the Helmholtz decomposition:

$$abla \cdot (\Phi^2 
abla a) = \Delta \psi.$$

• Assume  $a = a_0$  (a known constant on  $\Omega \setminus \Omega'$ ) and  $g \ge 0$  on  $\partial \Omega$ :

$$(E_2): \begin{cases} \nabla \cdot (\Phi^2 \nabla a) = \Delta \psi \text{ in } \Omega', \\ a = a_0 \text{ on } \partial \Omega'. \end{cases}$$

•  $\Phi$ : unknown in  $\Omega$ .

#### Coupled elliptic system:

$$(E): \begin{cases} (E_1): \begin{cases} -\Delta \Phi + a\Phi = 0 \text{ in } \Omega, \\ I \frac{\partial \Phi}{\partial \nu} + \Phi = g \text{ on } \partial \Omega, \\ (E_2): \begin{cases} \nabla \cdot (\Phi^2 \nabla a) = \Delta \psi \text{ in } \Omega', \\ a = a_0 \text{ on } \partial \Omega', \\ a = a_0 \text{ in } \Omega \setminus \Omega', \end{cases} \end{cases}$$

 $\psi,\ l>0,\ g,\ {\rm and}\ a_0>0:\ {\rm known}.$ 

- Convergence result for the fixed point scheme provided  $\psi$  is small.
- Optimal control and Landweber schemes:
  - $F[a] := \nabla \cdot (\Phi^2[a] \nabla a);$
  - Optimal control: min  $||F[a] \Delta \psi||$ ;
  - Landweber sequence:

$$a^{(n+1)} = a^{(n)} - \mu dF[a^{(n)}]^*(F[a^{(n)}] - \Delta \psi),$$

- $\mu > 0$ : relaxation parameter.
- Convergence results assuming a good initial guess.

- Fixed point algorithm:
  - Initial guess  $a^{(0)} = a_0$ .
  - For  $n \ge 1$ , solve

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta \phi^{(n)} + T a^{(n-1)} \phi^{(n)} &= 0 \quad \text{in } \Omega \,, \\ & I \frac{\partial \phi^{(n)}}{\partial \nu} + \phi^{(n)} &= g \quad \text{on } \partial \Omega \,; \end{cases}$$

$$Ta := \min\{\max\{a, \underline{a}\}, \overline{a}\}$$

• Find *a*<sup>(*n*)</sup> by solving

$$\begin{cases} -\nabla \cdot ((\phi^{(n)})^2 \nabla a^{(n)}) &= \Delta \psi \quad \text{in } \Omega' , \\ a^{(n)} &= a_0 \quad \text{ on } \partial \Omega' . \end{cases}$$

and defining  $a^{(n)} = a_0$  in  $\Omega \setminus \Omega'$ .

For ||Δψ||<sub>L∞(Ω)</sub> small enough, a<sup>(n)</sup> → a<sub>\*</sub>; a<sub>\*</sub>: true optical absorption coefficient.

• 
$$Q = \{a \in L^{\infty}(\Omega) : \underline{a} < a < \overline{a}\};$$
  
 $F_1 : Q \rightarrow H^1(\Omega)$   
 $a \mapsto F_1[a] = \varphi;$   
•  $\varphi:$   
 $\begin{cases} -\Delta \varphi + a\varphi = 0 \text{ in } \Omega, \\ I \frac{\partial \varphi}{\partial \nu} + \varphi = g \text{ on } \partial \Omega. \end{cases}$ 

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• For all  $a \in Q$ ,  $F_1[a] \in L^{\infty}(\Omega)$ ; There exists a positive constant  $\Lambda(\underline{a}, \overline{a})$  s.t.

$$|F_1[a](x)| \leq \Lambda, \quad \forall x \in \Omega.$$

• For any  $\Omega' \Subset \Omega$ , there exists a positive constant  $\lambda(\Omega', \underline{a}, \overline{a})$  s.t.

 $\lambda \leq F_1[a](x), \quad \forall x \in \Omega'.$ 

F<sub>1</sub>: Fréchet differentiable: dF<sub>1</sub>[a](h) = φ for h ∈ L<sup>∞</sup>(Ω); φ solves

$$\begin{cases} -\Delta \phi + a\phi = -h\varphi & \text{in }\Omega, \\ I\frac{\partial \phi}{\partial \nu} + \phi = 0 & \text{on }\partial\Omega \end{cases}$$

with  $\varphi = F_1[a]$ .

•  $dF_1[a]$ : continuously extended to  $L^2(\Omega)$ 

$$\|dF_1[a]\|_{\mathcal{L}(L^2(\Omega),H^1(\Omega))} \leq C\Lambda$$
.

Open set of L<sup>∞</sup>(Ω):

$$\mathcal{P} = \left\{ 
ho \in L^{\infty}(\Omega) : rac{\lambda}{2} < 
ho < 2\Lambda \text{ in } \Omega' 
ight\}$$

Let

$$F_{2}: \mathcal{P} \rightarrow W^{1,2}(\Omega)$$
  
$$\phi \mapsto F_{2}[\phi] = a,$$
  
$$\begin{cases} \nabla \cdot (\Phi^{2} \nabla a) = \Delta \psi \text{ in } \Omega', \\ a = a_{0} \text{ on } \partial \Omega', \\ a = a_{0} \text{ in } \Omega \setminus \Omega'. \end{cases}$$

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•  $F_2$ : Fréchet differentiable: for  $h \in L^{\infty}(\Omega)$ ,

$$dF_2[\phi](h) = Q,$$

Q solves

$$\begin{cases} -\nabla \cdot (\phi^2 \nabla Q) &= \nabla \cdot (2\phi h \nabla a) & \text{in } \Omega', \\ Q &= 0 & \text{on } \partial \Omega'. \end{cases}$$

•  $dF_2[\phi]$  can be extended continuously to  $L^2(\Omega)$  and

$$\|dF_2[\varphi]\|_{\mathcal{L}(L^2(\Omega),W^{1,2}(\Omega))} \leq \frac{2\Lambda}{\lambda^2}c_2(\lambda,\Lambda,M),$$

*M*: an upper bound of  $\|\nabla \cdot (\phi \nabla a)\|_{L^{\infty}(\Omega')}$ .

- Assume that  $\underline{a}$ ,  $\overline{a}$ , and M:given.
- If ||Δψ||<sub>L∞(Ω)</sub>: sufficiently small, then the iteration sequence in the algorithm converges in L<sup>2</sup>(Ω) to a<sub>\*</sub>.

• Introduce the map on  $\mathcal{Q}$ :

$$F[a] = F_2 \circ F_1[a].$$

• 
$$dF[a]: L^{\infty}(\Omega) \rightarrow L^{2}(\Omega)$$

$$dF[a](h) = dF_2[F_1[a]](dF_1[a](h)).$$

• dF[a] can be extended continuously to  $L^2(\Omega)$  with

$$\begin{split} \|dF[a]\|_{\mathcal{L}(L^{2}(\Omega),L^{2}(\Omega))} \\ &\leq \|dF_{1}[a]\|_{\mathcal{L}(L^{2}(\Omega),W^{1,2}(\Omega))} \|dF_{2}[a]\|_{\mathcal{L}(L^{2}(\Omega),W^{1,2}(\Omega))} \\ &\leq C \|\Delta\psi\|_{L^{\infty}(\Omega)} \,. \end{split}$$

 Recall from the algorithm that a<sup>(0)</sup> = a<sub>0</sub>: the initial guess for the true coefficient a<sub>\*</sub> and for n ≥ 1, define

$$a^{(n)} = F[Ta^{(n-1)}] \quad n \ge 1,$$

 $Tp = \min\{\max\{p,\underline{a}\},\overline{a}\}.$ 

• For all  $m, n \ge 1$ ,

$$\begin{split} \|F[Ta^{(n)}] - F[Ta^{(m)}]\|_{L^{2}(\Omega)} \\ &= \left\| \int_{0}^{1} dF[(1-t)Ta^{(n)} + tTa^{(m)}](a^{(m)} - a^{(n)})dt \right\|_{L^{2}(\Omega)} \\ &\leq C \|\Delta\psi\|_{L^{\infty}(\Omega)} \|a^{(m)} - a^{(n)}\|_{L^{2}(\Omega)} \,. \end{split}$$

If ||Δψ||<sub>L∞(Ω)</sub>: small enough, then F ∘ T : L<sup>2</sup>(Ω) → L<sup>2</sup>(Ω): contraction map.

• Admissible set K: closed and convex in  $H_0^1(\Omega)$ :

$$\mathcal{K} := \{ a - a_0 \in W_0^{1,4}(\Omega) : \underline{a} \le a \le \overline{a} \text{ and } \|\nabla a\|_{L^4(\Omega)} \le \theta \};$$

 $\theta$ : to be determined.

• Internal data map  $F: K \to H^{-1}(\Omega)$ . For all  $a \in K$ ,

$$F[a](v) = \int_{\Omega} F_1[a]^2 \nabla a \cdot \nabla v \quad \text{for all } v \in H^1_0(\Omega) \,.$$

• F: Fréchet differentiable in K and

$$dF[a](h,v) = \int_{\Omega} (2F_1[a]dF_1[a](h)\nabla a + F_1[a]^2\nabla h) \cdot \nabla v \, dx$$

for all  $a \in K$ ,  $h \in W_0^{1,4}(\Omega) \cap L^{\infty}(\Omega)$  and  $v \in H_0^1(\Omega)$ .

- Assume  $0 < \theta < \frac{C_{\Omega}\lambda^2}{\Lambda^2}$ ;  $C_{\Omega}$ : constant.
- dF[a]: well-defined on H<sup>1</sup><sub>0</sub>(Ω) and there exists a positive constant C s.t. for all h ∈ H<sup>1</sup><sub>0</sub>(Ω),

 $\|dF[a](h)\|_{H^{-1}(\Omega)} \ge C \|h\|_{H^{1}_{0}(\Omega)}.$ 

 $dF[a](h): v \in H_0^1(\Omega) \mapsto dF[a](h, v).$ 

• Consider  $\Delta \psi \in H^{-1}(\Omega)$ ; Rewrite

$$\nabla \cdot F_1[a]^2 \nabla a = \Delta \psi \,,$$

in the sense of distributions, as  $F[a] = \Delta \psi$ .

- Projection T from  $H_0^1(\Omega)$  onto K (closed and convex).
- Optimal control algorithm: minimize the discrepancy between F[a] and  $\Delta \psi$ :

$$\min_{a\in K} J[a] := \frac{1}{2} \|F[a] - \Delta \psi\|_{H^{-1}(\Omega)}^2.$$

- Initial guess  $a^{(0)} = a_0$ .
- For  $n \ge 1$ ,

 $a^{(n+1)} = \mathsf{T}a^{(n)} - \eta d\mathsf{F}[\mathsf{T}a^{(n)}]^*(\mathsf{F}[\mathsf{T}a^{(n)}] - \Delta\psi)\,, \quad \eta: \text{ step size}.$ 

• For  $||a_0 - a_*||_{H_0^1(\Omega)}$  and  $\mu$ : small enough,  $\{a^{(n)}\} \to a_*$  in  $H_0^1(\Omega)$ ;  $a_*$ : true optical absorption coefficient.



Reconstruction of *a* from noisy measurements : true *a*; noise level: 0%, 5%, and 10%.

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Reconstruction of the Shepp-Logan phantom for 128 acoustic pulses.

Realistic biological light absorption map:



Reconstruction of the absorption map:

Minimal regularity assumption on a (SBV<sup>∞</sup>; change of function):

$$\widetilde{\mathsf{a}} := \mathsf{a} - \mathsf{a}_0 - rac{\psi}{\phi^2}.$$

• a and  $\psi$ : same set of discontinuities.

