# X ray Spectra reconstruction from analysis of attenuation data:

## a Back Scattering Thomson Source application

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## OVERVIEW

## part I:

- formulation of our problem
- mathematics of regularization

# part II:

- simulation of experiment and selection of algorithms
- experimental validation on filtered Bremsstrahlung spectra

# part III:

Thomson Sources Simulation

## **OVERVIEW**



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## why analyze attenuation data: Thomson Source example



## Our Problem:

#### spectrum estimation from attenuation measurements

attenuation measurements - monochromatic beam

$$\mathcal{N}(t) = \int_0^\infty \delta(E_0) \mathcal{N}_0 e^{-\mu(E)t} dE = \mathcal{N}_0 e^{-\mu(E_0)t}$$

polychromatic beam

$$\mathcal{T}(t) = \int_0^\infty \mathcal{X}(E) e^{-\mu(E)t} dE$$

suppose to know exactly  $\mu(E)$  and t and have an experimental measure of  $\mathcal{T}(t)$ 



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## Our Problem: discrete formulation

polychromatic beam

$$\mathcal{T}(t) = \int_0^\infty \mathcal{X}(E) e^{-\mu(E)t} dE$$

T = AX

compact linear operator: its inverse is not continuous

discretization  $i = 1 \dots m$  measurements  $j = 1 \dots n$  energy bins

it turns out in a linear system which is highly ill-conditioned

 $A \in \mathbb{R}^{mxn}, T \in \mathbb{R}^m \in X \in \mathbb{R}^n$ 

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#### an example: direct reconstruction in attenuation data is present only round-off noise



the propagation of noise is strong enough to completely destroy any information about the original spectrum

 $cond(A) = 1.4 \times 10^{20}$ 



# ill-conditioning: what does it mean?

- the system shows instability due to extreme sensitivity to the noise
- there is a serious dump of the information of the initial physical state during the evolution of the system

ill-conditioning: what can we do

- the system shows instability due to extreme sensitivity to the noise
- there is a serious dump of the information of the initial physical state during the evolution of the system
  - ill-conditioning does not mean that NO information can be extracted but simply that STANDARD METHODS in numerical linear algebra cannot be applied in a straightforward way
  - we need some A PRIORI or EXTRA information about the solution we are looking for in order to compute a useful APPROXIMATION to the exact, unknown solution

## Our Problem: abstract representation

let us formulate our problem in a slightly more abstract way, consider a compact linear operator

 ${\cal K}$  which acts between two Hilbert Spaces  ${\cal G}\,$  and  $\,{\cal F}\,$ 

 $\mathcal{K}:\mathcal{F}\to\mathcal{G}$ 

now the problem can be represented as

 $g = \mathcal{K} f$  where  $\mathcal{K}$  is the model  $g \in \mathcal{G}$  the measurements  $f \in \mathcal{F}$  the uknwown solution



#### Regularization Operator: definition

$$\mathcal{K}: \mathcal{F} \to \mathcal{G}$$
  
 $\alpha(\delta, g_{exp}) \in [0, \infty)$ 

given a compact operator and a real, non negative parameter

consider the continuous operator  $\mathcal{R}_lpha:\mathcal{G} o\mathcal{F}$  the family of operators  $\{\mathcal{R}_lpha\}$ 

is called a regularized operator for

 $\mathcal{K}^{\dagger}:\mathcal{G}
ightarrow\mathcal{F}$ 

and has the following properties

$$egin{aligned} &\lim_{\delta o 0} \sup\{||\mathcal{R}_lpha g_{exp} - \mathcal{K}^\dagger g||\} = 0 \ &\lim_{\delta o 0} \sup\{lpha (\delta, g_{epx})\} = 0 \end{aligned}$$

## Tikhonov Regularization: a penalty method

the basic idea of Tikhonov-type regularization is to minimize the residual and, at the same time, to impose a bound on the size of the computed solution

$$X_{\lambda} = \operatorname{argmin}_{X} \left\{ ||T_{exp} - AX||_{2}^{2} + \lambda^{2} ||X||_{2}^{2} \right\}$$
  
$$\lambda \in [0, \infty)$$

there are two equivalent formulation that can be useful to compute the approximation to the solution

$$\min \left\| \begin{pmatrix} A \\ \lambda \end{pmatrix} X - \begin{pmatrix} T_{exp} \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \right\| \text{ and } (A^t A + \lambda^2 I) X = A^t T_{exp}.$$

## TSVD Truncated Singular Value Decomposition a projection method

the starting point is the Singular Value Decomposition of the linear system which is defined as:

$$A = U\Sigma V^{t} \qquad A \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n} \quad \text{with} \quad m \leq n$$

$$\Sigma = \begin{bmatrix} \sigma_{1} & & \\ & \ddots & \\ & & \sigma_{n} \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & \cdots & 0 \end{bmatrix}_{r}^{U \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times m}, \Sigma \in \mathbb{R}^{m \times n}, \quad \text{and} \quad V \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}}$$
so that we can express the approximation to the solution in this way:
$$A^{\dagger}T_{exp} = \sum_{i=1}^{r} \frac{u_{i}^{t}T_{exp}}{\sigma i} v_{i} = \sum_{i=1}^{r} \left( \frac{u_{i}^{t}T}{\sigma i} v_{i} + \frac{u_{i}^{t}e}{\sigma_{i}} \right)$$

## TSVD Truncated Singular Value Decomposition a projection method

$$A^{\dagger}T_{exp} = \sum_{i=1}^{\prime}$$

 $X_k$ 

"exact" term contribution no divergence problem

the idea is to truncate the sum when the singular values become too small compared to the level of noise, the solution is simply:

 $u_i^t T_{exp}$ 

noise contribution: is likely to diverge when i becomes big; the singular values decreases while noise components does not

 $\sigma_i$ 

it's just the projection over the first k singular vectors

 $\sigma i$ 

## Maximum Likelihood method: statistical iterative algorithm

- iterative algorithm: request an input spectrum and a stopping rule
- each approximation  $X^k$  to the spectrum is guaranteed to be non-negative
- the mean intensity of  $AX^k$  is conserved each iteration

simple implementation

$$X_n^{k+1} = X_n^k f_n$$

$$f_n = \frac{\sum_m A^t{}_{nm} \frac{T_m}{\sum_{n'} A_{mn'} X_{n'}^k}}{\sum_m A^t{}_{nm}}$$

## Maximum Likelihood method: the case of Poisson Noise

- iterative algorithm: request an input spectrum and a stopping rule
- $\bullet$  each approximation  $\ X^k$  to the spectrum is guaranteed to be non-negative
- the mean intensity of  $AX^k$  is conserved each iteration

simple implementation

$$\begin{split} X_n^{k+1} &= X_n^k f_n \\ f_n &= \frac{\sum_m A^t{}_{nm} \frac{T_m}{\sum_{n'} A_{mn'} X_{n'}^k}}{\sum_m A^t{}_{nm}} \begin{bmatrix} \text{in the case of Poisson Noise} \\ \text{the Maximum Likelihood Method} \\ \text{looks like this} \\ \text{[Richardson-Lucy]} \\ \text{or} \\ \text{[Expectation Maximization]} \end{bmatrix} \end{split}$$

Expectation Maximization algorithm: a priori spectrum and stopping rule

#### input distribution

FLAT: we are not imposing any constraint to the spectral distribution

SHAPED: for example we know that there are no photons above a certain energy discrepancy principle

$$|T_{meas} - AX^k||_2 = \delta$$

we can't expect to have a better approximation to the attenuation curve from computed spectra with respect to the direct measurements

$$T_{meas} = T_{exact} + e$$
  
 $d = ||e||_2$   
when  $\delta(k) \leq d$  we stop the iterations

#### Regularization in a picture



we need some EXTRA knowledge, for example form the physics that governs the experiment, to choose some constrains or to project over a good subspace Compton Sources for X/gamma Rays: Physics and Applications Alghero 7-12 September 2008

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## Simulations & Figure Of Merit

#### SIMULATED EXPERIMENT: 80 kV - W anode with 1mm AI inherent filtration the attenuation curve is computed in AI the curve is perturbed with three different level of noise comparison of different methods for spectrum estimation



as we are interested in the SHAPE of the spectrum we choose an L2 distance criterion to study convergence properties of different algorithms

## Simulations & FOM: TSVD and Tikhonov



## Simulations & FOM: Expectation Maxmization



## Experimental Validation:

set up



#### Experimental Validation: 40 kV - W anode - 2.5 mm Al inherent filtration



#### Experimental Validation: 40 kV - W anode - 2.5 mm Al inherent filtration



## Experimental Validation: 10,15,20 kV - W anode - 0.5 mm AI filtration





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## Thomson Source Simulations: Expectation Maximization Algorithm



## Thomson Source Simulations: Expectation Maximization Algorithm



## Thomson Source Simulations: pollution study



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#### CONCLUSIONS

- a COMPLETE METHOD for spectral estimation from attenuation data analysis has been demonstrated both on SIMULATED and REAL EXPERIMENTS for filtered Bremsstrahlung Xray radiation
- SIMULATION STUDIES seems to show that Expectation Maximization Algorithm can be useful in the characterization of a high fluence, quasi-monochromatic Xray source as ICS Sources can be

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#### WAITING FOR A REAL ICS MEASUREMENTS

- evaluation of Tikhonov-type Regularization imposing flatness at the boundaries and using different norms (L1)
- simulation study of different stopping rules for Expectation Maximization Algorithm

- a different approach to this kind of indirect spectrometry
- for example DIFFRACTION and COMPTON SCATTERING measurements can be a good choice

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#### thank you