

Inverse Coefficient Problems for Time-Fractional Diffusion Equations

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Inverse Problems for Anomalous Diffusion Processes
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Constant order (CO) time-fractional diffusion

Ω is a bounded domain of \mathbb{R}^d , $d \geq 2$.

For $\alpha \in (0, 1) \cup (1, 2)$ and $T \in (0, +\infty)$, we consider the IBVP

$$\begin{cases} \rho \partial_t^\alpha u - \nabla \cdot a \nabla u + qu & = 0 & \text{in } Q := \Omega \times (0, T) \\ u & = f & \text{on } \Sigma := \partial\Omega \times (0, T) \\ \partial_t^k u(\cdot, 0) & = 0 & \text{in } \Omega, k = 0, \dots, [\alpha], \end{cases} \quad (1)$$

where ∂_t^α is the Caputo derivative of order α :

$$\partial_t^\alpha f(t) := \begin{cases} \frac{1}{\Gamma(n-\alpha)} \int_0^t \frac{f^{(n)}(\tau)}{(t-\tau)^{\alpha+1-n}} d\tau & \text{if } \alpha \in (n-1, n), n \in \mathbb{N} := \{1, 2, \dots\} \\ \frac{d^n}{dt^n} f(t) & \text{if } \alpha = n \in \{0\} \cup \mathbb{N}. \end{cases}$$

Inverse problem 1

Let $\Gamma_{\text{in}} \subset \partial\Omega$ and $\Gamma_{\text{out}} \subset \partial\Omega$ be s.t.

$$\Gamma_{\text{in}} \cap \Gamma_{\text{out}} \neq \emptyset \text{ and } \Gamma_{\text{in}} \cup \Gamma_{\text{out}} = \partial\Omega.$$

We consider the *partial DN map at one fixed time* $T_0 \in (0, T)$:

$$\Lambda_{\rho, a, q} : f|_{\Gamma_{\text{in}}} \mapsto a\partial_\nu u(\cdot, T_0)|_{\Gamma_{\text{out}}}.$$

Inverse problem 1:

Does $\Lambda_{\rho, a, q}$ uniquely determine (ρ, a, q) ?

Obstruction to identifiability

- Liouville transform: $v := a^{1/2}u$ is a solution to

$$\begin{cases} a^{-1}\rho\partial_t^\alpha v - \Delta v + q_a v = 0 & \text{in } Q \\ v = a^{1/2}f & \text{on } \Sigma \\ \partial_t^k v(\cdot, 0) = 0 & \text{in } \Omega, \quad k = 0, \dots, [\alpha], \end{cases}$$

with

$$q_a := a^{-1/2}\Delta a^{1/2} + a^{-1/2}q a^{1/2}.$$

- DN maps relation:

$$\Lambda_{\rho,a,q} = a^{1/2}\Lambda_{a^{-1}\rho,1,q_a}a^{1/2} - a^{1/2}\partial_\nu a^{1/2}.$$

- Consequence: $(\rho, a, q) \mapsto \Lambda_{\rho,a,q}$ is not injective, as we have

$$a|_{\partial\Omega} = 1 \text{ and } \partial_\nu a|_{\partial\Omega} = 0 \implies \Lambda_{\rho,a,q} = \Lambda_{a^{-1}\rho,1,q_a}.$$

The best we can hope is to recover two out of three coefficients.

Theorem (Kian, Oksanen, ÉS, Yamamoto '18)

Ω is smooth and connected.

Let $\rho_j \in C(\bar{\Omega})$, $a_j \in C^1(\bar{\Omega}) \cap W^{2,\infty}(\Omega)$, and $q_j \in L^\infty(\Omega)$, $j = 1, 2$, satisfy

$$\rho_j \geq c > 0, \quad a_j(x) \geq c, \quad q_j(x) \geq 0, \quad x \in \Omega.$$

Assume that either of the three following conditions is fulfilled:

(i) $\rho_1 = \rho_2$ and

$$\nabla a_1(x) = \nabla a_2(x), \quad x \in \partial\Omega. \quad (2)$$

(ii) $a_1 = a_2$ and

$$\exists C > 0, \quad |\rho_1(x) - \rho_2(x)| \leq C \text{dist}(x, \partial\Omega)^2, \quad x \in \Omega. \quad (3)$$

(iii) $q_1 = q_2$ and (2)-(3).

Then, $\Lambda_{\rho_1, a_1, q_1} = \Lambda_{\rho_2, a_2, q_2}$ yields $(\rho_1, a_1, q_1) = (\rho_2, a_2, q_2)$.

Variable order (VO) time-fractional diffusion

$T \in (0, +\infty)$ and Ω is a bounded domain of \mathbb{R}^d , $d \geq 2$.

$$\begin{cases} \left(\rho(x) \partial_t^{\alpha(x)} - \Delta + q(x) \right) u(x, t) = 0, & (x, t) \in Q \\ u(\sigma, t) = t^k g(\sigma), & (\sigma, t) \in \Sigma \\ u(x, 0) = 0, & x \in \Omega, \end{cases} \quad (4)$$

where $k \geq 2$, g is a suitable function, $q \in L^\infty(\Omega, \mathbb{R}_+)$ and

$$0 < \alpha_0 \leq \alpha(x) \leq \alpha_M < 1, \quad 0 < \rho_0 \leq \rho(x) \leq \rho_M, \quad x \in \Omega.$$

$\partial_t^{\alpha(x)}$ is the Caputo fractional derivative of order $\alpha(x)$:

$$\partial_t^{\alpha(x)} u(x, t) := \frac{1}{\Gamma(1 - \alpha(x))} \int_0^t \frac{\partial_\tau u(x, \tau)}{(t - \tau)^{\alpha(x)}} d\tau.$$

Inverse problem 2

Γ_{in} and Γ_{out} are two suitable open subsets of $\partial\Omega$.

Let u_g be the solution to the IBVP (4) probed by the Dirichlet data

$$\Sigma \ni (\sigma, t) \mapsto t^k g(\sigma).$$

For $t \in (0, T)$, we introduce the **partial DN map**

$$\Lambda_{\alpha, \rho, q}(t) : \mathcal{H}_{\text{in}} \ni g \mapsto \partial_\nu u_g(\cdot, t)|_{\Gamma_{\text{out}}},$$

where $\mathcal{H}_{\text{in}} := \{g \in H^{3/2}(\partial\Omega); \text{supp } g \subset \overline{\Gamma_{\text{in}}}\}$.

Boundary data: $\{\Lambda_{\alpha, \rho, q}(t_n), n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ where $(t_n)_n \in (0, T)^{\mathbb{N}}$ has an accumulation point $\tau \in (0, T)$.

Inverse problem 2:

Does $\{\Lambda_{\alpha, \rho, q}(t_n), n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ uniquely determine (α, ρ, q) ?

Theorem (Kian, ÉS, Yamamoto '20)

Assume that

- a) Ω is smooth and connected.
- b) $S_+ \subset \Gamma_{\text{in}}$ and $S_- \subset \Gamma_{\text{out}}$, where

$$S_{\pm} := \overline{\{x \in \partial\Omega; \pm(x - x_0) \cdot \nu \geq 0\}},$$

for some $x_0 \in \mathbb{R}^d$ outside the convex hull of $\bar{\Omega}$.

- c) The set of admissible unknown coefficients is defined by

$$\mathcal{E} := \{(\alpha, \rho, q); \alpha, \rho \in L^\infty(\Omega), q \in L^\infty(\Omega; \mathbb{R}_+)\}.$$

Then, for all $(\alpha_j, \rho_j, q_j) \in \mathcal{E}$, $j = 1, 2$, we have:

$$\Lambda_{\alpha_1, \rho_1, q_1}(t_n) = \Lambda_{\alpha_2, \rho_2, q_2}(t_n), \quad n \in \mathbb{N} \implies (\alpha_1, \rho_1, q_1) = (\alpha_2, \rho_2, q_2).$$

Theorem (Kian, ÉS, Yamamoto '20)

The same conclusion holds for $d = 2$, provided that:

a) Ω is connected with

$$\partial\Omega = \bigcup_{k=1}^N \gamma_k, \quad \gamma_k = \text{smooth closed contour}, \quad k = 1, \dots, N.$$

b) $\Gamma_{\text{in}} = \Gamma_{\text{out}} = \text{arbitrary non-empty open subset of } \partial\Omega.$

c) *The set of admissible unknown coefficients is*

$$\mathcal{E}' := \{(\alpha, \rho, q); \alpha, \rho \in L^\infty(\Omega), q \in W^{1,\kappa}(\Omega; \mathbb{R}_+), \kappa \in (2, +\infty)\}.$$

- CO (resp. VO) TFDE models anomalous diffusion in homogeneous (resp., inhomogeneous) medium.
 - H. Sun, W. Chen, Y. Chen, *Variable-order fractional differential operators in anomalous diffusion modeling*, Physica A **388** (2009), 4586-4592.
- Inverse Problem 1
 - Parabolic case ($\alpha = 1$)
 - B. Canuto and O. Kavian, *Determining Coefficients in a Class of Heat Equations via Boundary Measurements*, SIAM J. Math. Anal. **32** no. 5 (2001), 963-986.
 - Hyperbolic case ($\alpha = 2$) with $a = \rho = 1$ and bdry observation for all times
 - M. Bellassoued, M. Choulli, M. Yamamoto, *Stability estimate for an inverse wave equation and a multidimensional Borg-Levinson theorem*, J. Diff. Equat. **247** (2009), 465-494.
 - Sub-diffusive and super-diffusive cases $\alpha \in (0, 1) \cup (1, 2)$
 - Y. Kian, L. Oksanen, ÉS, M. Yamamoto, *Global uniqueness in an inverse problem for time fractional diffusion equations*, J. Diff. Equat. **264** (2018), no. 2, 1146-1170. 465-494.
- Inverse Problem 2
 - Y. Kian, ÉS, M. Yamamoto, *On time-fractional diffusion equations with space-dependent variable order*, Ann. H. Poincaré **19** (2018), no. 12, 3855-3881.

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$L^2_\rho(\Omega)$ is the Hilbert space $L^2(\Omega)$ endowed with the scalar product

$$\langle u, v \rangle := \int_\Omega \rho uv dx, \quad u, v \in L^2(\Omega).$$

- H is the operator generated in $L^2_\rho(\Omega)$ by the quadratic form

$$h[u] := \int_\Omega (a|\nabla u|^2 + qu^2) dx, \quad u \in \text{Dom}(h) := H_0^1(\Omega).$$

- H is self-adjoint in $L^2_\rho(\Omega)$ and acts on its domain as

$$Hu := \rho^{-1} (\nabla \cdot a \nabla u + qu), \quad u \in \text{Dom}(H) := H_0^1(\Omega) \cap H^2(\Omega).$$

Boundary spectral data

By compactness of $H_0^1(\Omega) \hookrightarrow L_\rho^2(\Omega)$, $\sigma(H)$ is purely discrete.

- $\{\lambda_n; n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ is the non-decreasing sequence of the eigenvalues (repeated according to multiplicities) of H .
- $\{\varphi_n; n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ is a family of eigenfunctions of H which form an orthonormal basis in $L_\rho^2(\Omega)$:

$$\begin{cases} -\nabla \cdot a \nabla \varphi_n + q \varphi_n = \lambda_n \rho \varphi_n & \text{in } \Omega \\ \varphi_n = 0 & \text{on } \partial\Omega \\ \int_\Omega \rho \varphi_n^2 dx = 1. \end{cases}$$

- The **boundary spectral data** associated with (ρ, a, q) :

$$\text{BSD}(\rho, a, q) := \{(\lambda_n, \psi_n); n \in \mathbb{N}\}, \text{ where } \psi_n := a \partial_\nu \varphi_n|_{\partial\Omega}.$$

Theorem (Canuto, Kavian '04)

If either of the three assumptions (i), (ii) or (iii) is verified, then we have:

$$\text{BSD}(\rho_1, a_1, q_1) = \text{BSD}(\rho_2, a_2, q_2) \implies (\rho_1, a_1, q_1) = (\rho_2, a_2, q_2).$$

- B. Canuto, O. Kavian, *Determining two coefficients in elliptic operators via boundary spectral data: a uniqueness result*, Bolletino Unione Mat. Ital. Sez. B Artic. Ric. Mat. **8** (2004), no. 1, 207-230.

Thus, it is enough to prove that

$$\Lambda_{\rho_1, a_1, q_1} = \Lambda_{\rho_2, a_2, q_2} \implies \text{BSD}(\rho_1, a_1, q_1) = \text{BSD}(\rho_2, a_2, q_2),$$

up to an appropriate choice of the eigenfunctions of the operator H associated with $(\rho, a, q) = (\rho_1, a_1, q_1)$.

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Direct problem: existence and uniqueness result

Let $\rho \in L^\infty(\Omega)$, $a \in C^1(\overline{\Omega})$, and $q \in L^\infty(\Omega)$ satisfy

$$\rho(x) \geq c > 0, \quad a(x) \geq c, \quad q(x) \geq 0, \quad x \in \Omega.$$

Assume that $f \in C^{[\alpha]+1}([0, T], H^{3/2}(\partial\Omega))$ verifies the compatibility conditions

$$\partial_t^k f(\cdot, 0) = 0 \text{ in } \partial\Omega, \quad k = 0, \dots, [\alpha].$$

Then the IBVP (1) admits a unique solution

$$u \in C([0, T], L^2(\Omega)) \cap C((0, T], H^{2\gamma}(\Omega)), \quad \gamma \in (0, 1).$$

- K. Sakamoto, M. Yamamoto, *Initial value/boundary value problems for fractional diffusion-wave equations and applications to some inverse problems*, J. Math. Anal. Appl. **382** (2011), 426-447 .

Partial DN operator

Taking $\gamma \in (3/4, 1)$, we get that

$$(x, t) \mapsto a(x)\partial_\nu u(x, t) \in C((0, T], L^2(\partial\Omega)).$$

Thus, the partial DN map is well defined as a (bounded) operator

$$\Lambda_{\rho,a,q} : \mathcal{H}_{\text{in}} \rightarrow L^2(\Gamma_{\text{out}}),$$

where

$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{in}} := \left\{ f \in C^{[\alpha]+1}([0, T], H^{3/2}(\partial\Omega)); \text{supp } f \subset \Gamma_{\text{in}} \times (0, T_0) \right\}.$$

Let $f \in \mathcal{H}_{\text{in}}$.

- For all $u \in C^0([0, T], L^2(\Omega))$, we have

$$u(\cdot, t) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} u_n(t) \varphi_n, \quad u_n(t) := \langle u(\cdot, t), \varphi_n \rangle, \quad t \in [0, T].$$

- Since u is solution to the IBVP (1), we have for each $n \in \mathbb{N}$,

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t^\alpha u_n + \lambda_n u_n &= - \int_{\partial\Omega} f \psi_n d\sigma(x) & \text{in } (0, T) \\ \partial_t^k u_n(0) &= 0, \quad k = 0, \dots, [\alpha], \end{cases}$$

by the Green formula.

Representation formula

- Expression of the solution u to the IBVP (1), at $t = T_0$:

$$u(\cdot, T_0) = \int_0^{T_0} \left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \gamma_n(s) \varphi_n \right) ds \text{ in } H^{2\gamma}(\Omega), \quad \gamma \in (0, 1),$$

where

$$\gamma_n(s) = -s^{\alpha-1} E_{\alpha, \alpha}(-\lambda_n s^\alpha) \left(\int_{\partial\Omega} f(y, t-s) \psi_n(y) d\sigma(y) \right)$$

and $E_{\alpha, \beta}$ is the two parameters ($\alpha > 0$, $\beta > 0$) Mittag-Leffler function

$$E_{\alpha, \beta}(z) := \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{z^k}{\Gamma(\alpha k + \beta)}, \quad z \in \mathbb{C}.$$

- By the continuity of the trace operator,

$$a(x) \partial_\nu u(x, T_0) = \int_0^{T_0} \left(\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \gamma_n(s) \psi_n(x) \right) ds, \quad x \in \partial\Omega.$$

Representation formula, continued

- Put

$$\Theta_n(x, y) := \sum_{p=1}^{m_n} \psi_{n,p}(x)\psi_{n,p}(y), \quad (x, y) \in \partial\Omega,$$

where

- $m_n \in \mathbb{N}$ is the algebraic multiplicity of the eigenvalue λ_n ,
 - $\{\varphi_{n,p}; p = 1, \dots, m_n\}$ is a family of eigenfunctions of H which form an orthonormal basis in $L^2_\rho(\Omega)$ of $\ker(H - \lambda_n)$ and $\psi_{n,p} := a\partial_\nu\varphi_{n,p}$.
- Representation formula of the partial DN map:

$$\begin{aligned} & \Lambda_{\rho,a,q}f \\ &= \int_0^{T_0} s^{\alpha-1} \left(\sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} E_{\alpha,\alpha}(-\lambda_n s^\alpha) \left(\int_{\partial\Omega} f(T_0 - s, y) \Theta_n(\cdot, y) d\sigma(y) \right) \right) ds. \end{aligned}$$

End of the proof

- $\Lambda_{\rho_1, a_1, q_1} = \Lambda_{\rho_2, a_2, q_2}$ entails for a.e. $x \in \Gamma_{\text{out}}$ and all $f \in \mathcal{H}_{\text{in}}$:

$$\int_0^{T_0} s^{\alpha-1} \left(\sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} \int_{\partial\Omega} (E_{\alpha, \alpha}(-\lambda_{1, n} s^\alpha) \Theta_{1, n}(x, y) - E_{\alpha, \alpha}(-\lambda_{2, n} s^\alpha) \Theta_{2, n}(x, y)) f(y, T_0 - s) d\sigma(y) \right) ds = \mathbf{0}.$$

- Taking $f(x, t) = \psi(t)h(x)$, for two arbitrary

$$\psi \in C_0^\infty(0, T_0) \text{ and } h \in H^{3/2}(\partial\Omega), \text{ supp } h \subset \Gamma_{\text{in}},$$

yields

$$\boxed{F_{1, h}(x, s^\alpha) = F_{2, h}(x, s^\alpha), \quad s \in (0, T_0), \quad x \in \Gamma_{\text{out}}} \quad (*)$$

where

$$F_{j, h}(z, x) := \sum_{n=1}^{+\infty} E_{\alpha, \alpha}(-\lambda_{j, n} z) \left(\int_{\Gamma_{\text{in}}} \Theta_{j, n}(x, y) h(y) d\sigma(y) \right).$$

- $(*) \xRightarrow{\text{analytic continuation}} \text{BSD}(\rho_1, a_1, q_1) = \text{BSD}(\rho_2, a_2, q_2).$

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FDE on Riemannian manifolds

Let (M, g) be a compact connected Riemannian manifold of dimension $d \geq 2$, with boundary ∂M .

- Weighted Laplace Beltrami operator

$$\begin{aligned}\Delta_{g,\mu} u &:= \mu^{-1} \nabla \cdot_g \mu \nabla_g u \\ &= \sum_{i,j=1}^d \mu^{-1} |g|^{-1/2} \partial_{x_i} (\mu |g|^{1/2} g^{ij} \partial_{x_j} u), \quad u \in C^\infty(M),\end{aligned}$$

where $g^{-1} := (g^{ij})_{1 \leq i,j \leq d}$ and $|g| := \det g$.

- For $\alpha \in (0, 1) \cup (1, 2)$ and $q \in C^\infty(M)$, we consider the IBVP

$$\begin{cases} \partial_t^\alpha u - \Delta_{g,\mu} u + qu = 0 & \text{in } M \times (0, T) \\ u = f & \text{on } \partial M \times (0, T) \\ \partial_t^k u(\cdot, 0) = 0 & \text{in } M, \quad k = 0, \dots, [\alpha]. \end{cases}$$

Inverse problem

Let $T_0 \in (0, T)$ and let Γ_{in} and Γ_{out} be two non empty open subsets of ∂M .

- Dirichlet data :

$$\mathcal{H}_{\text{in}} := \{f \in C^{[\alpha]+1}([0, T], H^{\frac{3}{2}}(\partial M)); \text{supp}f \subset \Gamma_{\text{in}} \times (0, T_0)\}.$$

- The partial DN map

$$\Lambda_{M,g,\mu,q} : \mathcal{H}_{\text{in}} \ni f \mapsto \partial_\nu u(\cdot, T_0)|_{\Gamma_{\text{out}}} := \sum_{i,j=1}^d g^{ij} \nu_i \partial_{x_j} u(\cdot, T_0)|_{\Gamma_{\text{out}}},$$

is linear bounded from \mathcal{H}_{in} into $L^2(\Gamma_{\text{out}})$.

Inverse problem:

Does $\Lambda_{M,g,\mu,q}$ determine (M, g) , and μ and q , uniquely?

Two obstructions to uniqueness

- (μ_1, q_1) and (μ_2, q_2) are *gauge equivalent* if there exists a positive function $\kappa \in C^\infty(M)$ obeying

$$\kappa(x) = 1, \quad \partial_\nu \kappa(x) = 0 \text{ on } \partial M,$$

such that

$$\mu_2 = \kappa^{-2} \mu_1, \quad q_2 = q_1 - \kappa \Delta_{g, \mu_1} \kappa^{-1}.$$

In this case we have $\Lambda_{M, g, \mu_1, q_1} = \Lambda_{M, g, \mu_2, q_2}$.

- If $\Phi : M \rightarrow M$ is a diffeomorphism fixing the boundary ∂M , then

$$\Lambda_{M, g, \mu, q} = \Lambda_{M, \Phi^* g, \mu, q},$$

where $\Phi^* g$ is the pull back of g by Φ .

The result on manifolds

Theorem (Kian, Oksanen, ÉS, Yamamoto '18)

Let (M_j, g_j) , $J = 1, 2$, be two compact and smooth connected Riemannian manifolds of dim. $d \geq 2$ with the same boundary, and let $\mu_j \in C^\infty(M_j)$ and $q_j \in C^\infty(M_j)$ satisfy

$$\mu_j(x) \geq c > 0, \quad q_j(x) \geq 0, \quad x \in M_j.$$

Let $\Gamma_{\text{in}}, \Gamma_{\text{out}} \subset \partial M_1$ be relatively open and suppose that

$$\Gamma_{\text{in}} \cap \Gamma_{\text{out}} \neq \emptyset.$$

Suppose, moreover, that

$$g_1 = g_2, \quad \mu_1 = \mu_2 = 1 \quad \text{and} \quad \partial_\nu \mu_1 = \partial_\nu \mu_2 = 0 \quad \text{on} \quad \partial M_1.$$

Then, $\Lambda_{M_1, g_1, \mu_1, q_1} = \Lambda_{M_2, g_2, \mu_2, q_2}$ yields that

- (M_1, g_1) and (M_2, g_2) are isometric
- (μ_1, q_1) and (μ_2, q_2) are gauge equivalent.

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- $\Lambda_j := \Lambda_{\alpha_j, \rho_j, q_j}$, $j = 1, 2$, and recall that for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$:

$$\Lambda_1(t_n) = \Lambda_2(t_n) \iff \partial_\nu u_1(\cdot, t_n)|_{\Gamma_{\text{out}}} = \partial_\nu u_2(\cdot, t_n)|_{\Gamma_{\text{out}}}.$$

- $g \in H^{3/2}(\partial\Omega) \Rightarrow t \mapsto u_g(\cdot, t) \in \mathcal{A}(0, +\infty; H^2(\Omega))$:

$$\left. \begin{aligned} h &:= (\partial_\nu u_2 - \partial_\nu u_1)|_{\Gamma_{\text{out}}} \in \mathcal{A}(0, +\infty; L^2(\Gamma_{\text{out}})) \\ h(t_n) &= 0 \text{ for } n \in \mathbb{N} \\ (t_n)_n &\text{ has an acc. point in } (0, T) \end{aligned} \right\} \Rightarrow h = 0,$$

$$\Rightarrow \boxed{\partial_\nu u_1(\cdot, t)|_{\Gamma_{\text{out}}} = \partial_\nu u_2(\cdot, t)|_{\Gamma_{\text{out}}}, t \in (0, +\infty)} \quad (\star)$$

$$\Rightarrow \Lambda_1(t) = \Lambda_2(t), t \in (0, +\infty).$$

Calderón problems

- Since $t \mapsto e^{-st} u_j(\cdot, t) \in L^1(0, +\infty; H^2(\Omega))$, $j = 1, 2$, $s \in (0, +\infty)$, the Laplace transform $U_j(s) = \int_0^{+\infty} e^{-st} u_j(\cdot, t) dt$ satisfies:

$$(\star) \Rightarrow \boxed{\partial_\nu U_1(\cdot, s)|_{\Gamma_{\text{out}}} = \partial_\nu U_2(\cdot, s)|_{\Gamma_{\text{out}}}, s \in (0, +\infty)} \quad (\star\star)$$

- For all $s \in (0, +\infty)$, $\tilde{U}_j(s) := \frac{s^{k+1}}{k!} U_j(s)$ solves

$$\begin{cases} (-\Delta + q_j(x, s))w(x) = 0, & x \in \Omega \\ w(x) = g(x), & x \in \partial\Omega, \end{cases}$$

with $q_j(\cdot, s) := q_j + \rho_j s^{\alpha_j}$.

- Putting $\Lambda_{V_j(\cdot, s)} g := \partial_\nu \tilde{U}_j(s)|_{\Gamma_{\text{out}}}$, we see that :

$$\begin{aligned} (\star\star) \quad &\Rightarrow \Lambda_{V_1(\cdot, s)} = \Lambda_{V_2(\cdot, s)}, \quad s \in (0, +\infty) \\ &\Rightarrow V_1(\cdot, s) = V_2(\cdot, s), \quad s \in (0, +\infty). \end{aligned}$$

- $s \rightarrow 0 \Rightarrow q_1 = q_2$, $s = 1 \Rightarrow \rho_1 = \rho_2$, $s = e \Rightarrow \alpha_1 = \alpha_2$.

Thank you for your attention.